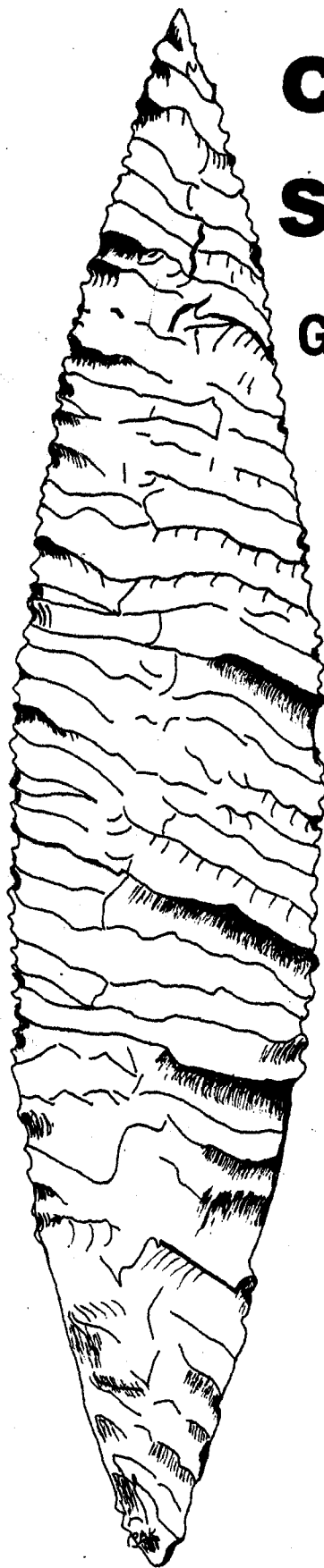




CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY & INVENTORY

IN

GATES OF THE ARCTIC NATIONAL PARK

INCLUDING

JOHN RIVER

HELPMEJACK HILLS/LAKES

LAKE KIPMIK/LAKE AMITCHIAK

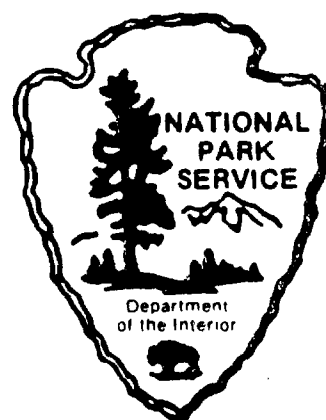
CHANDLER LAKE/AGIAK LAKE

&

ANAKTUVUK PASS AREA

COMPILED BY

MICHAEL L. KUNZ



SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUMMARY

The Gates of the Arctic Cultural Resources Inventory Project was originally designed to cover a span of five years. The first year of the project, 1983, was primarily funded by the Alaska Regional Office (ARO), while the following four years were to be funded out of the Service wide cultural resources program. Midway through 1984 a decision was made by the Alaska Region to cut continued funding for the Gates of the Arctic project due to overall reductions in cultural funding and the need to begin other priority projects. Thus the project was suspended two years before its planned completion.

Because of the Federal Government's fiscal organization, it is always difficult to complete a research project prior to the end of the fiscal year, if the project requires a long summer field season. For example: if you leave the field in late August, having spent 3 months collecting data, it is virtually impossible to work the data up and complete a report before the fiscal year ends on September 30. The old saw of "3 months in the lab for each month spent in the field" generally holds true. On a one year project provisions for this problem are usually built into the design. On a multi-year project, especially one in which the primary purpose is to collect as much data as possible, monies to run the project are available year round due to continued funding. In other words the data work-up for field season 1983 is paid for out of FY84 funds, and so on. However, a problem arises even when a long term project ends if no provision is made for the final work-up of the data and subsequent report of the last season's fieldwork.

Prior to the last field season (1985) a decision was jointly made by the project director, the park superintendent and the management assistant to continue, in this last field season, in the mode of intensive data collection which had been the project's modus operandi in the two previous years. This meant there would be little time or money to complete the project prior to the fiscal year's end. Additionally, because of the extremely large quantity of data generated by the 1984 fieldwork the 1984 final report had not been completed prior to the beginning of the 1985 field season.

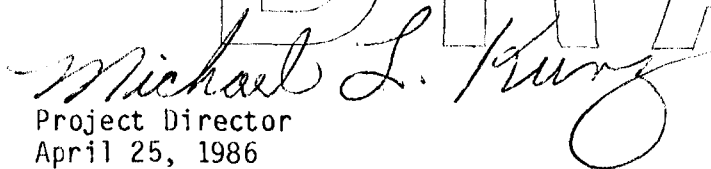
It was the hope of the park superintendent that additional funding could be found to cover the project's orderly completion through the first two quarters of FY86. This would allow the completion of final reports of both the 1984 and 1985 season. Unfortunately, further cuts in available cultural resources funding and commitments to other priority projects made a requested contribution of funds on a 50/50 basis by the Alaska Regional Office not possible.

The park superintendent, management assistant, and chief ranger deemed the project to be of a high enough level of importance to fund its completion totally out of park funds.

This decision meant tightening the park's belt in other areas, a move which the entire park staff advocated and supported. Everyone associated with Gates of the Arctic was behind this project all the way; that's why it worked.

The result was the generation of a large body of useful information including: 1340 typewritten pages covering 570 archeological sites and more than 30 historic sites/complexes, as well as a 500 page historical narrative which will be the most comprehensive history of Central Arctic Alaska for decades to come, and a number of HABS drawings of selected historic structures.

The following three people, Dick Ring, Superintendent, Jim Pepper, Management Assistant, and Bruce Collins, Chief Ranger, along with the rest of the Gates of the Arctic staff, may not have done much of the actual project related work, but their support, commitment and sacrifices made it happen. These folks have my heartfelt thanks; they bailed a good project out of a tight spot by seeing it through to completion and thereby rendered the project results available and useful to management, the scientific community, and the public.


Project Director
April 25, 1986

Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve

REPORT OF PHASE III OF A CULTURAL
RESOURCES SURVEY AND INVENTORY IN
GATES OF THE ARCTIC NATIONAL PARK AND PRESERVE

Including

JOHN RIVER
HELPMEJACK HILLS/LAKES
LAKE KIPMIK/LAKE AMITCHIAK
CHANDLER LAKE/AGIAK LAKE BASIN
AND
THE ANAKTUVUK PASS AREA

DRAFT

Compiled by:
Michael L. Kunz, Project Director

Contributing Authors:
Patricia M. Anderson
John M. Campbell
Matthew L. Ganley
John N. Kilmarx
Michael L. Kunz
Peter G. Phippen
Richard E. Reanier
Grant Spearman

Ann E. Halleen, Editorial Assistant/Typist

This is not a final report. This document is a draft report of a portion of the data from which a final report will be generated at the conclusion of the project. Therefore, this report has not been reviewed for conformity with National Park Service scientific report format or editorial standards.

Cover Illustration
from
J.L. Giddings, Archeology of Cape Denbigh

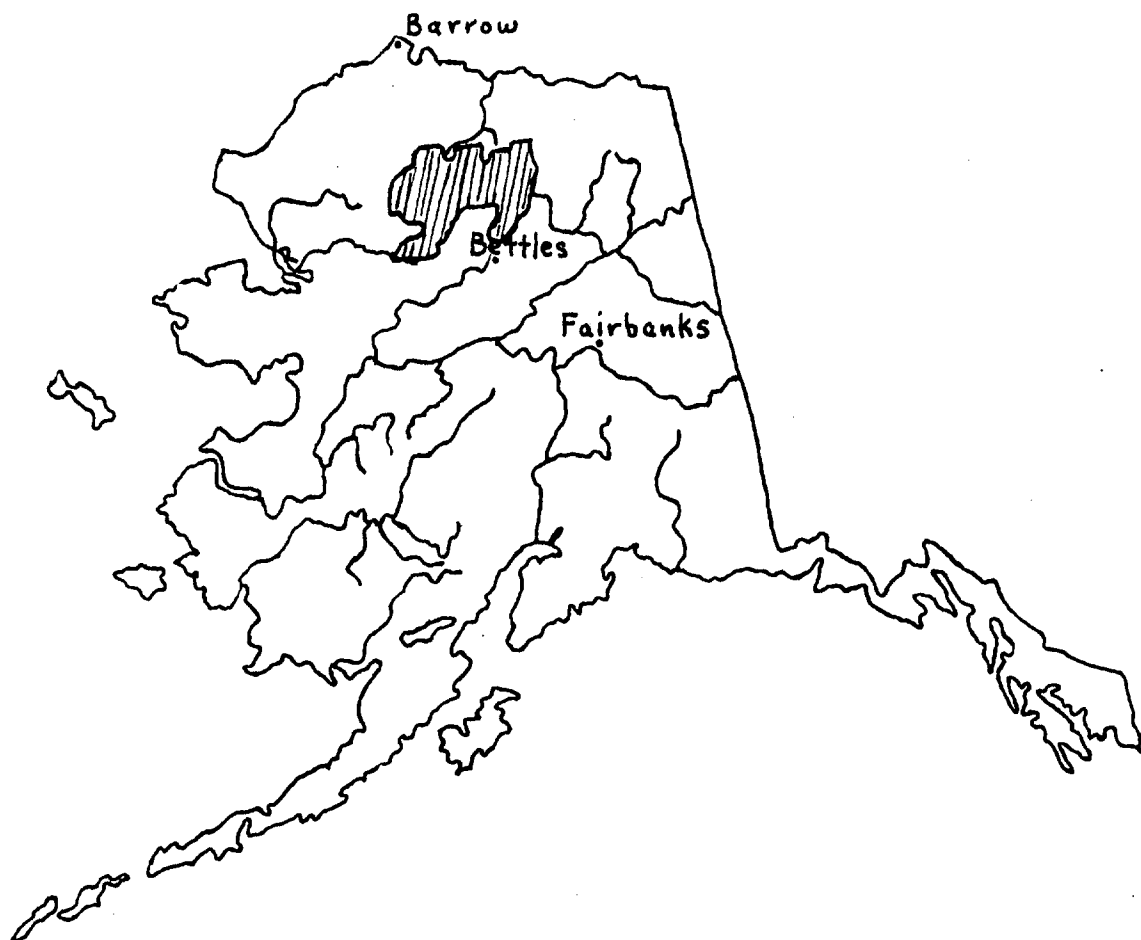
April 1986

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Map of Alaska.....	iii
Special Acknowledgment.....	iv
Acknowledgments.....	vi
Foreword/Forewarned.....	vii
Preface.....	viii
Research Design.....	1
Introduction.....	8

The Sites

Map Area #1 John River Valley - Till Creek to Hunt Fork.....	21
Map Area #2 John River Valley - Hunt Fork to Wolverine Creek.....	96
Map Area #3 John River Valley - Eagle Creek to McKinley Creek.....	100
Map Area #4 Helpmejack Hills/Lakes.....	112
Map Area #5 Lake Kipmuk/Lake Amitchiak.....	137
Map Area #6 Chandler Lake/Little Chandler Lake.....	178
Map Area #7 Agiak Lake/Amiloyak Lake.....	208
Summary/Conclusion.....	291
Obsidian Hydration.....	299
Additional Archeological and Ethnohistoric Data From Locales in the Anaktuvuk Pass and Chandler Lake Areas.....	323
Additional Ethnoarchaeological/Subsistence Data Relating to the Anaktuvuk Pass Area: Some Field Notes From Lewis R. Binford.....	359
Bibliography.....	370



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The success of the Phase III field season, as well as the production of this report, is attributable to the efforts of many people. The authors wish to thank the following individuals.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE - GATES OF THE ARCTIC

Dick Ring	Superintendent
Jim Pepper	Management Assistant
Bruce Collins	Chief Ranger
Craig Johnson	District Ranger
Jeff Karraker	Visitor Services Ranger
Judy Liedberg	Natural Resources Specialist
Mark Matsill	Seasonal Ranger
Sheryl Stevens	Biological Technician
Cheryle Bloethe	Seasonal Ranger
Dave Buchanan	Seasonal Ranger
Debbie Remillard	Park Technician
Pam Kling	Biological Technician
Janet Christiansen	Biological Technician
Nancy Van Alstine	Biological Technician
Ron Berry	Administrative Technician
Deborah Koons	Secretary
Richard Craig	Purchasing Agent
Bill Roberts	Pilot (helicopter)
Jimmy Schuler	Pilot (helicopter)
Joe Zarembo	Pilot (helicopter)
Tyler Johnson	V.I.P.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE - ALASKA REGIONAL OFFICE

Leslie Hart	Chief, Division of Cultural Resources
Craig Davis	Regional Archeologist
Ted Birkedal	Regional Archeologist
Ken Schoenberg	Area Archeologist
Bob Spude	Regional Historian
Paul Gleeson	Compliance Archeologist

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT - FAIRBANKS DISTRICT OFFICE

Bob Gal	Arctic Resource Area Archeologist
John Cook	District Archeologist

The authors also wish to thank the residents of Anaktuvuk Pass for the information and support they provided.

FOREWORD/FOREWARNED

This document is a draft copy of the final report of Phase III of a planned five phase cultural resources inventory which is being conducted within Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve. Due to budget reallocations, Phase IV and V will be delayed an unknown length of time.

If you are so inclined, you may send us any comments you might have concerning the report's content, substance, structure, format, and research methodology. Keep in mind that the report is, in the truest sense of the word, a draft document and is fraught with an adequate supply of typographical errors, awkward sentence structure, etc.

The completion of this project has been delayed and time and budget probably will not allow a rewrite of this document. Of greatest importance is the information and its dissemination. Therefore, please accept this data in its present form, it's probably the only form it will ever be in.

No restriction is placed on quotation from this report. If you can use the data in this document feel free to do so. Be aware, however, that no statement of method, purpose or treatment in this report reflects the specific policies of the National Park Service. The research design for this project is specific to Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve and was developed solely by project personnel.

PREFACE

Phase III of a planned five phase Cultural Resources Inventory within Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve was carried out during the summer of 1985. This project supports General Management Planning mandated by the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (PS-96-487) and complies with requirements of Executive Order 11593 and the National Historic Preservation Act.

Archeological work was carried out by a team of 4 to 8 National Park Service archeologists and a North Slope Borough ethnohistorian/archeologist during the months of June, July, and August. Archeologists on the crew included:

Jack Campbell	University of New Mexico
Matt Ganley	University of Alaska, Fairbanks
Jake "Fluffy" Kilmarx	State University of New York, Binghamton
Mike Kunz	Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve
Pete Phippen	University of Alaska, Fairbanks
Rick Reanier	University of Washington
Grant Spearman	Anaktuvuk Pass/North Slope Borough
Tyler Johnson	V.I.P., Bettles, Alaska

The fieldwork was carried out on the John River, Helpmejack Hills/Lakes, Lake Kipmik/Amitchiak, Agiak/Chandler Lake, and the Anaktuvuk Pass area.

Limited historical field work was carried out by a National Park Service historian and a historical architect.

Bill Brown	National Park Service, ARO
Jim Creech	Georgia Institute of Technology

Historical fieldwork was conducted in the Wild Lake area, and Chandler Lake area.

The purpose of this fieldwork was to locate, identify, define, enumerate, and document historic and prehistoric cultural sites.

The archeological work was accomplished through a reconnaissance level, pedestrian, surface survey. This type of survey is non-destructive in the sense that no formal excavation of sites is undertaken. All sites were marked with a site tag and assigned State of Alaska Heritage Resource Survey numbers.

Historical work centered on known, extant, site complexes although some survey work was undertaken. Photographic and structural documentation was carried out at selected, representative structures.

RESEARCH DESIGN

For

PHASE III

Basic Inventory and Evaluation of Cultural Resources

In

Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve

Statement of Justification and Project Necessity:

Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve was established on December 2, 1980, by the passage of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), PL 96-487.

Section 1301 of the act requires the preparation of General Management Plans for all Conservation Units created by the Act by December 2, 1985. This project has and will continue to provide some of the basic data concerning cultural resources for that management plan.

This inventory is also required in order to initiate compliance with Executive Order 11593 and with provisions of the National Historic Preservation Act, as codified in NPS-28.

One of the management objectives in the Statement for Management for Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve is to "...development and implement a Cultural Resources Management Plan which assures the identification, study, and preservation of all known historic and prehistoric sites and structures". This project is a necessary step in achieving that objective.

Project Orientation - Constraints and Objectives:

Prehistoric

For the purposes of investigation, as outlined in the Task Directive, the park has been divided into specific geographic sections. The area contained in these sections and the order or sequence of their examination is based primarily upon logistics concerns and an orderly progression of the project toward completion.

Phase III is an attempt to meld the work of the past two years, with this year's work, into a cohesive body of data that incorporates the various parts as well as can be expected. The summer of 1985 is the last year of a project that was originally structured to continue through the 1987 field season. The reappropriation of funds originally slated for this project

has made it necessary to reorganize the operations of the 1985 field season so that the past work is brought together in "good coverage" over a sizable chunk of the park.

The work on the John River ties in well with the work done in the eastern sector of the park along the North Fork Koyukuk, Ernie Creek, and the Glacier River. The John River work also ties together the work done in 1983 on the Upper Kobuk River with that done in the Koyukuk drainage and will provide past subsistence and land use data at a time when critical and crucial decisions must be made.

The Helpmejack Hills/Lake work collects data from the eastern side of the "Alatna Portage" to tie in with the work done in the western portion of the portage in 1983.

Finally the Lake Kipmuk/Lake Amitchiak work was done to confirm site stability at several sites located by W. Irving in the 1960's and E. Hall in the 1970's and also to have a quick look-see at cultural resources in the extreme northwest corner of the park.

A number of regional/areal problems have been and will be addressed by the fieldwork as follows:

1. Within the various study areas were there preferences by prehistoric peoples for site location based on geomorphology?
2. Is seasonal occupation reflected in site location?
3. Are there varying levels of population density through time in the area? Reconnaissance level survey data could be used to determine this only on a general level through artifact typology and/or cultural affiliation; however, useful insights may be gained.
4. The geographic section of the park to be investigated, in part, traverses an area of common exploitation by both Indians and Eskimos (Gubser, 1965; A. Clark, 1974; Hall, 1974; Kunz, 1976; and others). Use of the area by, or at least distinction between, Eskimo and Indian sites may be possible from data collected through this fieldwork; again this information would be applicable only on a general level.
5. Basic information concerning area site density and population distribution will be obtained.
6. Is past regional subsistence potential, through time, indicated by site density and/or the occurrence of multi-component sites? This may be determined on a general level by the types (function) of sites located in specific ecological zones.

The region to be examined is a remote wilderness area containing a Wild River; the John River. The designation of this river as "Wild" has precipitated an increase in area recreational use and therefore a possible increased impact on area cultural resources.

Obviously, the entire 600 square miles of the Phase III study area cannot be examined given reasonable time and budget limitations. Therefore, the primary locales to be examined within the study areas will be those where past experience in the region has shown archeological sites are most likely to occur. In other words, large low-lying wet areas or exceedingly steep or rugged terrain, will not be of primary interest to this survey. Areas possessing the proper "investigation criteria" will be determined through the use of topographic maps and aerial photographs as well as pre-fieldwork aerial reconnaissance and information from previous archeological, anthropological, historical, and exploration activities in the general region. However, as time allows, geomorphic features which do not usually have more than low archeological potential will be examined. In this way most land forms in the area will receive some investigation.

Because this survey is based on sound investigative procedures the boundaries of the park will not be considered absolute. This is, in part, due to the fact that past cultural events occurred prior to the establishment of and without concern for modern-day land ownership boundaries. An overview of past human activities within the park cannot be obtained without investigating lands adjacent to the park boundaries. This is especially true of historic period activities as the focus of much of this type of activity is centered in the area abutting the park's eastern and southeastern boundary. In addition, if particular geomorphic features, such as ridge lines or river valleys, are being examined and these features transcend park boundaries, where practical, those portions of the features lying outside the boundaries will also be examined.

Historic

It is highly unlikely that any major historic sites will be found other than those that are already known to exist. Historic survey will be very limited and conducted in a single area which was ancillary to the major historic complexes to the east. The discovery of any heretofore unknown historic sites will add new information to the existing data base for the region and may help to clarify the function of and/or use aspects of these sites which are satellites of the more densely populated localities. Additionally ethnohistoric work will be conducted for a two week period in the Anaktuvuk Pass area.

Area of Investigation

The area to be investigated during Phase III of the project is somewhat scattered and includes the John River from Till Creek south to McKinley Creek in the central portion of the park; the Helpmejack Hills/Lake area which lies just outside the southcentral boundary of the park; the Lake

Kipmuk/Lake Amitchiak area in the extreme northwest corner of the park; and the Chandler Lake/Agiak Lake basin in the north central portion of the park.

The primary historic reconnaissance area, Wild Lake, lies just outside the park's southeastern boundary. Ethnohistoric work will be conducted in the Anaktuvuk Pass and Chandler Lake areas.

Of the various areas to be examined, about half lie south of the Continental Divide and half lie at or north of the divide. The basic regional geomorphology south of the divide is comprised of hills and mountains to elevations of 7500 feet which, for the most part, are separated into distinct units by creek and river drainages. River and creek valleys are relatively constricted in the northern portion of the area but become broader and contain numerous small lakes and ponds in the south. Ground cover below 2500 feet elevation is predominately spruce (some birch and poplar) forest with typical attendant plant communities.

Those areas which lie north of the Continental Divide support no forest vegetation, ground cover being typified by alpine tundra, wet tundra, and wet sedge meadow plant communities. The majority of the study area has been glaciated in the recent past and stagnant ice glacial features, such as kames, kame terraces, moraines, eskers, and kettle lakes are common.

Methodology

Prehistoric

A reconnaissance level survey is, in terms of application for this project, a sample oriented field inventory designed to locate and record, from surface and exposed profile indications, all cultural resource sites within a portion of a defined area in a manner which will allow an objective estimate of the nature and distribution of cultural resources in the entire defined area.

This reconnaissance level survey will implement logistic methods (pedestrian, raft, and fixed and rotor wing aircraft) proven to be efficient in primitive and remote areas of Alaska and will be carried out by qualified (NPS standards) archeological personnel. A team of four to six archeologists will spend approximately thirteen weeks in the field during the course of this survey.

As is always the case, time and budget constraints may place some limitations on specific aspects of this project, but will not affect the basic research design or operational plan.

The primary objective of this survey is to locate and record as many prehistoric sites as possible in the study area. Therefore, judgmental sampling will be the strategy employed to locate archeological sites.

Archeological sites will be sought in locations where past work in similar physiographic locales have shown the majority of sites to occur. Area archeological expertise and judgment are the backbone of this type of sampling strategy. Sampling of this type will not examine the entire spectrum of land forms in the study area equally. Much more time will be spent surveying in areas of high archeological potential than in areas of low archeological potential. This means that the sites which occur in areas of low archeological potential are, statistically, less likely to be found.

Recognizing this sampling bias and taking it into consideration the information obtained from the survey will be useful from a general management and planning point of view. A general pattern of site density and distribution in the more easily traversed and ecologically attractive portions of the study area will be generated. These areas are of primary concern in terms of management and planning for the park as they are the locations most likely to be impacted through recreational use. Additionally, the surveyed areas should generate sufficient data to make some reasonable assumptions concerning the prehistoric inhabitants of the region.

Due to the fact that a good portion of the study area is forested and supports relatively dense ground cover, much of the actual surveying will be of an opportunistic nature. In other words, areas which are free or relatively free of vegetative cover will receive the majority of attention. Fortunately, areas of this type, located on a wide range of geomorphological features, are not uncommon.

Investigation of several geomorphological/ecological zones will be the basis for stratification of the sampling universe. Zones of this type often contain criteria of varying levels of importance in relation to the number and type of site occurrences. Criteria of this type would include land forms such as terraces, glacial (stagnant ice) features, drainage confluences, knolls, ridges, and hills. More general criteria would include local drainage conditions, elevation, exposure, view and proximity to potable water. Use of these criteria assumes there has been little more than general change to the geomorphological/ecological zones for the majority of the period of possible human use of the region. In general terms this means that a locale which appears to possess the criteria of a good camping or hunting location or a good travel route today would have appeared similarly inviting to people during the last eight or nine millennia. Sites such as Onion Portage, Mosquito Lake, and the Gallagher Flint Station tend to support this assumption (Anderson, 1968; Kunz, 1977; Dixon, 1971).

A site for the purposes of this survey, will be considered any location of past human activity which is represented by the remains of their material culture (Davis et al, 1981). Essentially this means that the location of a single flake, cairn, or tent peg can and will be considered a site and undergo the same documentation procedures as would a larger more complex manifestation.

✓ Additionally, criteria had to be set up to determine the boundaries of a site, i.e. where a given site begins and ends. A arbitrary distance of 100 meters was chosen. In other words, if 100 meters or more of culturally sterile ground separated two surface lithic scatters, then they are considered separate sites. Less than 100 meters separation and the lithic scatters are considered localities of the same site. The rule can be obviated if lithic scatters are less than 100 meters apart but are separated by an abrupt change in the topography such as a creek, river, gully, or glacial feature. Such a decision is judgmental on the part of the investigator.

The methodology for the actual survey work will vary with the local conditions. For example, in forested areas or areas of dense ground cover, on the ground survey methods will vary from those used in less vegetated or barren locations. Each crew member will carry air photos and maps applicable to the area being worked so they can easily locate themselves and any sites they find. In open areas where vision is not hampered, orientation is not a problem, and pedestrian travel unimpeded, more latitude (wandering) in the survey work will be possible and as a result more ground will be covered. No specific method for locating sites will be employed (such as walking fixed-interval transects, etc.). The survey methods employed will vary with the terrain and the archeologists best judgment of the situation.

The survey, by definition, is a surface survey, however, some subsurface testing will be carried out. Subsurface testing in the form of small (approximately 15cm²) test pits will be used, as the situation warrants, to determine site limits or to determine, in likely locations, if a site is present. Where warranted, small test excavations will be a judiciously employed methodological tool and will be kept to a minimum.

Artifacts, unless excavated, will not be collected. Formal artifacts when encountered on surface will be photographed or drawn, measured, described in the field notes, and otherwise recorded. Artifacts will be located on site either by means of triangulation from a baseline extended in a cardinal direction from a datum point, or by direction in degrees and distance from a datum point. The datum point will be designated by a ten inch spike driven into the ground on the site. A metal identification tag bearing the site number, date of discovery, land ownership status, and other information will be affixed to the spike. The site numbers will be obtained from the State of Alaska's Heritage Resource Survey. All sites will be located on USGS topographic maps (largest scale available) and 1:65,000 color infrared aerial photographs. Formal cataloging of excavated artifacts and preparation of a final report will be undertaken immediately upon returning from the field.

A preliminary or general overview report dealing with the field season's activities and accomplishments, including a general review of the gathered data will be completed by September 30, 1985. The final report for Phase III will be completed by April 18, 1986. The final report will contain: maps and photographs of the areas surveyed showing site locations; individual site reports of a descriptive and analytical nature; artifact photographs,

drawings, and descriptions; and discussion of the sampling strategy if it differs to a great degree from that outlined in the research design; an assessment and discussion of the degree to which the research problems or aims were addressed/answered by the field work; and general recommendations for the management of the identified cultural resources.

At the end of each site report is a very brief statement of site significance. This statement is made for the benefit of the land manager so that judgments concerning the necessity of mitigative action regarding an impacted archeological site can be made. This statement of significance should not be considered acceptable for use in submitting nominations for the National Register of Historic Places as in no case has sufficient site data necessary for nomination been obtained.

Historic

A short field trip will be made to the Wild Lake area by the project historian and his assistant. The documentation of several historic mining operations will be undertaken. No doubt the lake trout population will be sampled.

For a two week period during July, a two man team will engage in ethnohistoric documentation of the last traditional caribou hunt (no firearms used) undertaken by the Nunamiut Eskimo of the Chandler Lake area. This will be done through interviews with surviving hunt participants and on-site visits.

During the summer an historical architect will continue to work on the measured drawings for which the HABS field crew gathered data during 1984.

INTRODUCTION

The Study Area

Physiography

The study area for the Phase III portion of the project is much more diverse than in past years and therefore the physiography is more variable. However, there are some common factors among the various areas.

While some of the area is north of the Continental Divide and some is south, all of it lies north of the Arctic Circle. None of the study areas lie more than 50 miles north or south of the crest of the Brooks Range. Climatologically the Brooks Range divides northern Alaska into two zones, Interior Basin or Continental on the south, and Arctic on the north. ~~Lying on the slopes of the range all portions of the study area can be considered transitional between the two climatic zones and as such share a similar climate.~~

In general, the study area endures long, bitterly cold winters where temperatures may reach -70° F and short, brilliant summers where temperatures may reach 90° F. Winds can be variably strong depending upon terrain and precipitation is generally light averaging about 15 inches annually, most of which falls as rain during the summer.

The John River heads at an altitude of slightly more than 2000 feet about 1.5 miles south of the village of Anaktuvuk Pass. The river is formed by the confluence of Contact Creek and Inukpasugruk Creek and flows south 125 miles where it joins the Koyukuk River 1 mile northeast of the town of Bettles. The study area begins at Till Creek, 16 miles south of the river's beginning and continues south, down the river valley, for a distance of 45 miles to the mouth of McKinley Creek. This 45 mile stretch of river is bordered by 4000-5000 foot mountains which display the effects of recent glaciation. The first 20 miles of the valley are treeless, then spruce and poplar begin to appear on the valley floor about 5 miles south of Till Creek and begin to climb the mountain flanks 6 miles further south. From the confluence of the Hunt Fork, south, mixed forest conditions prevail below 2000 feet. By the time the river leaves the study area its elevation has dropped to less than 1000 feet.

The Helpmejack Hills are a range of 3500 ft. hills 28, miles long (east-west) and 13 miles wide (north-south). The hills are bounded on the north by Helpmejack and Kichaiakka Creeks, on the east by the Alatna River, and on the west by the Kobuk River. To the south of the eastern portion of the hills lies the Helpmejack Lakes. This area is one of chaotic glacial topography which is mantled by a robust forest that is comprised primarily of spruce with some scattered birch and poplar. Wildfires are common in this area.

Lake Kipmik/Lake Amitchiak are twin lakes located 67° 57' north latitude, 156° 09' west longitude. The lakes lie at an elevation of about 2500 feet, are 2 and 2.5 miles long respectively, and eventually drain into the Noatak River. The lakes are surrounded by 4000-5000 foot mountains and are located well beyond both altitudinal and latitudinal treeline. The Midas Creek Valley lies several miles to the east of the lakes while the Noatak River flows westward 8 miles to the south. Both lakes contain excellent fish resources.

The Agiak Lake/Amiloyak Lake/Chandler Lake Valley lies at 68° 15' north latitude and 152° 50' west longitude and straddles the Continental Divide in the northern Endicott Mountains. The valley, at an altitude of 3000 feet, is steeply hemmed in by mountains ranging between 7000-5000 feet some of which contain small cirque glaciers. The largest of the valley lakes is Chandler which is five miles in length. Agiak Lake is the only one of the three lakes which lies south of the Continental Divide. The Chandler River heads in Amiloyak Lake and flows north through Chandler Lake, Little Chandler Lake, and Round Lake before beginning its 125 mile journey to the Colville River. The general area is rugged and quite rocky and supports typical tundra vegetation. Agiak Lake, by a circuitous route, drains into the Hunt Fork of the John River.

Geology: Bedrock

The Brooks Range is the northernmost extension of the Rocky Mountains. Lithologically it consists of a complex series of east-west trending belts of metamorphic, sedimentary, and igneous rocks. The sedimentary rocks of Paleozoic and Mesozoic age are folded, faulted, and locally metamorphosed. Limestone, graywacke, chert, shale, and schist are common rock types. Dark intrusive rocks of the Jurassic-Cretaceous period as well as other intrusive bodies of granite and diorite exist in the range (Black, 1969). Most of these lithologies are found in or near the survey areas, and contribute to the complex substrate that has conditioned the present physiography and surficial geology.

Geology: Glacial

The surficial geology of the survey area is dominated by glacial deposits of Pleistocene age. Hamilton (1982) has recently revised the chronology and nomenclature of the glacial record of the South-central Brooks Range based on detailed stratigraphic work supported by radiocarbon dates. The oldest mappable glacial drift in the region is that of the Kobuk Glaciation, named by Fernald (1964; Hamilton and Porter, 1975), its distribution and age are poorly known. Drift limits of the Kobuk Glaciation extend well beyond the southern edge of the survey area (Hamilton, 1982, written communication, 1984), and are not yet mapped in detail in this vicinity. The Kobuk Drift typically consists of older and younger sub-units thought to be respectively correlative with the Sagavanirktok and Anaktuvuk

glaciations of the northern side of the Brooks Range (Hamilton and Porter, 1975), the older of which (Anaktuvuk) is now thought to possibly be early pleistocene in age (Hamilton and Hopkins, 1982).

The Itkillik glaciation (Hamilton, 1982) formed extensive piedmont lobes in the survey areas which were fed by ice streams flowing down the major stream valleys including the John, Chandler, Alatna, and Noatak Rivers. The age of the Itkillik glaciation is beyond the range of conventional radiocarbon dating (>50,000 years), but is believed to correlate with early Wisconsin glaciation (Hamilton and Hopkins, 1982).

The Walker Lake glaciation (Hamilton, 1982) is best represented, in the 1985 survey area, by morainal topography in the vicinity of the Helpmejack Hills and Lakes. These glaciers also formed piedmont lobes that splayed out onto the lowlands at the valley mouths, but were much less extensive than those of the Itkillik glaciation, stopping just at the range front. The Walker Lake glaciation is now well dated in the South-central Brooks Range (Hamilton, 1982). A period of rapid alluviation in an outwash train traceable to the outer Walker Lake moraine at Walker Lake indicates a time of maximum ice advance between perhaps 24,500 and 22,500 years ago (Hamilton 1982: fig. 3). Subsequent downcutting was followed by construction of a lower outwash train associated with the inner Walker Lake moraine. This moraine is not directly dated, but dated deposits downriver indicate alluviation continued until sometime after 17,700 years ago (Hamilton, 1982, Schweger, 1976). A basal radiocarbon date from Ruppert Lake, a kettle lake at the contact between the inner and outer Walker Lake moraines, indicates the area was ice-free by 13,200 years ago (Brubaker et al, 1983: Table 2). Thus the Walker Lake glaciation spans a period between about 24,500 and 17,500 years ago, during which there were at least two ice advances. Holocene glaciation has been confined to high altitude cirques that support modern glaciers in the northern portion of the study areas.

These three major Pleistocene glaciations have left extensive drift sheets in the survey areas, and have formed numerous topographic features that have archeological resources associated with them. These features are generally well-drained and their topography offers unique vantage points from which to survey the surrounding terrain. Archeological sites are also associated with well-drained alluvial terraces and with ancient beach deposits surrounding many of the glacially formed lakes.

Soils

The soils of the survey area have not been mapped in any detail, only reconnaissance level information is available (Rieger et al. 1979). Due to the young age of most of the surfaces in the study areas, and the cold climate and low precipitation, most of the soils are poorly developed and belong to the Inceptisol order. An important division between these soils is their internal drainage. Ice-rich permafrost is common throughout the region and poorly drained hydromorphic soils occur where drainage is impeded by the permafrost table. Soils typical of these conditions are

Histic Pergelic Cryaquepts and Pergelic Cryaquepts on rolling upland areas with sedge tussock and dwarf heath vegetation. In very poorly drained muskegs, organic soils such as Pergelic Cryofibrists are found. Well-drained soils are found on glacial morine systems, especially those of the most recent glaciations, and on ridge tops, south facing slopes, and other similar features. Typical well-drained soils of the region are typical Cryochrepts or Dystric Cryochrepts, some displaying an albic (A2) horizon indicative of podzolization. Where podzolization had been sufficiently intense, for example, in well-drained spruce forests, typical Cryorthods may be found. However, recent soil genesis studies at Walker Lake have shown that bleached albic horizons typical of podzolization came from under lichen and dwarf heath cover in the absence of spruce trees (Ugolini et al., 1981). Where well-drained soils are either young or unstable, Entisols such as Pergelic Cryorthents, may be found.

Vegetation

The southern portion of the survey area is near the northern limit of the boreal forest. Treeline lies at an altitude of about 2000 feet and latitudinally at about 68° north. In the southern portion of the study area white spruce (*Picea glauca*) dominates the forest on well-drained sites on mountain slopes and along river terraces, accompanied by white birch (*Betula papyrifera*) and aspen (*Populus tremuloides*).

Black spruce (*P. mariana*) dominates the poorly drained areas at low altitudes, together with white birch and aspen (Brubaker et al. 1983). Understory plants common to both white and black spruce forests include resin birch shrubs (*B. glandulosa*), ericaceous species such as blueberry (*Vaccinium uliginosum*), Labrador tea (*Ledum decumbens* ssp. *groenlandicum*) and (*L. decumbens* ssp. *palustre*), crowberry (*Empetrum nigrum*), mountain-cranberry (*V. vitis-idaea*), as well as lichens (*Cladonia* sp. and *Cetraria* sp.) Alder (*Alnus crispa*) and willow (*Salix* sp) are common along stream courses and in draws above treeline. (Brubaker et al. 1983).

In addition to the forest understory plants, the alpine tundra above tree-line and north of 68° latitude is characterized by grasses, sedges (*Carex* sp), *Cassiope tetragona*, *Artemesia arctica*, *Leuseleuri procumbens*, *Spirea beauverdiana*, and *Anemone parviflora*. Lowland shrub tussock tundra consists of cottongrass (*Eriophorum vaginatum*) and sedge (*Carex* sp) tussocks with shrubs of resin birch, labrador tea, and other ericaceous plants, (Brubaker et al., 1983).

Vegetational History

by Patricia Anderson

During full glacial times (24,500 to 14,000 yr B.P.) the landscape of the park differed markedly from that of today. Large glaciers dominated the mountains and bordering valleys of the Brooks Range (Hamilton, 1986). Mean annual temperatures were cooler and conditions very much drier. Perhaps there was a larger number and greater diversity of herd animals living along the flanks of the Brooks Range (Guthrie, 1982). Certainly,

the kinds, if not the amount, of animals that roamed the park (e.g., bison, mammoth, horse) during these times differed greatly from those seen today.

Pollen assemblages that date to this time are unlike any produced by the modern vegetation, thus making vegetational reconstructions difficult. These assemblages are dominated by herb pollen, especially sedges (Cyperaceae), grasses (Gramineae), and wormwood (Artemisia) with trace amounts of other herb pollen and small amounts of willow (Salix) pollen. The current interpretation of the western and central Brooks Range pollen data suggests that upland sites beyond glacial margins supported a very sparse, polar desert (Barnosky et al., in review). In lower elevations where effective moisture, temperature, and shelter were greater a more continuous vegetation cover probably existed. This meadow-like herb tundra was likely the focus of animal activity providing them with a relatively abundant food source and easy access to water. It is equally probable that river valleys were the focus of human activity, although, as yet, no sites have been dated to this time period in northern Alaska.

Between 14,000 and 13,000 years ago a dramatic change in vegetation occurred throughout northern Alaska. The herb meadows were invaded by shrub birch (Betula nana/glandulosa), and the appearance of heath (Ericales) pollen and moss (Sphagnum) spores suggest that shrub tussock tundra was common in better drained areas of the valley lowlands and surrounding hillsides. Shrub birch apparently did not recolonize higher elevation sites until c. 12,000 years B.P. This local asynchrony may relate to differences in the timing of local deglaciation and/or distance from ice-age refugia of shrub birch. Evidently, the change in vegetation and climate, coupled with a major alteration of the substrate from an even relatively hard-packed to a wetter tussock-dominated one was sufficient to cause the extinction of the full-glacial fauna. Major changes in global climate, in particular a postulated plunge in winter temperatures, also were important in causing additional stress on animal populations and eventual extinction of those that could not adapt to the new environments (Barnosky et al., in review). If human populations were present in the area at this time, they, too, would need to adapt to declining food supplies and severe winter climate.

At 11,000 years B.P. populations of poplar (presumably balsam poplar, Populus balsamifera) increased. The spread of poplar has been attributed to increased summer temperatures and/or the increased availability of disturbed ground as a result of greater spring floods or greater aeolian activity (see Brubaker, et al., 1983). The precise distribution of these trees on the land is unknown. However, if floods played a major role in the distribution of poplar, these trees were probably limited to river courses. Ager and Brubaker (1985), however, have suggested that broad areas of poplar-willow scrub forest more likely characterized the vegetation at this time. Balsam poplar populations declined ca. 9000 years B.P. reflecting decreased summer temperatures, reduced spring floods, or widespread development of organic soils poorly suited for poplar growth (see Brubaker et al., 1983). The rise and decline in poplar populations likely had little affect on subsistence resources, but the trees would provide a ready source of building material and fuel for human inhabitants.

Prior to 9000 years ago there was little difference in vegetation between eastern and western areas of the park. Important differences become evident with the development of the modern boreal forest between 9000 to 7000 years B.P. Pollen data from a lake near Wiseman indicates the arrival of spruce at c. 8500 years B.P., whereas a continued presence of spruce is not evident in the Walker Lake area, 100 miles to the west, until c. 6000 years B.P. (Edwards et al., 1985; Brubaker et al., 1983). Data from the Kiana area show that spruce were absent from the lower reaches of the Kobuk River until 4000 to 5000 years ago (Anderson, 1985) and suggest an east to west migration of spruce across northern Alaska.

The pattern of alder migration, however, seems to be opposite in direction from that of spruce. Alder is first evident in the Kotzebue Sound region by c. 9000 years B.P. and appears to migrate eastward across the southern flanks of the Brooks Range recolonizing the park area by 7000 years B.P. (Anderson, 1982).

If different archeological cultures or traditions are related to different ecological systems as suggested by Anderson (1968) then an east-west component of change should be visible in the archeological record. The period between 9000 and 7000 years B.P. is a time of relatively fast vegetational change. The altered landscapes probably had significant impact on subsistence resources, in particular caribou and species that inhabit the boreal woodlands, that in turn would have affected human subsistence strategies.

In addition to the broad change from shrub tundra to mixed forest-tundra, interesting differences in amounts of spruce and alder occurred between 9000 to 3000 years B.P. Increased percentages of spruce pollen near Walker Lake may indicate that treeline was located this far west as early as 8500 years B.P. (Brubaker et al., 1983; Anderson, unpublished data). Trees either were absent or sparsely dispersed in this area between 8000 to 6000 years B.P. This postulated retreat of treeline is the first major palynological evidence for the presence of cooling after a post-glacial thermal maximum, an event that is well documented in northwestern Canada (Ritchie et al., 1983). In the western and central Brooks Range, percentages of alder pollen (and presumably populations of alder) increased to a maximum by c. 6000 years B.P. and achieved their modern pollen frequencies by c. 3000 years B.P. (Anderson, 1982). This change in alder appears to correspond to changes in precipitation through the mid-Holocene with a precipitation maximum occurring at 6000 years B.P. (Barnosky et al., in review).

Vegetational change over the past 3000 years is poorly documented. Current palynological research at Itkilik and Etivlik Lakes is attempting to correlate minor fluctuations in the pollen record with neoglacial activity in the Brooks Range.

FAUNA

A wide variety of fauna exists in the survey area ranging from frogs to grizzly bears. There is little reason to describe each species, therefore, the fauna will be presented as a list.

MAMMALS

black bear	Ursus americanus
grizzly bear	Ursus arctos
coyote	Canis latrans
wolf	Canis lupus
red fox	Vulpes vulpes
marten	Martes americana
short-tailed weasel	Mustela erminea
least weasel	Mustela nivalis
mink	Mustela vison
wolverine	Gulo gulo
river otter	Lutra canadensis
lynx	Felis lynx
moose	Alces alces
caribou	Rangifer tarandus
Dall sheep	Ovis dalli
snowshoe hare	Lepus americanus
hoary marmot	Marmota caligata
Arctic ground squirrel	Spermophilus parriuu
red squirrel	Tamiasciurus hudsonicus
northern flying squirrel	Glaucomys sabrinus
muskrat	Ondatra zibethicus
beaver	Castor canadensis
red backed vole	Clethrionomus rutilus
meadow mouse	Microtus species
brown lemming	Lemmus sibiricus
northern bog lemming	Synaptomys borealis
porcupine	Erethizon dorsatum
masked shrew	Sorex cinereus
Arctic shrew	Sorex arcticus
little brown bat	Myotis lucifugus

BIRDS

Arctic loon	Gavia arctica
red-throated loon	Gavia stellata
whistling swan	Olor columbianus
Canada Goose	Branta canadensis
white fronted goose	Anser albifrons
snow goose	Chen caerulescens
mallard	Anas platyrhunchos
pintail	Anas acuta
green-winged teal	Anas crecca
northern shoveler	Anas clypeata

American wigeon
 greater scaup
 lesser scaup
 bufflehead
 oldsquaw
 harlequin duck
 white-winged scoter
 surf scoter
 common merganser
 red-breasted merganser
 rough-legged hawk
 golden eagle
 bald eagle
 marsh hawk
 osprey
 gryfalcon
 peregrine falcon
 merlin
 American kestrel
 spruce grouse
 ruffed grouse
 willow ptarmigan
 rock ptarmigan
 sandhill crane
 semipalmated plover
 whimbrel
 upland sandpiper
 lesser yellowlegs
 spotted sandpiper
 northern phalarope
 red phalarope
 common snipe
 long-billed dowitcher
 semipalmated sandpiper
 long-toed stint
 baird's sandpiper
 pectoral sandpiper
 glaucous gull
 mew gull
 Arctic tern
 great horned owl
 hawk owl
 short-eared owl
 boreal owl
 belted kingfisher
 common flicker
 hairy woodpecker
 downy woodpecker
 alder flycatcher
 horned lark
 bank swallow
 cliff swallow
 gray jay

Anas americana
 Authya marila
 Aythya affinis
 Buchepala albeola
 Clangula hyemalis
 Historionicus histrionicus
 Melanitta deglandi
 Melanitta perspicillata
 Mergus merganser
 Mergus serrator
 Buteo lagopus
 Aquila chrysatos
 Haliaeetus leucocephalus
 Circus cyaneus
 Pandion haliaetus
 Falco rusticolus
 Falco peregrinus
 Falco columbarius
 Falco sparverius
 Canachites canadensis
 Bonasa umbellus
 Lagopus lagopus
 Lagopus mutus
 Grus canadensis
 Pluvialis dominica
 Numenius phaeopus
 Bartramia longicuda
 Tringa flavipes
 Actitis macularia
 Phalaropus lobatus
 Phalaropus fulicarius
 Gallinago gallinago
 Limnodromus scolopaceus
 Calidris pusilla
 Calildris subminuta
 Calidris bairdii
 Caldri melanotos
 Larus pyperboreus
 Larus canus
 Sterna paradisaea
 Bubo virginianus
 Surnia ulula
 Asio flammeus
 Aegolius funereus
 Megaceryle alcyon
 Colaptes auratus
 Pecoides villosus
 Picordes pubescens
 Empidonax alnorum
 Eremophils alpestris
 Riparia riparia
 Petrochelidon pyrrhonota
 Perisoreus canadensis

common raven
 black-capped chickadee
 boreal chickadee
 American robin
 varied thrush
 hermit thrush
 gray-cheeked thrush
 wheatear
 Arctic warbler
 yellow wagtail
 water pipit
 Bohemian waxwing
 northern shrike
 yellow warbler
 yellow-rumped warbler
 northern waterthrush
 wilson's warbler
 rusty blackbird
 pine grosbeak
 gray-crowned rose finch
 hoary redpoll
 common redpoll
 savana sparrow
 dark-eyed junco
 tree sparrow
 white-crowned sparrow
 golden-crowned sparrow
 fox sparrow
 Lincoln's sparrow
 lapland longspur
 snow bunting

Corvus corax
 Parus atricapillus
 Parus hudsonicus
 Turdus migratorius
 Lxoreus naevius
 Catharus guttatus
 Catarus minimus
 Oenanthe oenanthe
 Phylloscopus borealis
 Motacilla flava
 Anthus spinoletta
 Bonbycilla garrulus
 Lanius excubitor
 Dendroica petechia
 Dendroica striata
 Seiurus noveboracensis
 Wilsonia pusilla
 Euphagus carolinus
 Pinicola enecleator
 Leucosticte tephrocotis
 Carduelis hornemanni
 Carduelis flammea
 Passerculus sandwichensis
 Junco hyemalis
 Spizedla arborea
 Zonotrichia leucophrys
 Zonotrichia altricapilla
 Passerella iliaca
 Melaspiza lincolnii
 Calcarius lapponicus
 Plectraphenax nivalis

D R A T

FISH

chum salmon
 sheefish
 humpback whitefish
 broad whitefish
 least cisco
 round whitefish
 Arctic grayling
 Arctic char
 lake trout
 northern pike
 Alaska blackfish
 longnosed sucker
 burbot

Oncorhynchus kisutch
 Stenodus leucichthys
 Coregonus pidschian
 Coregonus nasus
 Coregonus sardinella
 Prosopium cylindraceum
 Thymallus arcticus
 Salvelinus alpinus
 Salvelinus namaycush
 Esox lucius
 Dallia pectoralis
 Catostomus catostomus
 Lota lata

Previous Archeological, Anthropological, Historical, and Exploration Work Conducted in the Phase III Study Area

Archeology

Past, intensive, archeological work in the region has for the most part, been limited to the area around Anaktuvuk Pass and Chandler Lake. The earliest work was done by Ralph Solecki in 1949 in association with U.S. Government oil exploration activities on Alaska's North Slope (Solecki, 1950). In the early 1950's William Irving conducted several archeological surveys in the central Brooks Range and expanded on Solecki's earlier work (Irving 1951, 1953). Irving (1962), also conducted survey in the Kipmik/Amitchiak Lake area. E.S. Hall also conducted archeological survey in the Kipmik Lake area in 1973.

During the late 1950's through the mid 1960's John Campbell concentrated his archeological fieldwork in the Anaktuvuk Pass/John River/Chandler Lake area. Through his work Campbell created a data base which still serves as a generalized "yardstick" for regional prehistoric study. Campbell's work indicated that human occupation in the north-central Brooks Range extended back to at least 8000 years ago and that both Eskimos and Indians had inhabited the area (Campbell, 1962).

During the early to mid 1960's H.L. Alexander conducted archeological investigations in the Anaktuvuk Pass and Chandler Lake area expanding on the earlier work of Irving and Campbell (Alexander 1967, 1968, 1969).

During the late 1960's through the early 1970's Lewis Binford conducted ethnoarcheological fieldwork in the Anaktuvuk Pass area. This work explored the life style of the recent Eskimo inhabitants of the area which offered a perspective of contact period aboriginal life which might be applied to the older archeological cultures. (Binford, 1976, 1978a, 1978b, 1980).

During the summer of 1983, M. Kunz conducted archeological survey in the Kichaiakaka Creek Valley on the northwestern edge of the Helpmejack Hills.

As can be seen from this very succinct summary, in terms of the size of the area involved, only limited archeological investigation has been undertaken. In terms of geographic size the Phase III study area is generally unknown archeologically.

Exploration/Ethnohistory/Cultural Anthropology

The earliest recorded information dealing with the native peoples of the general region is found in the journals of John Cantwell (1889), Henry Allen (1887), and George Stoney (1899). In 1884 Cantwell made a complete ascent of the Kobuk River from Kotzebue to Walker Lake; a journey of government exploration. Cantwell and Stoney were probably the first and last white men to observe native life in its more or less, "traditional", seasonally oriented, annual cycle prior to the on-set of strong non-native cultural influences.

In 1885 Stoney made an overland winter trip up the Kobuk River from Fort Cosmos to the Alatna River, then north to Chandler Lake and back to Fort Cosmos. Stoney's journal became lost prior to the publication of the account of his explorations and the published document was written from memory fourteen years after the fact. As a result, the information contained in the report can be considered somewhat suspect (Stoney, 1899).

W.L. Howard, one of Stoney's junior offices at Fort Cosmos, made a winter trip in the company of Eskimos from the Kobuk River, through the Brooks Range, to Point Barrow. His account of the journey is the first eye-witness written account of the activities of the Nunamiut Eskimos (Stoney, 1899). In 1885 Henry Allen conducted an exploration of the upper Koyukuk River. Allen traveled up the river about as far as the confluence of the John River. Allen's journal contains numerous notes regarding the aboriginal inhabitants of interior northern Alaska while these people were still living a life style basically uninfluenced by the modern technology of the day (Allen, 1887).

In 1901 W.C. Mendenhall conducted a USGS geologic reconnaissance from the mouth of the Alatna River to Kotzebue via the "Alatna Portage" and the Kobuk River. The Alatna River to Kobuk River portion of the trip utilized both Helpmejack and Kichaiakaka Creeks while the Kobuk River portion of his trip paralleled in reverse Cantwell's route of 1884. It is interesting to note Mendenhall's documentation the changes which had occurred in the life style of the natives along the Kobuk River in the seventeen years which had elapsed between the two reconnaissances (Mendenhall, 1902).

At the same time that Mendenhall was engaged in his fieldwork, F.C. Schrader, also a USGS Geologist, was engaged in a similar reconnaissance ascending the John River through the Brooks Range and descending the Anaktuvuk and Colville Rivers to the Arctic coast. Schrader encountered native people along his route and made notations in his journals regarding these encounters (Schrader, 1904).

In 1911 P.S. Smith, a USGS geologist, conducted a geologic reconnaissance of the Alatna and Noatak Rivers. In the published account of the expedition Smith states that they encountered none of the native villages on the upper Noatak that McLennan reports existed in 1885 (Smith, 1913).

From the late 1940's through the 1980's a number of anthropologists have conducted fieldwork of greater or lesser degrees of intensity in the Phase III study area. This work includes publications by Helge Ingstad (1954), Helge Larsen (1956), Robert Spenser (1959), Leopold Pospisil (1964), Nicholas Gubser (1965), Ernest Burch (1975, 1976, 1980), and Grant Spearman (1982).

Most of this work has dealt with human occupation and exploitation of the upper John, Anaktuvuk and Chandler River drainages. As a result, a large body of data is available for the area. However, this data is applicable in more than a general sense to the entire northern portion of the Phase III study area.

History

There has not been a great deal of formal historical work undertaken in the Phase III study area. There have been a few articles written which mention mining activities in the Wild Lake area and a general history of the village of Anaktuvuk Pass has been written by Grant Spearman (n.d.).

Aboriginal Use of the Phase III Study Area

Three aboriginal cultural groups, to a greater or lesser degree, probably occupied and exploited various portions of Phase III study area. All three of these groups were, at times, marginal in terms of survivability. In other words their existence was often hand-to-mouth at certain seasons of the year. In this regard A. Clark states, "...there were few times through the year when a sufficiently large surplus could be accumulated that the food quest was not paramount. Their lives were not those of settled village people, and as the seasons changed, so did their places of habitation, as well as their methods and types of hunting and fishing" (A. Clark, 1974).

Of the three groups which utilized the Phase III study area, the Nunamiut Eskimo are paramount as the majority of this area lies within what is historically considered to be their territory. The Koyukuk Indians were the primary users of the southern-most portion of the area, while the Kobuk Eskimos were probably only peripheral or occasional users along the western edge.

A fair amount of data has been collected through the work of modern-day anthropologists and from the accounts of the early explorers regarding the annual cyclical movements of the natives of this area at or about the time of white contact. How far back in time such annual cycles of movement can be applied is, however, debatable. The following is a general outline of the annual movements of the Koyukuk Indians and the Nunamiut Eskimos who were the primary users of the area.

From June through August, the Koyukuk Indians lived on the major rivers at the confluence of streams or sloughs. This can be somewhat substantiated by the accounts of Stoney, Cantwell, Mendenhall, and others during explorations along the Kobuk, Koyukuk, and Alatna Rivers between 1884 and 1901. During this season the men left camp, off and on, for periods of a few days to hunt birds and other game. Additionally, berries, meat, and fish were collected and dried for winter use. As fall began, the people moved into the hill country, fishing the lakes, building semi-subterranean houses for winter use, and hunting caribou, sheep, bear, and small game. About March the Indians left their winter dwellings and moved to spring muskrat camps (A. Clark, 1974).

The Nunamiut Eskimo, at least in late prehistoric times, maintained no permanent base of operations, generally moving with the caribou. In April and May, and in August and September, the Nunamiut hunted the major passes of the Brooks Range. From October to January they broke into

smaller groups and hunted the caribou remaining in the mountains near the treeline (south side of the range). February and March, as well as June and July, were often periods of near famine. At these times, they hunted small game, fished, and gathered berries (Campbell, 1962).

Movement other than the annual treks from camp to camp also occurred. Travel for the purposes of trading or visiting was probably most common. Movement from camp to camp was on a relatively small scale and varied somewhat from family group to family group. Because of its small scale and diversity, this type of travel is difficult to trace and even more difficult to recognize in an archeological context. Trade routes, on the other hand, were major travel routes (travel for visiting often followed these routes also) used successively by larger groups and, therefore, may be more easily traced and recognized in an archeological context. Reasonable data regarding trade routes in the Phase III study area is available (A. Clark, 1974; Burch, 1975, 1976; Spearman, 1982, n.d.; Cantwell, 1889; Stoney, 1899; Mendenhall, 1902; Schrader, 1904). While this data reflects travel in late prehistoric and early historic times, it may or may not be generally valid for earlier time periods (if the reasons for travel remained constant) as travel routes from area to area within a region are, to a great extent, determined by the geomorphology.

The Sites

This portion of the report consists of the site descriptions, and is organized in terms of the areas surveyed: John River north to south, Helpmejack Hills/Lakes, Lake Kipmik/Lake Amitchiak, Chandler Lake/Agiak Lake.

MAP AREA #1

JOHN RIVER VALLEY: TILL CREEK TO HUNT FORK

Camp #1 - #4, May 26 - June 27

The archeological field crew arrived in Bettles from Fairbanks via commercial air carrier. The archeological field gear and supplies had been shipped to Bettles several days previously on a chartered DC-3. The next 2 days were spent in Bettles getting the gear and supplies organized and ready for the field. A reconnaissance of prospective camp locations along the John River and at Agiak Lake was conducted by helicopter.

On May 26 we set up our first camp on the east side of the John River about 1.5 miles south of Till Creek. Setting up camp required four helicopter trips from Anaktuvuk Pass, 18 miles to the north, where our gear had been transported from Bettles via charter aircraft.

Archeological survey work began on May 27 and continued out of Camp #1 until June 2 when camp was struck and all gear and supplies transported by helicopter to the Camp #2 location. The camp move was made by helicopter rather than raft due to extremely high water in the river resulting from early summer snow melt.

During the six days that archeological survey was conducted out of Camp #1, an area of roughly 5 square miles was investigated and 12 archeological sites were located.

Camp #2 was located on Publituk Creek 5.5 miles to the south of Camp #1. Archeological survey was conducted out of Camp #2 from June 3-11. During the nine days that archeological reconnaissance was conducted out of Camp #2, an area of four square miles was rather intensely investigated and 17 archeological sites were recorded. The move from Camp #2 to Camp #3 was, due to high water, again made by helicopter.

Camp #3 was located 5 miles south, down stream, from Camp #2 on a gravel bar near the mouth of Wasted Lynx Creek (our name). Archeological survey was conducted out of this camp from June 12-20. During the nine days that we operated out of this camp approximately four square miles were intensely surveyed and 14 archeological sites were located and recorded.

Although the water was still high, it had dropped enough so that the move from Camp #3 to Camp #4 could be made utilizing our two rafts, an Avon Redshank and Pro. We had moved a small amount of gear, roughly 600 lbs., with the Redshank raft between Camp #2 and #3 at high water successfully, but with some difficulty. The fact that all the gear must be tied to a superstructure of poles forming a deck across the top of the raft makes the rafts somewhat difficult to handle in swift, rough, water; especially the Pro, which usually has 2500 lbs. of gear and supplies stacked on it.

Camp #4 Was located on the left hand bank of the John River about 1/3 mile above the confluence of the Hunt Fork. Archeological work was conducted out of this camp for a period of six days during which time five archeological sites were located and several previously located sites received additional investigation and documentation. An area of approximately four square miles was investigated while working out of this camp. Additionally, one crew member was transported to Pamichtuk Lake which lies 4 miles east-southeast of Camp #4. Four days were spent surveying the area surrounding Pamichtuk Lake and no archeological sites were located. The surveyor did report, however, that there are numerous, hungry pike in the lake.

A total of 48 sites were located in Map Area #1 and they can generally be broken down in terms of function as follows. Thirty-one of the sites, 64%, appear to be typical hunting lookouts which are small, offer excellent views, and have a small amount of flaking detritus scattered about. Five of the sites appear to be camp locations that also served as lookouts. These sites are camps, usually small, the location of which was chosen especially for the view potential. Five of the sites appear to have served as base camps most of which suggest multiple occupational events. One of these sites, WIS-183, near Publituk Creek is enormous, and is the most intriguing site located on the John River during this survey. Three sites, a windbreak/blind, a quarry and a cache, fall into the "other" category. Lastly, it was impossible to even guess at the function of four of the sites.

The sites located in Map Area #1 indicate human use of the area over at least the last six millennia. There was much evidence of modern (last 50 years) use of the area by the residents of Anaktuvuk Pass, hunting guides, and construction workers along the once used pioneer road the "Hickel Highway". Interestingly, most of the concentrations of modern use occur at the localities of concentrations of prehistoric use. These areas of concentration occur near the major stream/river confluences, for the most part on the left (east) side of the river.

As would be expected in this region, the vast majority of culturally identifiable sites appear to be manifestations of the Eskimo Continuum. There are, however, several good possibilities for Athapaskan Indian sites in this predominately Eskimo area.

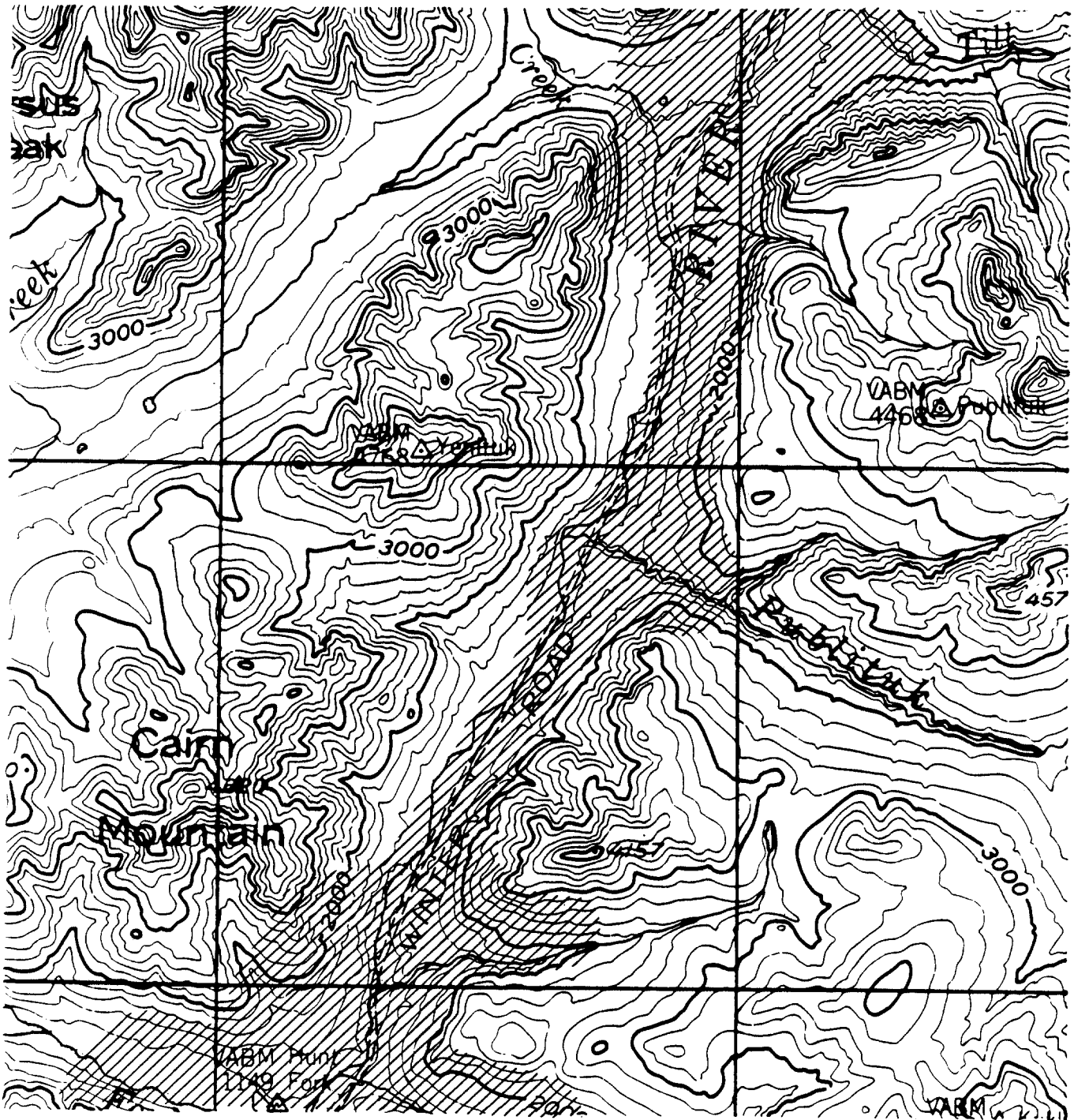
Weather Data During the Survey of Map Area #1

DATE	CAMP #	TEMPERATURE		SKY	WIND
		LOW	HIGH		
5-27-85	1	32°	56°	sunny	windy
5-28-85	1	32°	58°	sunny, some clouds	SE, light
5-29-85	1	32°			windy
5-30-85	1	35°	52°	sunny, some clouds	
5-31-85	1	44°		cloudy	windy
6-01-85	1			rainy	
6-02-85	2		70°	sunny	light
6-03-85	2		70°	sunny	light
6-04-85	2			(river high)	

Weather Data During the Survey of Map Area #1

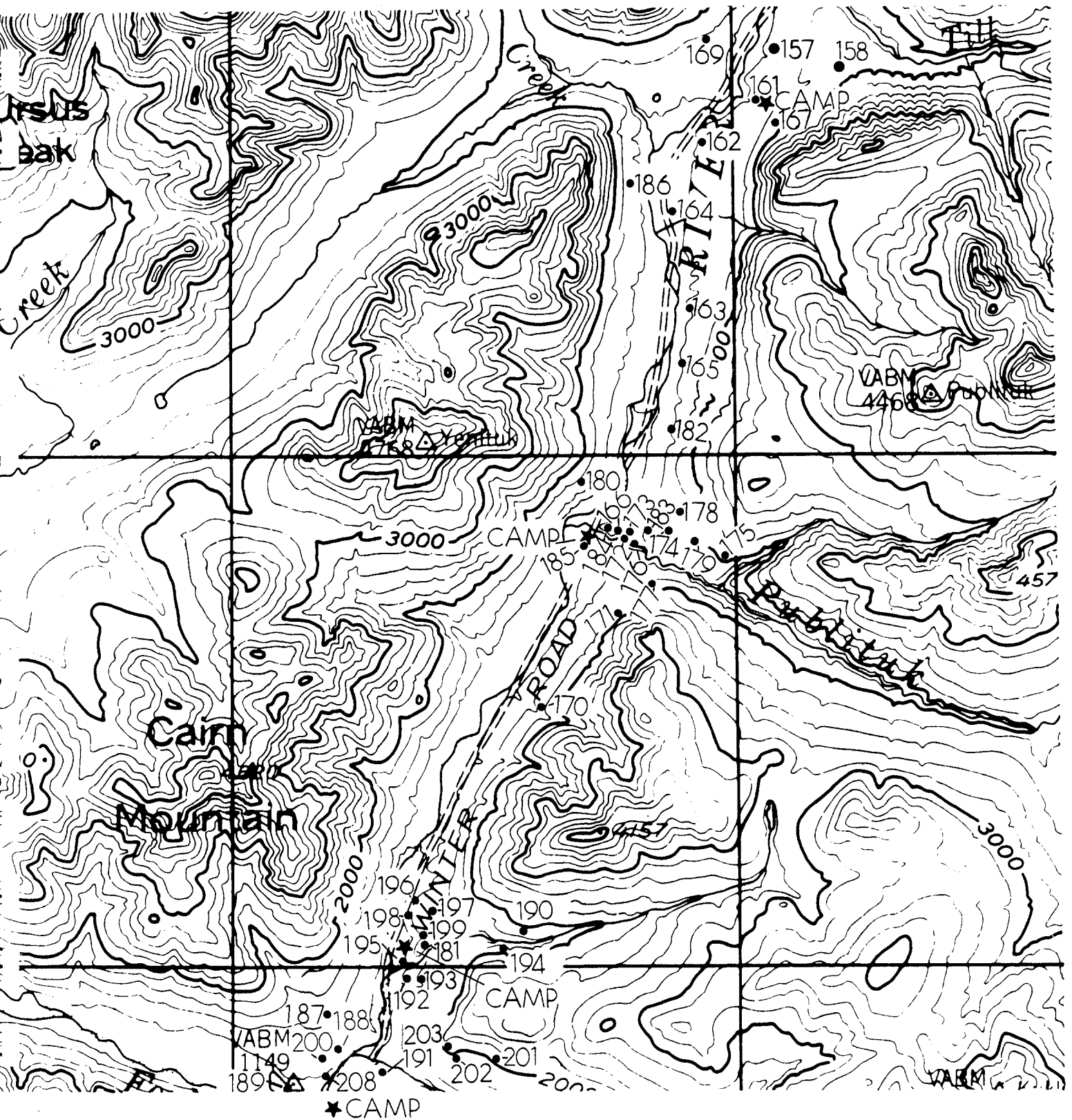
DATE	CAMP #	TEMPERATURE		SKY	WIND
		LOW	HIGH		
6-05-85	2	40°	70°	sunny	20 k.
6-06-85	2	37°		fog, low clouds	15 k., N
6-07-85	2	34°		mostly clear	20 k., NNE
6-08-85	2	34°	65°	clear	gusty
6-09-85	2	36°	63°		windy
6-10-85	2	36°	58°	clear	20 k., N
6-11-85	3	33°		overcast	20 k., NE
6-12-85	3	33°		snow (3 1/2 in.)	
6-13-85	3	34°	50°	clear	4-10 k., N
6-14-85	3	34°	50°	snow	15 k., N
6-15-85	3	36°		snow	
6-16-85	3	41°		partly cloudy	calm
6-17-85	3	33°		clear	5-17 k., N
6-18-85	3	43°		rain, overcast	light
6-19-85	3			rain in evening	
6-20-85	3	48°		partly cloudy	light
6-21-85	4	48°		partly cloudy	calm
6-22-85	4	46°		rainy morning, clear	
6-23-85	4	43°		rain, overcast	calm
6-24-85	4	46°		rain, overcast	calm
6-25-85	4	46°		rain, overcast	light gusts
6-26-85	4	43°		high thin clouds	calm
6-27-85	4	45°		high clouds, sunny	calm

6 miles



Shaded Area = Surveyed Area

6 miles



WIS-157

Site Elevation:
1750 ft.

NW1/4, NE1/4
Section 7
T36N, R20W

Probable Site Type:
Unknown

Site Age:
Unknown

Fairbanks Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on the south facing end of a broad, rounded terrace marked at its southern extreme by a small, discontinuous stream flowing west into the John River. The cut made by the stream's incision through the terrace to the west-southwest of the site, is clearly visible and V-shaped. The John River is located to the west of the site at a distance of 350 meters.

The vegetation at this well-drained locality consists predominately of clumps of low woody and herbaceous plants, and mosses, with dwarf birch occupying 30% of the area. Ninety-five percent of the surface of the site is vegetated. Those areas of the site not vegetated are the result of ground squirrel burrowing, frost heaving, or exposed boulders.

The view from the site encompasses the John River Valley for slightly less than 3 kilometers to the south and Walkaround Valley for roughly 5 kilometers to the west. To the north and east higher ground obscures the view after several hundred meters.

A large flake of greenish/gray, coarse-grained chert was observed on the surface of a mossy area. The surface of the artifact is partially covered with a black/dark gray lichen suggesting a long period of surface exposure. The flake, triangular in shape, exhibits some intentional and use retouch along all margins suggesting its function may have been as an expedient knife.

The site appears to have seen only limited use. Evidence suggests that only a single occupational event took place. The amount of lichen growth on the surface of the artifact may indicate an age in excess of 100 years, however, the lack of diagnostic artifacts or other means of relative dating makes temporal or cultural assessment impossible. The site is probably associated with other, larger, nearby sites.

Site significance and research potential are low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

WIS-158

Site Elevation: 1850 ft.	NW1/4, NW1/4 Section 8 T36N, R20W	Probable Site Type: Unknown
Site Age: 4000-5000 years B.P.	Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on a knoll slightly more than a kilometer south of Till Creek and a kilometer east of the John River. A small pond is located 100 meters due west of the site. The knoll is of variable elevation and sinuous in shape with a few conical high points which have been heavily disturbed by ground squirrel burrows. There are lower connecting ridges of exposed gravels heavily covered with lichen.

The vegetation is sparse on the connecting ridges and low woody and herbaceous plants, mosses and some grasses are infrequent inhabitants. The promontories and depressions are more completely covered with dwarf birch, mosses, heaths and grasses.

The view from the site is panoramic. The best view is to the south encompassing slightly more than 3 kilometers of the John River Valley. A minimum view of 500 meters is available in all other directions.

The site was discovered as a result of surface reconnaissance. During which a single artifact was observed. The artifact is a burin made on a flake of dark gray chert.

This type of burin most closely resembles a transverse burin of the Donnely type, but is somewhat thicker in cross-section.

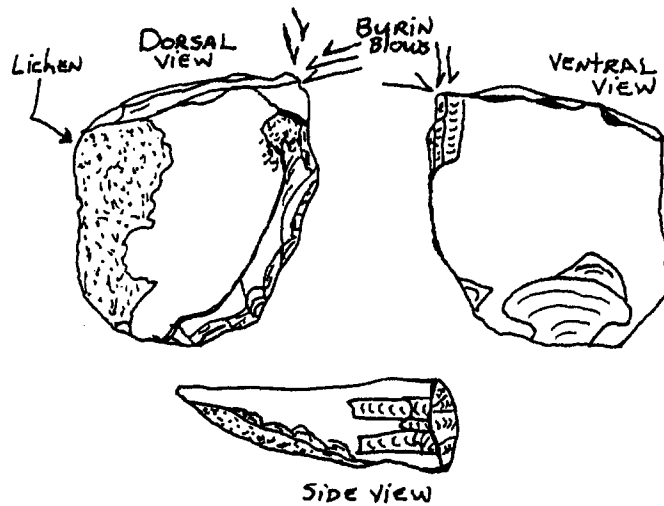
The extensive lichen growth on the artifact may indicate a long period exposure on the surface. Surprisingly no other artifacts were observed.

As is common with this type of multi-faceted burin, there is purposeful retouch along a portion of the tool's margins. This type of burin may be termed transverse in that burin blows were struck from the same point but in directions 90° opposed.

In this portion of Alaska this type of burin is often associated with campus type microblade cores and lanceolate projectile points. Such associations suggest a site antiquity of at least 4000-5000 years. Usually this type of artifact is not found as an isolated occurrence.

Little else can be said concerning the site. Significance is of only a local nature and research potential appears low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

WIS-158 (continued)



WIS-158 BURIN
ACTUAL SIZE

WIS-159

Site Elevation:
1740 ft.

NW1/4, SE1/4
Section 6
T36N, R20W

Probable Site Type:
Lookout/Camp

Site Age:
ca. 200 years B.P.

Fairbanks Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Nunamiut
Eskimo

This site is located on the most prominent and continuous ancient river terrace on the left bank (east side) of the John River approximately 400 meters south of its confluence with Till Creek. Six terraces can be counted back from the river in an easterly direction with the site located on the sixth. The John River lies some 250 meters west of the site and 25 meters lower in elevation. The terrace forms a corner where past activity by both Till Creek and the John River has cut from two sides. In all likelihood this terrace system dates from late Pleistocene to late Holocene in age.

The vegetation on the site consists primarily of low woody and herbaceous plants, grasses, mosses and a dozen or so bush-size willow scattered over the 100 meter² site area. Frost shattered rock and small areas of disturbed ground are scattered across the site. None of the unvegetated areas exceed 3 meters² and for the most part are composed of glacial gravels occasionally capped by thin mineral soil.

The view from the site is good in that a variety of terrain is visible. An excellent view, in excess of 3 kilometers both up and down the river, is available. To the west a good view of the Walkaround Valley complex is available while to the east, rising terrain limits the view to several hundred meters. WIS-157 lies 350 meters to the southeast and is somewhat visible.

The site was located as a result of surface reconnaissance and cultural features observed at the site include at least four hearths, ten stone cairns or inuksuk and two tent rings. Lithic artifacts were represented by two rough bifaces, a flake core, and 50-100 waste flakes all of the locally abundant black chert, A single flake of quartz crystal was also observed.

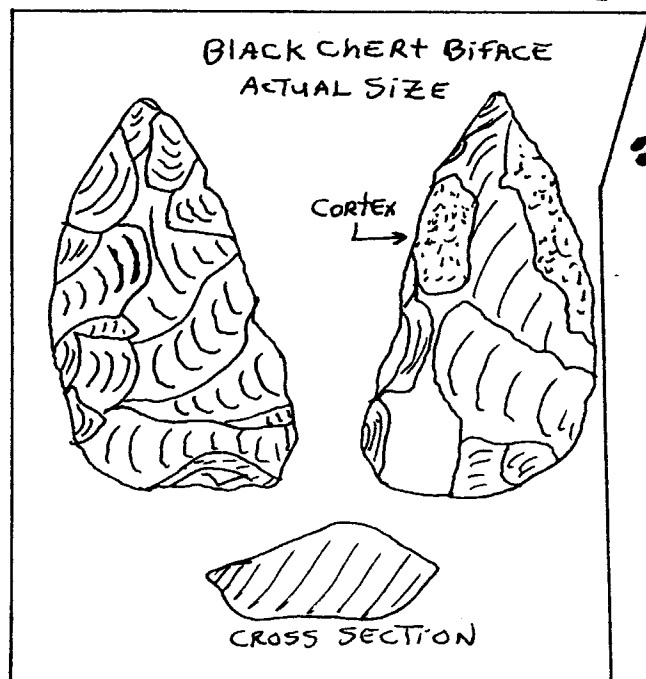
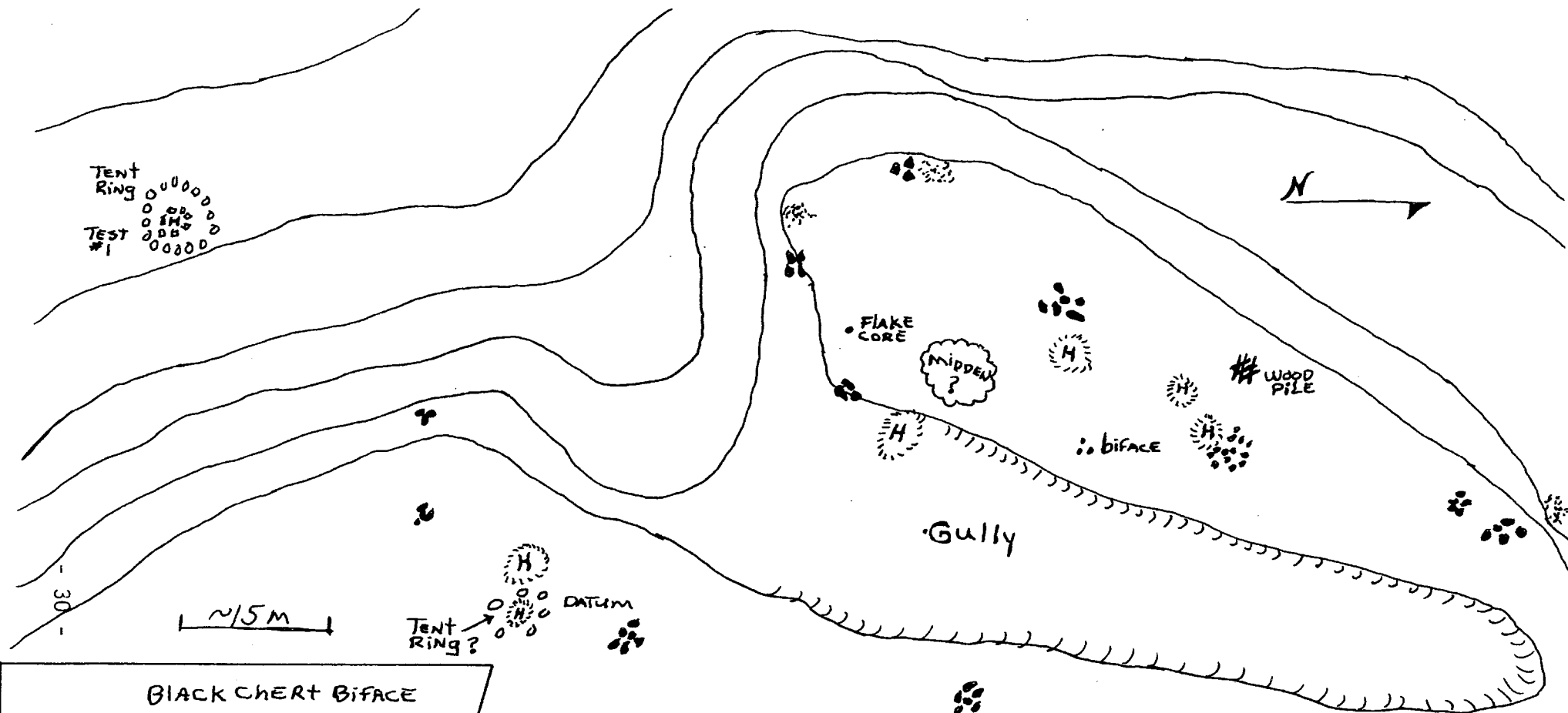
The hearths appear to represent both prehistoric and historic use. Materials suggesting recent use at one of the hearths includes a cooking stick and scattering of charred wood. The less recent hearth displayed fire-cracked rock and pieces of burned bone. The hearths ranged in size from 50 x 75 cm. to .75 x 2.0 meters.

The center of the westernmost tent ring exhibited fire-cracked rock protruding through a robust vegetation mat. A 20-cm² test pit was excavated to a depth of 12 cm. in the center of the tent ring and produced several pieces of burned bone, numerous chunks of charcoal, and a black chert flake as well as pieces of fire-cracked rock.

The site area suggests regular use through at least the last several centuries. The majority of the evidence points to historic occupation by Nunamiut Eskimo and earlier occupation by late prehistoric Eskimos. The site's location and cultural evidence suggest that the site was a multi-purpose one serving as lookout, kill and butchering location, and camp.

Site significance appears to be moderate research potential is high as the site is large and appears to contain a large amount of cultural detritus. There is ethnographic data that relates to the use of this site (Spearman, 1985; personal communication).

At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts. If, in the future, the site is threatened with disturbance, mitigative action should be employed.



WIS-159

CONTOUR INTERVAL = 1 METER

INUUKSUK =

HEARTH =

CHERT WASTE FLAKES =

WIS-160

Site Elevation:	NW1/4, NE1/4	Probable Site Type:
1930 ft.	Section 5	Lookout
	T36N, R20W	
Site Age:	Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Cultural
Unknown		Affiliation: Unknown

This site located 1.5 kilometers northeast of the Till Creek/John River

confluence. The site lies on a prominent gravel mound the westernmost mound in a series of several, at base of 5800' peak on the north side of Till Creek. The mounds appear to be the result of landslides. The view from the site is excellent in all directions except to the east where rising terrain blocks the view beyond a distance of several hundred meters.

The vegetation cover on the site can be termed discontinuous and is comprised of a mixture of low-woody and herbaceous plants, dwarf birch, ericaceous shrubs and sedges. Unvegetated areas appear to be the result of seasonal frost action ground squirrels burrowing, and lack of soil.

The site was discovered as result of surface reconnaissance. Fifty to seventy-five black chert flakes, some exhibiting cortex, were observed scattered about the surface. No formal artifacts were noted. Cortex on some of the waste flakes suggests that cobble reduction was taking place at the site using locally available chert cobbles. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes cultural or temporal assessment of the site.

The site's location suggests it served as a lookout. Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

WIS-161

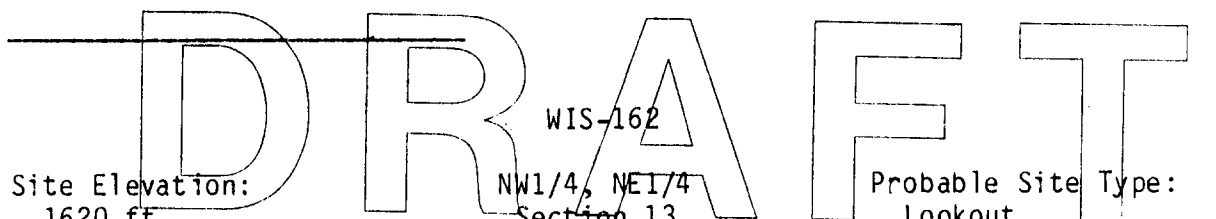
Site Elevation:	SE1/4, SW1/4	Probable Site Type:
1700 ft.	Section 7	Lookout
	T36N, R20W	
Site Age:	Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Cultural
Unknown		Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on the flat, well-drained, gravelly surface of a river edge bluff 2.5 kilometers south of the confluence of the John River and Till Creek. The river flows swiftly through an "S" bend to the west of the site within 50 meters of the base of the bluff. The bluff rises abruptly some 75 meters above the river and the valley floor. A steep-sided gorge has been cut 50 meters south of the site by a small, clear-water stream.

The site is discontinuously vegetated with many small mineral soil exposures present. The vegetation on the site varies from wet sedge-tussocks to well-drained caribou lichen covered areas, with low growing heaths and grasses making up the remainder of the vegetative cover. The view from the site encompasses more than a kilometer in all directions.

The site was discovered fortuitously on the location of our initial John River camp. The site consists of two small waste flakes of the ubiquitous black chert. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes temporal or cultural assessment. The site's location suggests it served as a lookout.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.


WIS-162
NW1/4, NE1/4
Section 13
T36N, R21W
Fairbanks Meridian

Site Elevation: 1620 ft.	Probable Site Type: Lookout
Site Age: Unknown	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

The site is located on a hill crest bordering a small intermittent stream approximately 500 meters east of the John River. Till Creek lies 3.5 kilometers to the north and Yenituk Creek enters the river approximately 3/4 of a kilometer to the west-southwest. The hill, which may have been formed by stagnating glacial ice, lies 70 meters above the valley floor and provides an excellent view in excess of 15 kilometers north and south as well as the width of the valley, 2.5 kilometers, east to west.

The surface of the site is undulating in nature and slopes gently toward the river. The undulations appear as terracettes approximately 2-5 meters apart and may be the result of frost action and/or solifluction. Vegetation at the site is a thin cover of moss, lichen, low herbaceous plants, scattered clumps of grass and dwarf birch. Much of the surface of the site is exposed mineral soil, gravel, cobbles, and small boulders which comprise the glacial till.

7 Cultural material was located as a result of surface inspection and consisted of chert flakes and one chert microblade fragment. Datum was established at the high point of the hill adjacent to a single black chert flake. A scatter of black chert flakes and a gray chert microblade fragment lie 25 meters from datum on a bearing of 256° mag. The flake scatter covers an area of approximately 3 x 6 meters.

The black chert flakes may have been derived from local material as chert nodules, mostly black, are quite common in the local gravels. Most of the chert nodules are small, roughly golf ball size and smaller, although a few that are baseball size or slightly larger have been observed.

The two different types of lithic material may indicate that more than one occupational event occurred at the site. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes assigning a culture or age to this site, although based on the area its inhabitants were most probably Eskimo. The microblade fragment suggests a minimum age for at least one site component of ca. 2000 years B.P.

The site may have served as a lookout/flaking station. The nearby flood plain of the John River, which is more sheltered from the wind and has both willow and scattered aspen available, suggests that the site was not a camp site. The site has significance mainly as being part of a suite of sites in this portion of the John River Valley. There appears to be little chance for additional surface or subsurface cultural material at this site. At present the site is in no danger of impact by either natural or human induced impacts.

DRAFT

WIS-163

Site Elevation:
1650 ft.

NE1/4, NW1/4
Section 24
T36N, R21W

Probable Site Type:
Camp/Lookout

Site Age:
Multiple Occupations

Fairbanks Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Denbigh/
Nunamiut Eskimo

The site is located on a prominent knob on the south side of an unnamed creek. The site is 1.8 kilometers south of WIS-162 and about 3/4 of a kilometer east of the John River. The knob, which appears to be glacial in origin, protrudes westward into the river flood plain more than any other nearby humps, bumps, knobs or hills. The knob is bordered on the north by a deeply incised unnamed creek.

The site provides a truly panoramic view which extends as far south as Publituk Creek, a distance of 6.5 kilometers, and as far north as Till Creek 4.5 kilometers distant. Two kilometers to the south, on the valley floor, the first spruce trees appear, representing the species local northern limit.

The surface of the site is relatively flat with several large natural depressions. The depressions are quite shallow, not exceeding 75 cm. in depth. The majority of the surface is exposed mineral soil, pebbles, cobbles, and small boulders which comprise the glacial till. The vegetation, where present, is thin and consists of mosses, lichen, low herbaceous plants, clumps of grasses and scattered dwarf willow. On the north and northwest slopes, bordering the creek, are scattered large willow.

Cultural material at the site was located as a result of surface inspection. The site consists of three localities. Locality #1 is the geographic high point of the site and is where datum is located. Cultural material consists of pieces of large willow, up to a meter in length and 6 cm. in diameter, which had been ax cut. The ends of some of the pieces had been burned suggesting use as firewood. No charcoal was observed on surface. The pieces of willow were partially imbedded in the surface (moss and lichen) suggesting they had been on site for some time. The wood was deteriorating but was still sound enough to be handled without damage. Thinly scattered over the area were some gray chert waste flakes. There were no metal implements or cloth tent material associated with the willow, as is common in recent Nunamiut sites. The chert flakes are probably not associated with the cut willow.

Locality #2 is located 24 meters from datum on a bearing of 347° mag. This locality is on the upper portion of the knob's northern slope. The cultural material, which includes thinly scattered waste flakes of green, gray, and black chert as well as a few pieces of fire-cracked rock and one flake of obsidian, probably came from an activity area on the north edge of the knob. The majority of this portion of the site has been eroded away as the result of grizzly bears digging ground squirrels out of their burrows. More pieces of fire-crack rock are located at the break in slope above the hillside material. The on-slope material was observed in a band roughly 2 meters wide which extended 5 meters down slope.

Locality #3 is located 22 meters from datum on a bearing of 210° mag. this locality covers roughly 10 meter² and contains lithic cultural material, on surface, including fire-cracked rock, green, gray, black, and white chert flakes, a primary burin spall of obsidian and of a style suggesting it came from a Denbigh (mitten shaped burin) and two possible microblade fragments, one of gray chert and one of obsidian.

Two test pits were excavated approximately 5 meters apart adjacent to the burin spall (test pit #1) and the microblades (test pit #2). Both test pits were 20 cm² and excavated to a depth of 15 cm. Both test pits yielded a few additional chert flakes and pieces of fire-cracked rock.

The site appears to have supported several occupational events from at least Denbigh times, ca. 3500 years B.P., through recent Nunamiut. This signifies long term subsistence use of the area, most likely, by Eskimo peoples. Evidence at the site suggests that the location served both as a lookout and a camp. There is a good possibility that there is subsurface cultural material at the site in an amount to make the site worthy of additional investigation. At present no adverse impacts appear to threaten the site. Local site significance is high and research potential is moderate.

WIS-164

Site Elevation:
1530 ft.

NW1/4, NW1/4
Section 24
T36N, R21W

Probable Site Type:
Camp

Site Age:
Unknown

Fairbanks Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

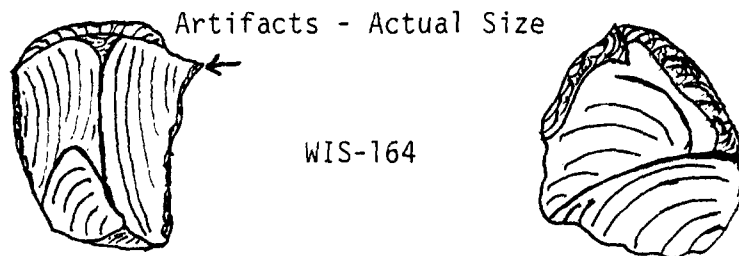
The site lies on an old river terrace 100 meters east of the John River and about 300 meters west-northwest of WIS-163. The confluence of Yenituk Creek and the river lies 1.5 kilometers to the northwest. The surface of the site is very flat and sparsely vegetated. In relation to the river bluffs, 200-300 meters to the east, the site is low lying yet the terrace top is 6-8 meters above the flood plain of the river. The site provides a reasonably good view; north to Yenituk Creek and south down the John River Valley to the Publutuk Creek area a distance of 7 kilometers.

Vegetation at the site consists of clumps of moss, lichen, grasses, and low herbaceous plants. Willows ring the terrace edges and grow profusely in the shallow drainages, which bisect the terrace. The majority of the terrace surface is exposed mineral soil, pebbles, cobbles, and small boulders.

Cultural material was observed on surface during a visual inspection of the area. The site area covers the length of the terrace, roughly 90 meters (north-south) and is scattered thinly and sporadically over the entire area. Datum is at the southern end of the terrace. Gray, green, and black chert waste flakes are the predominant lithic material. Two formal artifacts were located at the site. A small unifacially worked scraper with a graver spur which was made on a black chert flake. The scraper lay 34 meters from datum on a bearing of 340°. The second artifact is an obsidian tool, which is made on a flake and unifacially worked. This artifact lay 90 meters from datum on a bearing of 335° mag. No other cultural material was observed.

The terrace would have been an excellent camping locale as it is near the river and the flood plain willows. However there is no evidence of fire-cracked rock which would suggest a hearth. Chert nodules are present in the terrace gravels and may have been quarried here.

The site's location and cultural material suggests that more than a single occupational event occurred. Site significance relates to this site's relationship to the other local sites. At present the site is in no apparent danger from adverse impacts.



Chert End Scraper
With Graver Spur

WIS-164

Obsidian Flake Tool

WIS-165

Site Elevation: 1660 ft.	SE1/4, SW1/4 Section 25 T36N, R15W	Probable Site Type: Camp/Lookout
Site Age: ca. 3600 B.P.	Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Denbigh

This site lies on a small river edge bluff on the east side of the John River. WIS-163 is located 1 kilometer to the north and Publituk Creek enters the river 3.5 kilometers to the south. The John River lies 30 meters west of the bluff face and roughly 30 meters below site elevation. The site provides an excellent 360° view for distances in excess of 7 kilometers.

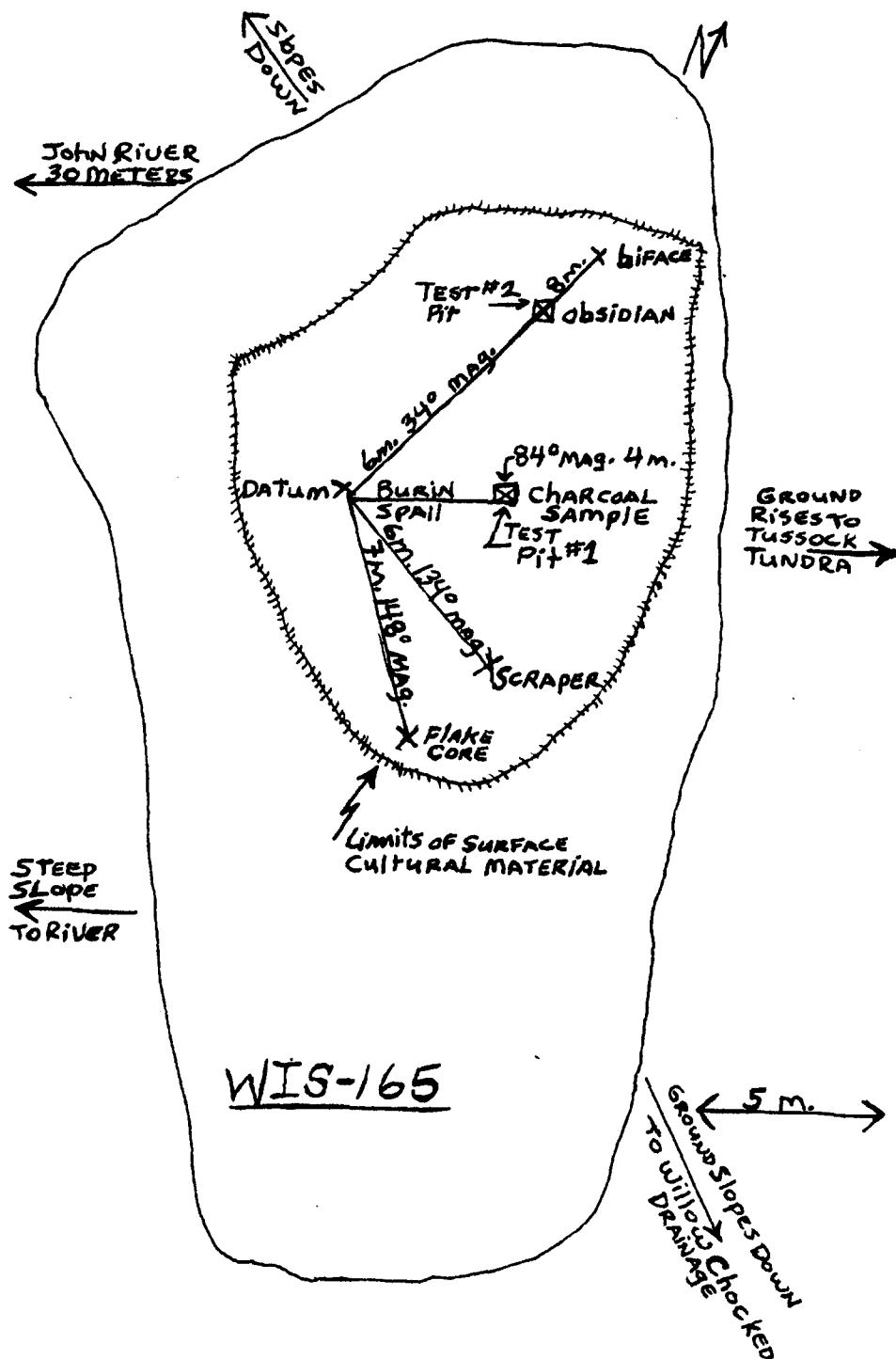
The surface of the site is relatively flat, sloping gently to the south before plunging abruptly toward the river. Much of the surface of the site is exposed mineral soil, gravel, cobbles and small boulders of glacial origin. Vegetation at the site consists of moss, lichen, low herbaceous plants, and a few willows on the north and south margins of the bluff. The site marks the local northern limit of spruce. Scattered spruce trees appear along the river about a kilometer to the north of the site but do not form stands until opposite the site.

Surface inspection of the bluff top revealed cultural material on and in the surface. Cultural material consisting of fire-cracked rock, broken and burned bone, chert and obsidian waste flakes and artifacts, were scattered over an area of roughly 16 x 12 meters. Although generally scattered about the surface, the cultural material appeared more concentrated in the hearth (fire-cracked rock, burned bone, charcoal) areas. Green, gray, black, and white chert flakes are scattered thinly over the site. Two obsidian waste flakes were located on surface on the northern end of the site along with a large black chert biface fragment. Test pit #2, 20 cm², was excavated at the location of the surface obsidian and yielded a flake of obsidian with cortex as well as pieces of fire-cracked rock, a few flecks of charcoal and a very large piece of partially burned bone 5-8 cm. below surface. The black chert biface fragment appears to be made from the local chert as does the flake core found at the southern end of the site. Near the flake core a small black chert scraper was found. Test pit #1, 20 cm² and excavated to a depth of 10 cm. below surface, lies four meters east of datum. A lot of fire-cracked rock, burned bone fragments, and a few flecks of charcoal were visible on surface. The excavation yielded abundant charcoal from roughly surface to a depth of 8 cm. There was no charcoal in the mineral soil. The only diagnostic artifact observed was a primary burin spall at the datum location. The spall is almost surely from a Denbigh mitten-shaped burin.

Evidence at the site suggests that a fair amount of subsurface material may be present. While not large, the site appears to have been regularly used through time and could have served as both a lookout and a campsite. The Denbigh Flint Complex material suggests a minimum age of ca. 3500 B.P. while the bone may represent a more recent occupation. Most likely

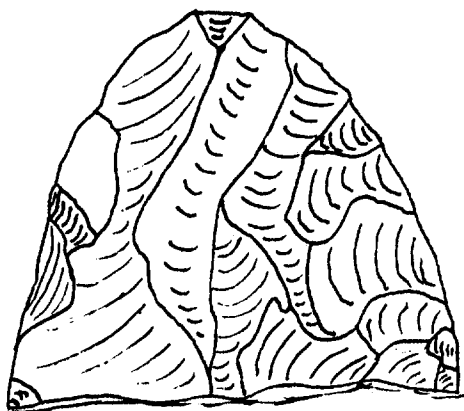
site use over the last 4000 years as been primarily by Eskimo peoples. The site has high local significance in that it demonstrates consistant use through time and could provide data on past subsistence use of the area. In the regional sense its significance is moderate at best

At present the site does not appear to be in danger from either natural or human induced impacts. The site may contain important data and should be given protection or mitigation consideration if adversely impacted.



WIS-165 (continued)

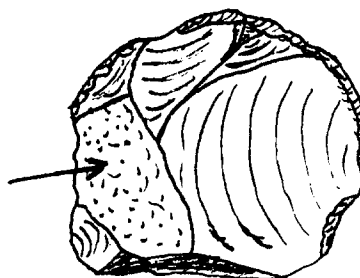
WIS-165
Artifacts - Actual Size



Biface Fragment



Cross Section



Cortex

Flake Scraper



Cross Section

WIS-166

Site Elevation:
1520 ft.

SW1/4, SE1/4
Section 2
T35N, R21W

Probable Site Type:
Lookout/Camp

Site Age:
Unknown

Fairbanks Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on a prominent knob 1 kilometer east of the confluence of Publituk Creek and the John River. The creek flows past the southern end of the site and is deeply entrenched. The site lies roughly 30 meters above creek level. The John River is in closest proximity to the site to the northwest at a distance of roughly 500 meters.

The view from the site is excellent. To the north Yenituk Creek can be seen 10 kilometers distant, to the south higher terrain blocks the view about a kilometer south of Publituk creek. To the east and west the view encompasses all there is to be seen between the valley walls. The most elevated portion of the site (datum location) is in the western quadrant. From the promontory the knob then slopes down to the east-northeast for a distance of 5 meters where it again levels off.

The majority of the site surface is vegetated by moss, lichen, low herbaceous plants and some scattered (around the site perimeter) dwarf birch and willow. There are some scattered, small and large mineral soil exposures among the clumpy Dryas and grass. These large mineral soil exposures appear to owe their genesis to the work of grizzly bears excavating ground squirrels.

Cultural material at the site was discovered through visual survey and consists of a variety of colors of chert flakes, although, the local black chert is predominant. Some of the lithic material appears to be a quartzitic basalt (if such a material exists).

Surface cultural material covers an area of approximately 50 x 35 meters. All of the cultural material was observed in areas of mineral soil exposure suggesting there may be quite a bit of subsurface material present. Only one purposely made artifact was observed; the tip of a rough biface, perhaps a preform or knife. This artifact lies on a 49° mag. bearing at a distance of 32 meters from datum. There appeared to be a few pieces of fire-cracked rock scattered over the site but no concentrations which might indicate the presence of a hearth.

The site may have served as a lookout and/or a campsite or may have been a game lookout/flaking station associated with a campsite on the next lower terrace level. The site may also be related to a very large site, WIS-183, located 300 meters to the northeast.

WIS-166 appears to have good potential to yield data of an interesting nature as it possessed many attributes of a large site. The location is good for over-wintering and it lies on the route between the John, Tinayguk, and Allen Rivers.

The site does not appear to be in danger of impact from any natural causes. Activity on the nearby allotment could possibly impact the site but is not likely.

Because no diagnostic artifacts were observed no temporal or cultural assignments can be made. The site appears to have been used intermittently over a long period of time. The region suggests the majority of this use was by Eskimo peoples.

WIS-167

Site Elevation:
1875 ft.

NW1/4, NE1/4
Section 18
T36N, R20W

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Recent and Prehistoric

Fairbanks Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located 1.2 kilometers east of the John River and 3.2 kilometers south of the Till Creek/John River confluence. The site lies atop a lozenge-shaped hill, comprised of talus and bedrock, high on the valley wall and appears to have been overridden by glacial ice during the last glacial advance. The hill is oriented parallel to the west face of a mountain which rises abruptly east of site to an elevation in excess of 4000 ft. The site lies 15 meters above the valley floor which in turn slopes gradually to the river edge some 75 meters below.

The view from the site is in excess of 3 kilometers to the north, west and south. To the east the view is limited to the talus slopes of the mountain.

Vegetation of the site consists of low woody and herbaceous plants, grassmoss and lichen which are very thinly scattered about the area. Roughly 75% of the ground surface is exposed gravels and fractured bedrock.

The site was discovered as a result of surface inspection. A group of six black chert waste flakes, an isolated blade/like flake of black chert, a large black chert flake fragment and a single retouched flake of gray chert were scattered over the site. Also present were two 25-35 WCF cartridge casings. All the cultural material was thinly scattered over the hilltop, and area approximately 400 meters²

This multicomponent site most likely functioned as a lookout. If caribou movement by this spot is consistent through time, then it would make an excellent hunting stand.

The site exhibits evidence of use and occupation by both modern, historic and prehistoric peoples. The site's location suggests it served as a lookout.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears to be low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

WIS-168

Site Elevation: 1850 ft.	NW1/4, NW1/4 Section 6 T36N, R20W	Probable Site Type: Lookout
Site Age: Unknown	Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on a prominent gravel mantled bedrock knoll 250 meters south of the Till Creek/John River confluence. The river lies 125 meters to the east and 100 meters below the site elevation. The knoll is perched at the edge of the river so that an excellent view is provided in all directions. WIS-159 is located almost directly across the river.

Very little ground cover is present. Vegetation consists of various low growing alpine species, with mosses and some low woody and herbaceous plants making up the majority of the 25% vegetation cover.

The site was located as the result of surface reconnaissance and consists of a cluster of 50 low quality black chert flakes. The lithic material covers an area 1 meter² and suggests cobble reduction as the source of the flakes. No other cultural material was observed.

The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes temporal or cultural assessment. The site's location suggests it served as a lookout.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

WIS-169

Site Elevation:
1765 ft.

NW1/4, NE1/4
Section 12
T36N, R21W

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
4000-1000 years B.P.

Fairbanks Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Eskimo

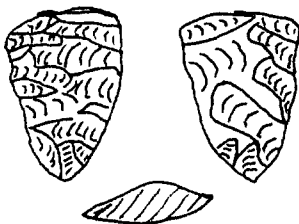
This site is located on a discrete gravel knoll which lies 400 meters west of the John River and 1.5 kilometers north of its confluence with Yenituk Creek. The site affords a good view into the Yenituk Creek/Walk-around Creek Valley to the southwest, and an excellent view of the John River Valley to the south.

The vegetation on the site is almost nonexistent except for the discontinuous lichen cover over the lag deposit which makes up the surface of the site.

The site was discovered during surface inspection. Two flakes of gray chert and five flakes of black chert and half of a black chert side or endblade were observed thinly scattered over an area 35 meters². The artifact suggests at least one occupation of the site was by a culture of the Eskimo Continuum, probably between 4000-1000 years ago.

The site probably served as a lookout as it is situated so that game movement in or out of the Yenituk/Walkaround Valleys could be easily monitored. Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

WIS-169



SIDE OR END BLADE
ACTUAL SIZE

WIS-170

Site Elevation:
1750 ft.

NW1/4, NW1/4
Section 14
T35N, R21W

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
ca. 2500 years B.P./Historic

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Eskimo

This site is located on top of a flat bedrock outcrop 2.0 kilometers south-southeast of the confluence of the John River and Publituk Creek. This portion of the valley is slightly more constricted than it is to the north where the bases of the mountains slopes have been truncated by the river allowing most of the terrain on either side to attain slope angles of 5°-15°. The terrain surrounding the site slopes somewhat steeply and is periodically punctuated with bedrock outcrops similar to the one at the site location.

Within fifty meters south of the site a small, ephemeral-seasonal stream flows westward into the John River. Willow are abundant in this area. Vegetation on site consists of low woody and herbaceous plants, dwarf, birch, willow, grass, and moss.

The view from this site is excellent as it is elevated above the valley floor by more than 100 meters. To the north the view covers more than 7 kilometers of the John River Valley. The views to the south and east are somewhat obstructed by rising terrain while the view to the west encompasses the flood plain of the river.

The site was located as the result of surface reconnaissance. The surface area of the site is roughly 100 meters². The site contains both historic and prehistoric cultural materials. The historic aspect of the site consists of ax cut alder or willow boughs, two of which lie in relatively close proximity to what appears to be a tent ring. The remains of a hearth lie 5 meters south of the tent ring. Other rock structures at the site consist primarily of double or single boulders which may have been used to weigh down a windbreak or may have served as shooting rests. However, no cartridge casings were observed in the site area.

These rock features are located at the northern end of the site. At the southern end of the the site a wooden pipe bowl and partial stem, carved from the local willow, was found.

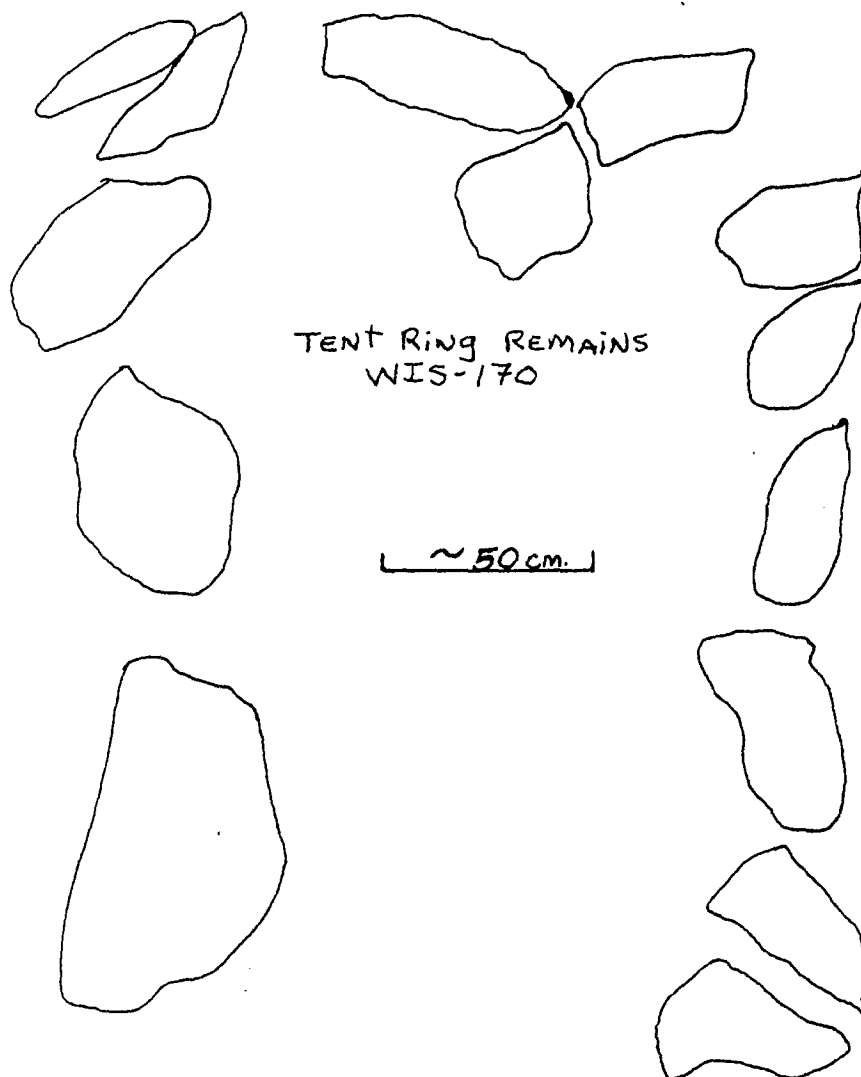
The rock structures, the pipe, the hearth, and possible tent ring are presumed to represent late prehistoric and/or historic occupation(s) of the site by Nunamiut Eskimo.

Prehistoric materials consist of two flakes of the ubiquitous black chert, a quartzite cobble with an associated flake, one of three struck from end of this oblong cobble, and an obsidian end blade missing the tip. These materials were observed at the northern end of the site within a 3 meter² area.

Hydration analysis of the obsidian end blade suggests the age of the artifact is ca. 2500 years. This date is in keeping with the artifact's morphology which indicates association with an Eskimo Continuum culture.

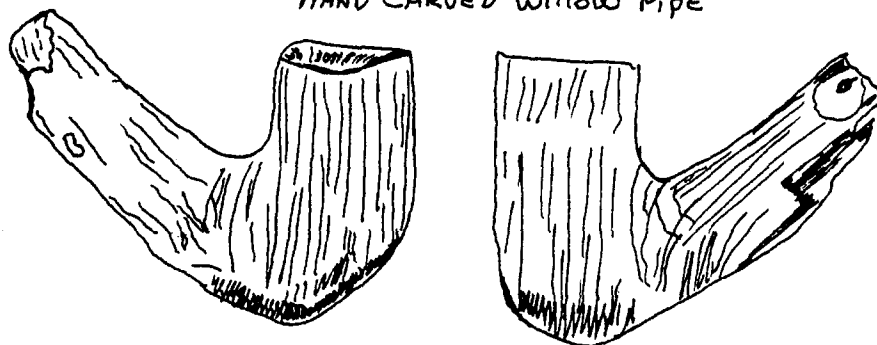
The site probably served in both historic and prehistoric times as a hunting overlook. The fact that the site is situated centrally, relative to the valley axis, makes it a strategic location for observing and intercepting game (caribou) passing through the valley. It is interesting that the site has been utilized a number of times over the past three millennia suggesting the reasons for the site's existence remain the same today as 3000 years ago.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

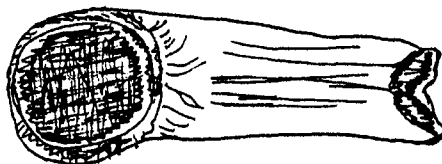


WIS-170

HAND CARVED Willow Pipe



ACTUAL SIZE



WIS-171

Site Elevation:
1800 ft.

NW1/4, SE1/4
Section 11
T35N, R21W

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Fairbanks Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located 1.6 kilometers southeast of the John River/Publituk Creek confluence on the middle and most prominent of three bedrock outcrops which have been somewhat rounded by glacial activity. The site is located on the promontory at the southern end of the outcrop.

The view afforded by this elevated site is unlimited to the north and south, up and down the John River Valley. The view of the immediate vicinity, within 1 kilometer of the site, is excellent in all directions.

The vegetation on the site is typical of well-drained localities with low woody and herbaceous plants, grass, lichen, and moss. Dwarf birch is also prominent in low lying surface depressions.

The site was located as a result of surface reconnaissance. Twelve black chert flakes were observed scattered over an area 24 meters² lying on, as well as protruding from, the vegetation mat/mineral soil of the site surface. The flakes appear to be the result of core or cobble reduction. No test excavations were initiated, although, the possibility of subsurface cultural material being present is good.

The elevated nature of the site and the presence of flaking debris suggests the site served as a lookout. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes cultural or temporal assessment of the site.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears to be low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

DRAFT		
Site Elevation: 1565 ft.	WIS-172 SW1/4, SE1/4 Section 2 T34N, R21W Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Site Type: Lookout Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown
Site Age: Unknown		

The site lies on the top of a small knoll which is perched on the edge of the Publituk Creek gorge. The site location is approximately 120 meters east of, and 15 meters higher in elevation than WIS-166. The view from the site is excellent extending at least 10 kilometers to the north, one kilometer to the south and valley-wide and east and west.

The majority of the surface of the site is vegetated by a sparse cover of grass, moss, lichen, low herbaceous plants and scattered dwarf birch and willow. Numerous, small mineral soil exposures are present.

Cultural material was located at the site through visual inspection. The site consists of an area about 4 meters². Several large flakes of the locally abundant black chert were found scattered about the area.

The site probably served as a lookout. The chert may have been picked out of the gravels at the site and worked while the person watched for game.

Site significance is low except as the site relates to the local suite of sites. The site appears to be in little danger of adverse impact by natural or human forces.

WIS-173

Site Elevation: 1650 ft.	SW1/4, SE1/4 Section 2 T35, R21W	Probable Site Type: Lookout
Site Age: Unknown	Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

The site lies atop a small kame which is roughly 40 meters in length and 10 meters wide. WIS-166 lies 150 meters to the west while WIS-172 lies to the south at a distance of 100 meters. The top of the kame is easily 50 meters above the valley floor of the John River and Publituk Creek. The view from the site is panoramic and extends up river a distance of 10 kilometers.

The surface of the site is thinly and sporadically vegetated by grass, lichen, moss, low herbaceous plants and some scattered dwarf willow and birch. Much of the surface of the site is exposed mineral soil, pebbles, cobbles and small boulders.

Cultural material was observed on surface and included a black and a gray chert flake and a black chert flake core. The two flakes lie on the south end of the kame while the flake core is on the north end, 35 meters distant.

Little else can be said about the site. Two different types of chert may represent more than a single occupational event. No cultural or temporal assignment can be made for the site due to the lack of diagnostic artifacts.

The site appears to be in little or danger of impact from natural or human elements. The site's significance is low except as it relates to the local suite of sites.

WIS-174

Site Elevation: 1750 ft.	SW1/4, SW1/4 Section 1 T35N, R21W	Probable Site Type: Lookout
Site Age: Unknown	Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

The site is located on a till-mantled, terraced, bedrock outcrop approximately 200 meters east of WIS-178. At its closest, the John River lies 2 kilometers to the northwest. The deeply entrenched Publituk Creek lies 550 meters to the south while the mouth of the same creek lies slightly more than 2 kilometers to the west. The site is elevated about 100 meters above the John River Valley floor. From this elevation the site provides an excellent view of 360°. Yenituk Creek can be seen 8 kilometers to the north while views to the east and west extend to the valley walls. To the south the view is blocked by higher terrain about 1 kilometer distant.

The surface of the site is relatively smooth and slopes slightly to the west. Roughly 90% of the surface is unvegetated and is composed of exposed mineral soil, spalls and plates of the shale bedrock as well as pebbles, cobbles and small boulders which comprise the glacial till.

Cultural material at the site was located through visual inspection of the surface. At the datum location two chert flakes, of the black material locally abundant in the glacial gravels, were noted. Sixty meters from datum on a bearing of 266° mag. a large biface fragment, also of the local black chert, was observed protruding from the surface. At the biface location some fragments of large diameter willow were observed but it is impossible to know if the presence of the willow is the result of cultural activity.

The paucity of cultural remains at this site may indicate its association with WIS-183, an exceptionally large site, located 200 meters to the west.

Site significance is low except as the site is related to other sites in the local area. Research potential at this site appears to be extremely low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

DRAFT



Biface Fragment

WIS-174
Artifacts - Actual Size



Cross Section

WIS-175

Site Elevation:
2080 ft.

SW1/4, NW1/4
Section 12
T35N, R21W

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Fairbanks Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

The site is located atop an east-west oriented linear bedrock feature which lies about 200 meters above the John River Valley floor. The John River lies 2.5 kilometers to the west-northwest and WIS-174 lies slightly more than a kilometer away in the same direction. The confluence of Publituk Creek and an unnamed northern tributary lies 400 meters due south. Although well elevated, the site is tucked far enough back into the mountains that the view is restricted to the Publituk Creek/John River confluence and the first 3 kilometers of the Publituk Creek drainage.

The surface morphology of the site appears glacial in origin in that the bedrock is mantled with till and is somewhat bumpy in appearance as the result of depressions and mounds from a meter in depth to a meter in height. The depressions are well vegetated, usually with willow and dwarf birch. The site is roughly 50% vegetated by a thin and discontinuous plant cover. Many areas of exposed mineral soil are present.

It was in these exposures of mineral soil that cultural material was noted. Cultural material was located in two areas of the site; around datum location at the eastern end of the site and 65 meters from datum on a bearing of 284° mag. At datum an area 4 x 7 meters produced numerous flakes of black, green, and gray chert as well as several flakes of obsidian. In addition this location produced three large black and one gray chert biface fragments. Associated with the biface fragments is a possible obsidian microblade fragment. The second locality, to the west of datum, covers an area less than a meter square and contains a small scatter of less than a dozen black chert flakes.

Two test pits were excavated: #1 a meter south of datum and #2 one meter west of datum. Both test pits were 15 cm² and excavated to a depth of 8 cm. Test pit #1 produced a black chert biface fragment while both test pits produced several black, gray, and green chert flakes.

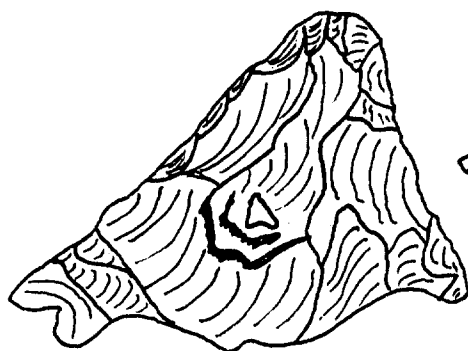
The site seems best suited to have been a game lookout, quite possibly associated with caribou hunting in the Publituk drainage. The variety of lithics present, dominated by the local black chert, suggests more than a single occupational episode occurred at the site. Although no definite diagnostic artifacts were observed, the presence of a microblade (possible) may indicate a minimum age for the site of ca. 2000 years B.P.

Site significance is low except as the site may be related to activities at a major site, WIS-183, some 1600 meters to the west-northwest. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

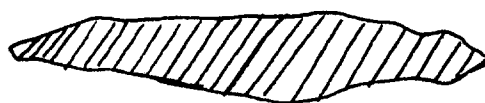
WIS-175 (continued)

WIS-175
Artifacts - Actual Size

Biface Fragments



Black Chert



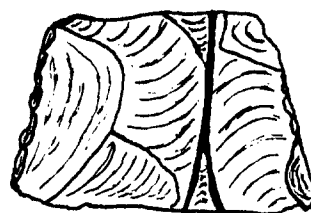
Cross Section



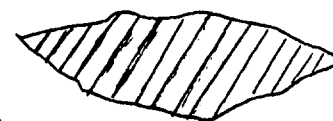
Black Chert



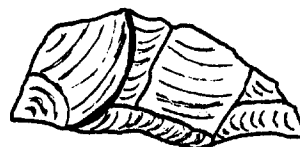
Cross Section



Black Chert



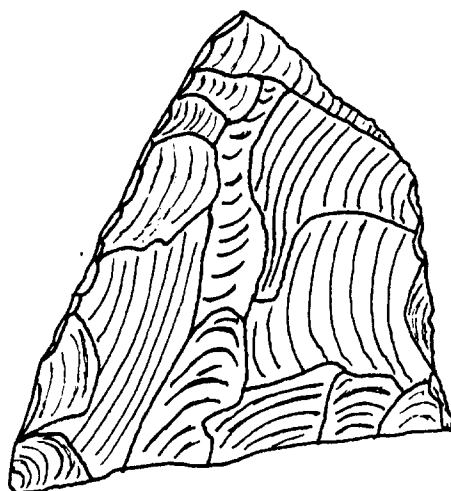
Cross Section



Gray Chert



Cross Section



Black Chert



Cross Section

WIS-176

Site Elevation: 1500 ft.	SE1/4, SE1/4 Section 2 T35N, R21W	Probable Site Type: Lookout
Site Age: Unknown	Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

The site lies on one of a series of bedrock outcrops slightly more than 100 meters east of WIS-172 and about 250 meters southeast of WIS-183. A deeply entrenched portion of Publituk Creek lies 60 meters to the south and 40 meters below site level. The confluence of the John River and Publituk Creek lies 1.5 kilometers to the west northwest of the site.

The view from the site is panoramic. To the north the valley can be viewed for a distance in excess of 6 kilometers. To the west the view is limited only by the valley wall while to the south higher ground limits the view to a kilometer or less. Roughly 3 kilometers of the Publituk drainage can be seen to the east.

The site lies on a east-west trending lineal, till mantled bedrock outcrop perched on the northern edge of the Publituk Creek gorge. The outcrop is roughly 100 meters long and averages 15-20 meters in width. The surface is quite even, although, overall it slopes gently to the west. The site surface is thinly vegetated by a cover of moss, lichen, grass clumps, low herbaceous plants, and in low spots robust growths of dwarf birch and willow. At least 50% of the site's surface is exposed mineral soil containing the pebbles, cobbles, and small boulders of the till as well as platy spalls of the shale bedrock.

Although the location is an ideal spot for either a camp and/or a lookout the site appears to have been infrequently used. This may be due to the fact the WIS-183, 250 meters to the north, so dominates the local area that surrounding site locales were little used. The site consists of a thin scatter of about a dozen chert waste flakes covering an area of 1 meter². The flakes are small and are of the local black chert. No formal artifacts were observed.

The lack of diagnostic material precludes any cultural or temporal assesment. Very probably the site is associated with activity at WIS-183.

Site significance is low except as the site fits into the general site pattern of the local area. The site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

WIS-177

Site Elevation:	SE1/4, NE1/4	Probable Site Type:
1800 ft.	Section 11	Lookout
	T35N, R21W	
Site Age:	Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Cultural
Unknown		Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located atop a bedrock outcrop 200 meters south of Publituk Creek and 1.6 kilometers east-southeast of the creek's confluence with the John River. The west and northwest facing slopes of the outcrop are composed of a slope of bedrock rubble.

Vegetation on the site is sparse, with low growing alpine and ericaceous plants covering roughly 50% of the surface. The view from the site is unlimited to the north and extends for over two kilometers to the west. Views to the south and east are blocked by rising terrain.

The site was discovered during surface inspection of the area. A single gray chert flake was observed near the western edge of outcrop. No other cultural material was observed. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes temporal or cultural assessment of the site. The location of the site suggests it served as a lookout.

The location of the site suggests it served as a lookout. Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by adverse impacts.

WIS-178

Site Elevation:	SW1/4, NE1/4	Probable Site Type:
1710 ft.	Section 1	Lookout
	T35N, R21W	
Site Age:	Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Cultural
Unknown		Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on a large rock outcrop 2 kilometers northeast of confluence of Publituk Creek and the John River. The John River lies 800 meters to the west of the site and a large site, WIS-183, lies 725 meters to the south. The view from the site extends for roughly 5 kilometers up and down the John River Valley. The views to the east and west encompass the valley walls. The outcrop exhibits a sheer face on the west which is elevated 12 meters above the surrounding country.

Vegetation at the site is rather sparse as much of the surface is exposed mineral soil, gravel, cobbles, small boulders, and fractured bedrock. Erosion is active at the site as the result of slope wash and ground squirrel burrowing.

The site was located as the result of visual inspection of the surface. A lanceolate projectile point of black chert was observed on a promontory on the west face of the outcrop. Fifteen small waste flakes of black chert were observed in a shallow blowout/erosional depression 12 meters southeast of the projectile point. While it is reasonably well made the projectile point appears to be unfinished. A small portion of the slightly expanding base is missing, presumably broken during manufacture, and there is little secondary edge retouch and no edge grinding. The nearby waste flakes appear to have resulted from the manufacture of the projectile point. No subsurface testing was initiated.

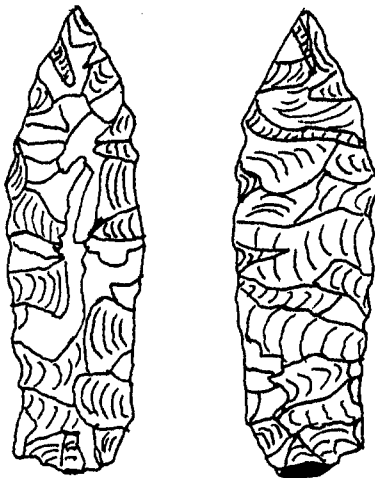
The location of the site as well as the cultural material suggests that it served as a lookout. The lack of diagnostic cultural material precludes cultural or temporal assessment of the site.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site appears to be suffering from erosional activity. However, given the paucity of cultural material at the site no mitigative action is recommended.

DRAFT

WIS-178

ACTUAL SIZE



BLACK CHERT
PROJECTILE
Point

WIS-179

Site Elevation:	NE1/4, NW1/4	Probable Site Type:
1820 ft.	Section 12	Hunting Blind/Windbreak
	T35N, R21W	
Site Age:	Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Cultural
Unknown		Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located roughly 250 meters southeast of WIS-174 and 400 meters north of Publituk Creek. The confluence of the John River and Publituk Creek lies about 2 kilometers to the west-northwest. The site lies on one of a group of ascending, till mantled, bedrock outcrops which begin slightly less than a kilometer east of the John River and rise up the east side of the valley along the northern margin of the Publituk Creek gorge.

The view from the site is quite good. Several kilometers of the John River valley can be seen above and below the Publituk Creek confluence. The view to the west is limited only by the valley wall while the view to the east is obstructed 100 meters distant by rising terrain.

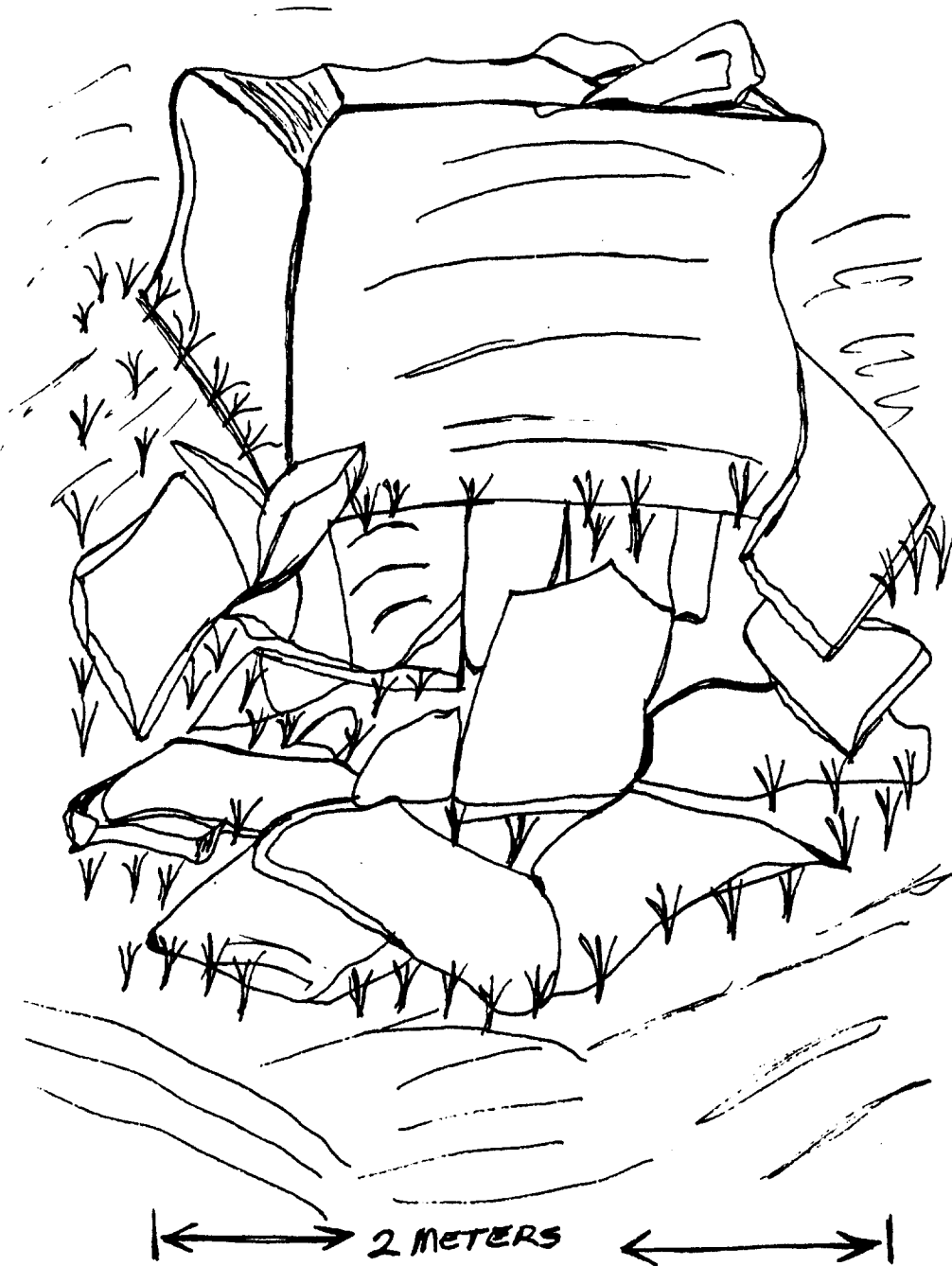
The site area is confined to a small, level, terracette of bedrock which is thinly capped by cobbles, pebbles, and small boulders of glacial origin. Vegetation is quite sparse and consists of moss, lichen, and grasses, and a robust clump of dwarf birch.

There is little doubt that the site is related to WIS-183 which lies slightly more than 500 meters to the west.

The site consists of what appears to be a collapsed windbreak or blind similar to those present at WIS-183. Two gray chert flakes were found 2 meters to the west of the blind. The blind/windbreak was made by standing on edge a number of flat, platey, slabs of shale bedrock and leaning them against a large squarish boulder of limestone. The walls of the structure would have been about 2/3 of a meter in height and encompassed an area roughly 2 x 1.5 meters.

Little else can be said concerning this site. The site's significance is its probable association with WIS-183. The site appears to be in no danger from either natural or human forces.

WIS-179 (continued)



WIS-180

Site Elevation: 1900 ft.	NW1/4, NW1/4 Section 2 T35N, R21W Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Site Type: Lookout
Site Age: Unknown		Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

The site lies on an abrupt bedrock outcrop which juts from the valley wall roughly 130 meters above the valley floor. The John River lies 700 meters to the east while the river's confluence with Publitz Creek is located approximately one kilometer to the south southwest.

The view from the site is excellent. To the north the John River valley can be seen for a distance of several kilometers. To the south the valley can be seen in its entirety for a distance of more than eight kilometers. The view to the west is limited by the valley wall and extends for only several hundred meters. To the east Publitz Creek can be seen as well as the suite of archeological sites bordering it.

The surface of the site is, in general aspect, even although bumpy. The bumps are the result of vegetation clumping together and holding the thin soil in mounds. Much of the surface of the site is exposed mineral soil, bedrock, and bedrock spalls. Vegetation at the site consists of moss, lichen, low herbaceous plants, grasses and scattered dwarf birch and willow. Frost action and the burrowing of ground squirrels has initiated some minor erosion at the site. The western and southern faces of the outcrop offer some shelter in the form of small rock overhangs although there is no apparent evidence that they have been used by humans or animals.

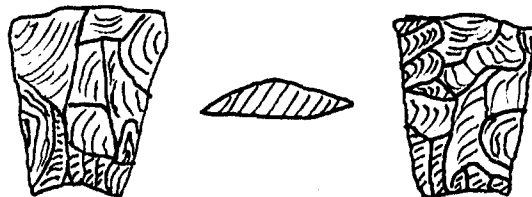
Cultural material was observed on surface thinly scattered over an area roughly 26 x 8 meters. The majority of the material was concentrated in the southwest quadrant of the site. This area is the promontory of the site and the location of datum. Cultural material consisted of waste flakes and artifacts of several varieties of gray and black chert. The majority of the chert was of the black variety which is locally abundant in the glacial gravels. Two artifacts were noted: the basal section of a black chert lanceolate projectile point and a portion of a black chert biface of the blank or preform variety. The projectile point is basally thinned, and the base and edges are lightly ground.

Little else can be said about this site. There were no diagnostic artifacts noted and, therefore, no cultural or temporal assessment can be made. Although the soil is thin, there is a good possibility that some subsurface cultural material may be present. The fact that several varieties of chert were present may indicate more than a single occupational episode occurred at the site.

Due to its location, it is difficult to think of this site as being anything but a lookout. The minor erosional activity at the site does not seem to be affecting it adversely and it is doubtful that human impacts will ever occur here.

WIS-180 (continued)

WIS-180
Artifact - Actual size



Projectile Point Base

DRAFT

Site Elevation: 1500 ft.	WIS-181 SE1/4, SW1/4 Section 33 T35N, R21S Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Site Type: Lookout Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown
-----------------------------	---	---

This site lies on a gently northward sloping 125 meter long kame. The kame is part of the chaotic morainal/kame topography which borders the east side of the John River for several kilometers north of the confluence of Wasted Lynx Creek. The site lies approximately 500 meters northeast and 70 meters above the confluence of Wasted Lynx Creek and the John River.

The kame upon which the site lies is one of the most elevated in this area of dead-ice glacial features. The long axis of the kame runs northwest-southeast, the top averaging 8 meters in width.

The view from the site is excellent. To the south the Hunt Fork Valley is visible while the views to east and west are terminated only by the valley wall. To the north the view is obstructed by higher terrain at a distance of 1 kilometer.

The majority of the surface of the site is vegetated by a healthy growth of lichen, moss, grasses, and low woody and herbaceous plants. There are sizable but scattered growths of dwarf birch and willow. Spruce trees to seven meters in height and up to 20 cm. in diameter are thinly and sporadically scattered over the site. There is some evidence of past wildfire activity in the local area. A large spruce tree near the site was cored with an increment borer, the resulting core indicating an age of about 188 years.

There are a few mineral soil exposures along the length of the kame and in one of these, on the prominence at the southern end some lithic cultural material was observed. The cultural material consisted of about a dozen flakes of the locally abundant black chert scattered over a 2 meter² area. Another large black chert flake was observed on the western slope of the kame 90 meters from the flake scatter on a bearing of 300° mag. No other cultural material was observed.

Because most of the surface of the site is vegetated there is an excellent possibility that subsurface cultural material is present. No diagnostic artifacts were observed at the site and therefore no temporal or cultural assessment can be made.

The site's location and cultural remains suggest that it served as a lookout. It is difficult to assess site significance but at this level of investigation significance appears to be limited to the site's relationship with others in the local area. The site does not appear to be in danger of impact from either natural or human forces.

~~DRAFT~~

WIS-182

Site Elevation:
1515 ft.

NW1/4, SW1/4
Section 36
T36N, R21W

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Fairbanks Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site lies on a terrace on the east side of the John River 2.8 kilometers north-northeast of the confluence of the river and Publituk Creek. The surface of the terrace is elevated 12 meters above the river which lies 200 meters to the west. The view from the site is best to the south extending as far as the mouth of Publituk Creek. The views to the east, west, and north are less extensive due to rising terrain.

The surface of the site is patchily vegetated by lichen, moss, and scattered grass. Numerous mineral soil exposures are present, many the result of ground squirrel activity.

The site was located as the result of surface inspection. A single waste flake of the ubiquitous black chert was observed in a mineral soil exposure. No additional cultural material was observed and no subsurface testing was undertaken.

The lack of diagnostic cultural material precludes cultural or temporal assessment. The site's location suggests it served as a lookout.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is very low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

Site Elevation:	SE1/4, SE1/4	Possible Site Type:
1700 ft.	Section 2	Caribou Hunting/Seasonal
	T35N, R21W	Base Camp
Site Age: Late	Fairbanks Meridian	Possible Cultural
Prehistoric/Protohistoric		Affiliation: Unknown, but
		Possibly Indian

This site is located on, around and about a prominent bedrock ridge 400 meters north of Publituk Creek and 1.6 kilometers east of its confluence with the John River. The village of Anaktuvuk Pass lies 37 kilometers north at the head waters of the John River.

This five hectare site covers a range of topographic elements including (area "A") at the north facing slopes of the east trending schist bedrock ridge (area "B") the most elevated oval S-shaped area at the west end of the ridge and (area "C") a broad roughly rectangular flat area comprising the central and eastern portion of the ridge. The site is well drained and wind swept most commonly by the prevailing north wind.

The vegetation across the site is patchy and low growing in exposed areas, and only slightly more continuous in less exposed areas. Area "A" consists mainly of exposed bedrock with abundant lichen growth, sparse grasses and patches of low growing dwarf birch. Mosses are the predominant ground cover for stable parts of the slope, but active rock weathering, slope processes, and strong prevalent wind from the north keep vegetation to a minimum. Area "B" along its northern boundary is similar in overall character to area "A", but lacks appreciable slope. The leeward side exhibits a fairly continuous grass/moss groundcover, with dwarf birch along the southern boundary. Frost action and wind have kept the western end of the ridgetop virtually free of vegetation. Area "C" is characterized by a thin moss cover over a thin deposit of glacial till and glacially scoured bedrock.

To the north of the site poorly drained tussock tundra is present, with willow and alder occupying seasonal stream courses. The site is located near or at both elevational and latitudinal tree line. Spruce are dense in the valley bottom of the John River west of the site but extend only a few hundred meters north of the Publituk/John River confluence. Poplar and birch also occupy the river bottom setting. Isolated stands of poplar are present at least 9 kilometers north near Yenituk Creek.

The view from the site is variable. Area "A" is oriented toward the north and the view in this direction is extensive, well over 5 kilometers. Area "B" provides the most extensive view from the site, a 360° view for more than a kilometer in any direction, and more than five in most directions.

Area "C", like "A", has its best view to the north. The view west is blocked by the high ground of Area "B" and the views east and south, though extensive, are not as good.

The site was discovered during surface inspection of the area and proved to be a very extensive and complex series of features. Over a period of 5 days in early June the site was surveyed and recorded. An area by area description follows.

Area "A":

Along the northern flank of the east trending ridge at least 20 individual circular, semi-circular or one-sided rock-stacked features were found. Seven separate groups of features were identified and span 250 meters along the east-west lobe of the ridge. Group #1 at the northwest corner of the site is composed of a T configuration of five rock-stacked features. These features are presumed to be hunting blinds and will be referred to as "blinds" in the remainder of this report. At the northwest corner of the site is a steep bedrock cliff over 5 meters in height. An apron of debris and rubble occurs at its base sloping generally northwestward at 15-20°. At the base of the apron, three circular blinds oriented along a northeast line are spaced evenly at 50-75 cm. intervals from one another. Each measures roughly one meter in diameter and the wall heights are similar at 30-40 cm. The structural elements are blocks of bedrock debris derived from the apron. In general the blocks were rectangular or simply angular. Dwarf birch shrubs and robust moss mats occupy the interior of these blinds. Behind these three blinds and up the debris apron to the southeast at intervals of 10 and 15 meters and elevational measurements of 2 and 5 vertical meters lie the remaining two features of this group. Both appear to have been constructed by removing blocks from the apron and stacking them around the subsequent cavity producing much deeper blinds than the three at the foot of the slope. Also these features are roughly square with diameters less than one meter, but with depths exceeding 0.5 meters. Other than the features themselves no other cultural materials were observed at group #1.

Group #2, located between 30 and 70 meters east of group #1, is composed of two circular blinds and one possible cache. The slope angle of the ridge lessens to the east and the debris apron is much broader and slopes northward at an angle of 5-10°. At 30 and 70 meters east of group #1 are located individual blinds of similar construction to those described from the lower three blinds of group #1. The possible cache, located midway between the two blinds of group #2, was built into a natural fracture of a very large bedrock block. The fracture opening measures 2.5 x 1.0 x 1.3 meters (east-west x north-south x depth). Sheet-like slabs of bedrock measuring up to 1.7 x .75 x .10 meters apparently served as roofing. Several narrow poles of spruce, 50-60 cm. in length and one large segment of spruce measuring one meter in length and 15 cm. in diameter. were found in the cavity. The largest piece was wedged between a roof slab and the base of the pit possibly serving as a structural member. The large spruce pole exhibits, at one end, clear evidence of ax cuts. The ax blade used to modify the log left distinctive marks indicating a blade length of between 4-5 cm. No other cultural materials were observed in the cache or blinds.

Group #3 is located 25-40 meters east of group #2 and consists of four circular blinds constructed of blocks removed from the 10-20° sloping debris apron and stacked around the subsequent cavity. These blinds are the largest and most detailed of any blinds at the site. Each blind is spaced roughly 12 meters apart and these are oriented in such a way that their configuration forms a rhomboid shape, 25 meters (N-S) x 15 meters (E-W). They measure roughly 1.5 meters in diameter and .75 meters in wall height.

Group #4 is located 20-25 meters east of group #3 on the west side of the saddle that leads onto the broad flat area comprising area "C". These two blinds are oriented to the east, facing the saddle area. One has been excavated from the talus slope, is square and measures 1.5 meters across with a wall height of 0.5 meters. The other blind consists of a single slab measuring 1 x .4 x .05 meters and was apparently propped up to form a single wall blind facing east.

Group #5 is located across the saddle 50 meters east of group #4 where large bedrock blocks have spalled off the flat topped bedrock plateau leading south across area "A". The crevasses produced by this exfoliation provide abundant cover but the only identifiable blinds are individual rock-stacks, generally one sided and low, and grouped in pairs. These features are not as evident or substantial as those observed further west.

Thirty meters northeast of group #5 are two blinds similar in character to those to the west. These blinds are oriented on a north-south line and measure approximately 1 meter across with wall heights of 0.4 meters. Both are roughly circular in shape, but are not as well defined as the blinds to the west.

Fifty meters east of group #2 is a bedrock outcrop which forms the eastern side of a second smaller saddle leading south to area "C". A 3 meter long fracture, running north-south in the outcrop creating a gap with a 1.5 meter high bedrock wall, provides excellent cover from the northwest. Four boulders were stacked at the southern end of the fracture extending the blind to the south. A line of rock cairns (inuksuk) leads south from this blind for approximately 30 meters. These cairns are composed of three to four boulders spaced at 3 to 4 meter intervals. The blind and inuksuk comprise group #7.

Beyond group #7 to the east the ridge is less well defined and the terrain is rising in general in this direction. No further features were observed.

Area "B":

The most elevated portion of the ridge is located at its west end. This portion of the site measures 75 meters (east-west) by 40 meters (north-south).

At the northwest and southwest corners of the ridge, two black chert flakes were located in deflated areas. Several large slabs of bedrock were found on the highest part of the ridge top. These slabs were overlapping one another in a way that indicated a cultural modification.

Two of the largest slabs were lifted exposing several caribou long bone fragments in a good state of preservation. It is unclear whether this is truly a cultural feature, but the large size of the slabs and the lack of others like them in the area, i.e. the context, suggests this is a cultural feature.

Area "C":

The most extensive part of the site covers the central and southern portion of the ridge which is a broad, relatively flat area measuring 75-100 meters (north-south) x 100 meters (east-west). At the southern end of this area a spur of the ridge extends to the south for 50-75 meters. A series of at least ten features termed "dwelling units" were found both in groups of two or three as well as individual features.

Beginning at the northern end of area "C", nearest the saddle of area "A" is a group of three dwelling units (6,7,8). The dwelling units are characterized by a centrally located hearth of fire-cracked rock commonly associated with calcined bone and waste flakes of either green chert (8), black chert (6,7) or quartz crystal (7). These flakes are not numerous on the ground surface, but may occur in more abundance within the thin vegetation mat. A perimeter of bedrock slabs and blocks are present at distances of one to two meters from the edge of the hearths. In general the features resemble tent rings but are larger in diameter than most tent rings found in the Central Brooks Range, and have less well defined circular perimeters. The diameters range from 4 to 5 meters. The hearths are large covering an area between 2-3 meters² and are marked by tightly grouped concentrations of fire-cracked rock. The eastern two features (6,7) clearly show three superimposed hearths, circular in outline, with the largest in the center of the dwelling unit along a north-south line. This may indicate re-use of these features. The western dwelling unit (8) has a linear hearth spanning 2.2 meters (north-south) x 1.5 meters (east-west). All three dwelling units have two or three large bedrock blocks displaced from the northern. The significance of these blocks is possibly related to wind direction, strong from the north, and may have served as anchors for a semi-conical skin structure. Each hearth also has two or three blocky cobbles near its center. Beneath these rocks bone fragments in a fairly good state preservation were observed. These bones were either unburned or only slightly charred and much larger than the scattered bone fragments in and around the hearths. Beneath a rock at the southern end of the dwelling #6 a small scrap of hide with fur attached was found. The fur was tentatively identified in the field as beaver. In the central feature (#7) at site datum, a small bone awl was found. Two tch-thos were located near the northern perimeter of dwelling (#6). The various cultural materials were found within the perimeter of the dwelling units, and were generally in close proximity to the central hearths.

Five meters to the east of this group of dwelling units, running eight meters to the south and two meters wide, a concentration of bones and bone fragments was observed. A thicker moss ground cover as well as low growing dwarf birch and willow attest to the enriched organic content of the soil which may be indicative of a small midden deposit.

Just south of this area is a poorly defined feature of abundant surface bone fragments and bedrock blocks (#4) arranged in no particular pattern. No indication of a hearth was noted and the nature of this feature is unknown. At the southern edge of the main part of area "C" on a slight rise, is a large dwelling unit (#5). The hearth in this unit spans nearly 4 meters (north-south) x 1.5 meters (east-west) with two large bedrock blocks on either side of its center. The rocks comprising the perimeter of the dwelling unit are predominantly along the north and south ends of the hearth area in lines running east-west. The northern line is seven meters long and the southern line is 5 meters long, converging toward the western side of the feature. Two large rocks are located east of the hearth area, giving the general dimensions to the feature of 4 meters (north-south) by 5 meters (east-west). A concentration of black chert flakes within a meter west of the north end of the hearth lay at the base of a boulder. A black chert core was located two meters south next to the hearth, surrounded by additional flakes. Abundant bone fragments were scattered within the hearth and at the southern end of the feature.

Fifty meters to the east, across a gully at the southern end of area "C", is a feature (#3) measuring 4 x 4 meters with a central hearth which is smaller in size than those to the west. Only two bone fragments were observed on the surface, which is a mostly continuous mat of moss and caribou lichen. A green chert retouched flake, a quartz crystal flake and a black chert flake were located around the southern end of the feature. The perimeter rocks appear to be circular in outline and are more numerous along the northern side.

To the northeast, following the rising terrain for 45 meters, a feature (#10) quite similar to those to the west and south in size and shape was located. This feature exhibited a central hearth containing bone fragments and black chert flakes.

The spur ridge which runs south for 50-75 meters beyond the main part of area "C" accounted for more dwelling units (#'s 1,2) and between these two features a third smaller concentration of rocks was located. This portion of the site is more protected from the north winds, and a fairly robust moss cover occurs within the features, thus obscuring the central hearth area. The presence of the large blocks associated with the hearths, however, was observed. To verify the presence of a central hearth a 20 cm² test pit was excavated in the center of the eastern feature (#1). Below a 5-10 cm. thick moss cover fire-cracked rock, charcoal, burned bone, black chert and quartz crystal flakes and four fragments of an antler projectile point were recovered. These fragments fit together to form the distal and part of the mid-section of a well-made projectile with a diamond-shaped cross-section. The silty-loam below was an oxidized reddish brown grading into an unaltered sandy-silt which capped the till. At the north end of this feature a large rock was lifted from the surrounding moss and revealed an additional hearth matrix, including two basal fragments of a second antler projectile point. The presence of a large interior hearth was then verified, and the diameter of the dwelling unit is 4 x 4 meters, which is comparable to the others to the north. A

quartz crystal core was found at the north end of the feature lying next to one of the perimeter rocks.

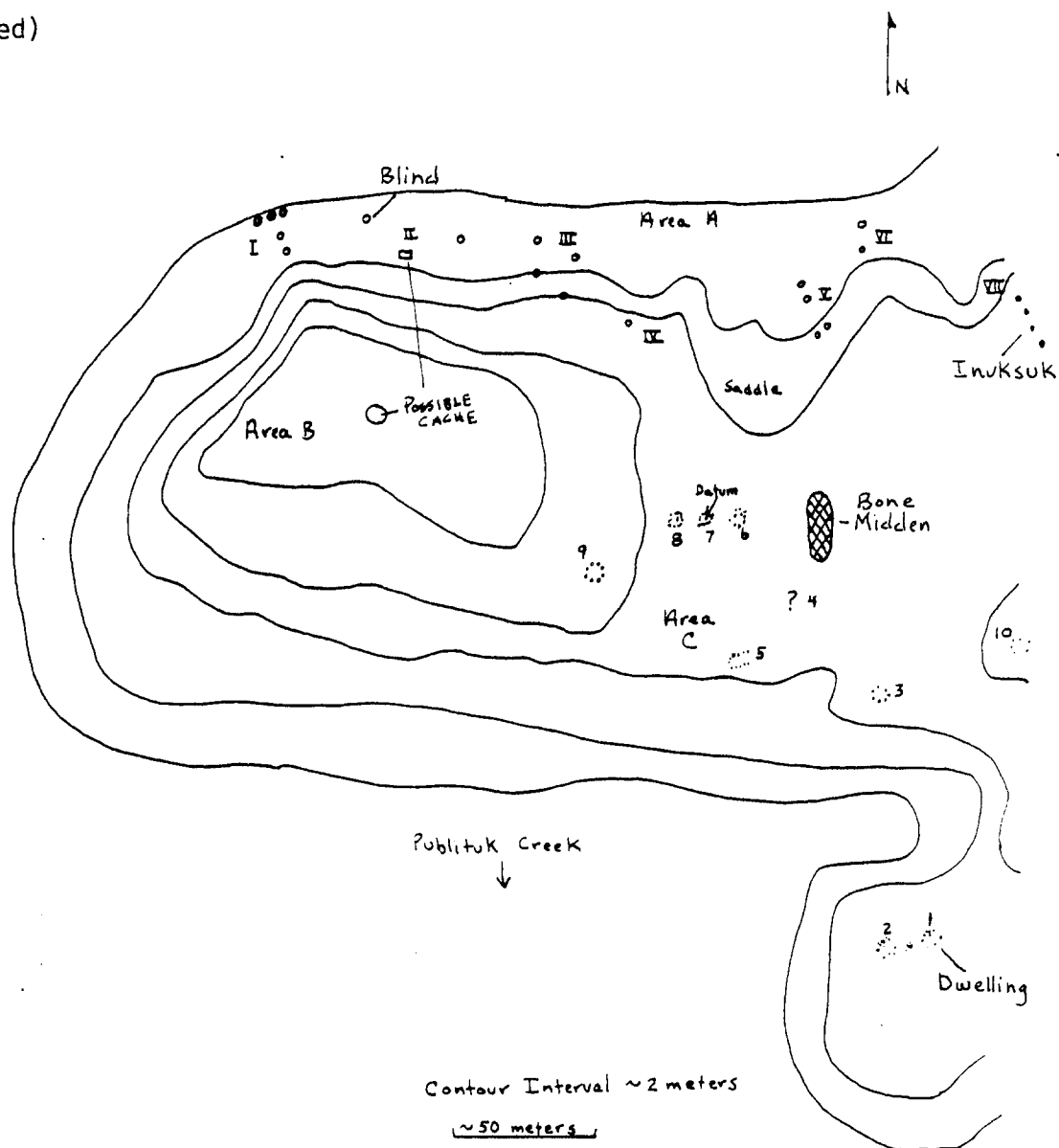
Five meters west of #1 is dwelling unit #2. This unit also has a robust moss cover in its interior, however, no testing was conducted to verify the presence of a central hearth. Two large blocky rocks were located in the center of the feature which may indicate the presence of a hearth. The dimensions of this unit are roughly 3 x 3 meters, with the majority of the perimeter rocks along the north side. The nature of the rock concentration between these two features of unknown, but may represent a hearth.

This site presents several interesting questions regarding its age, cultural affiliation and number of occupations. Clearly the site was used for hunting caribou. Given the location of the blinds along the northern side of the site ridge, and the fact that in the fall the caribou herds are heading south, one might infer the site was used during the fall in order to intercept the migrating caribou. Also the relatively high number of "blind" features (20) and dwellings units (10) might support the contention that these features are contemporaneous, part of the same occupational episode(s). A problem arises, however, as shooting blinds are often correlated with the use of firearms, and the dwelling units clearly indicates a lithic-oriented technology. The possibility of a "mixed" technology, however, can not be entirely dismissed without further research. Dating the samples of charcoal collected from the various dwellings may shed some light on these questions. /

The question of cultural affiliation is also a difficult one to answer. The dwellings are atypical of most known tent rings in the Brooks Range in terms of size and the presence of large interior hearths. Also, three boulder spall scrapers (Tch-thos) were observed within two of the dwelling units. Such artifacts are most typically associated with Athapascan material culture. The location of the site at latitudinal tree line may or may not be coincidental, but generally the extent of the Athapascan sites are confined to areas within or proximal to forested terrain.

The site is not currently being impacted by natural or cultural forces. Further research at this site would help in making a determination of eligibility for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. Adverse impact at this site should be mitigated.

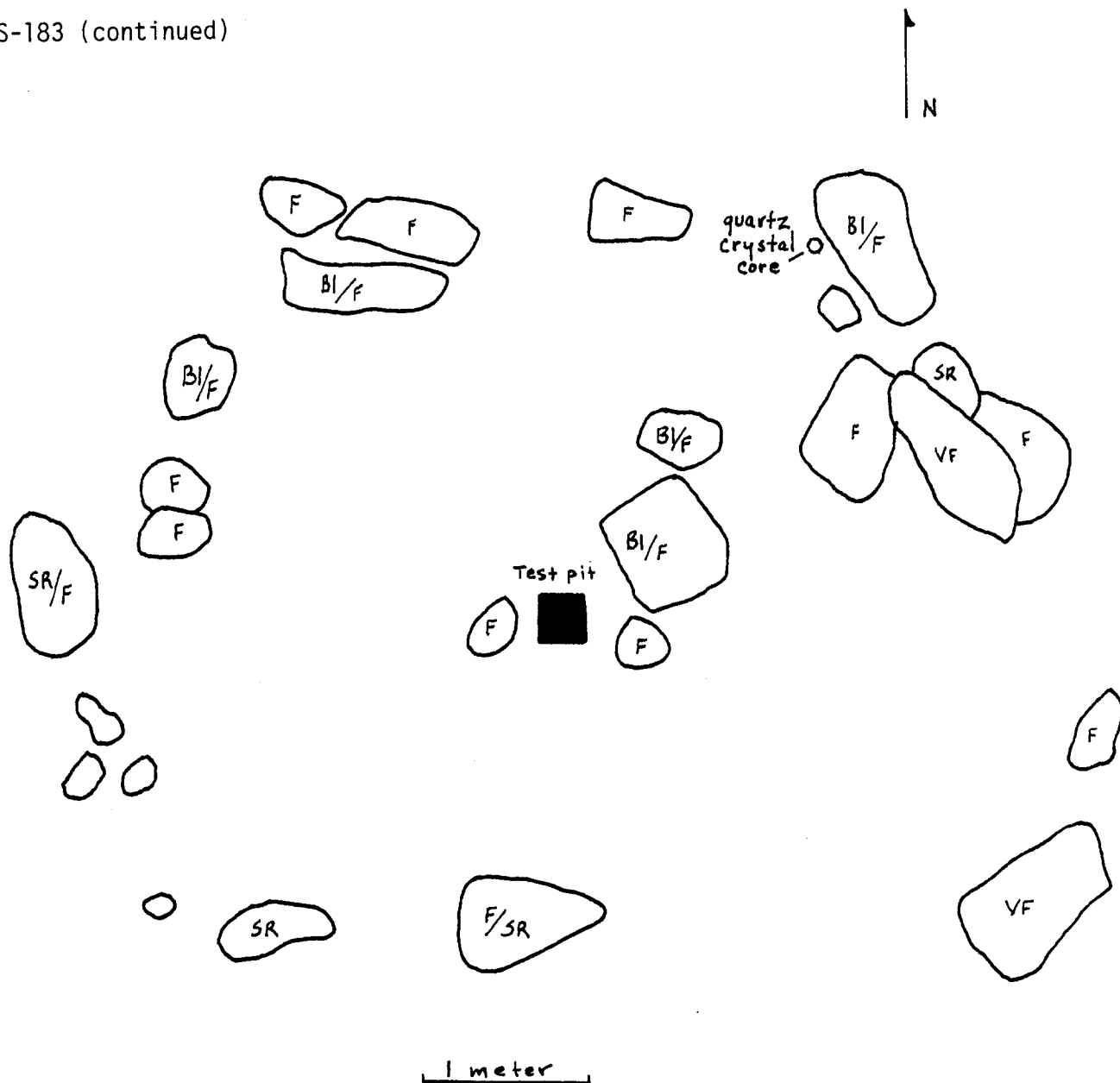
WIS-183 (continued)



WIS-183

Schematic Site Map

WIS-183 (continued)

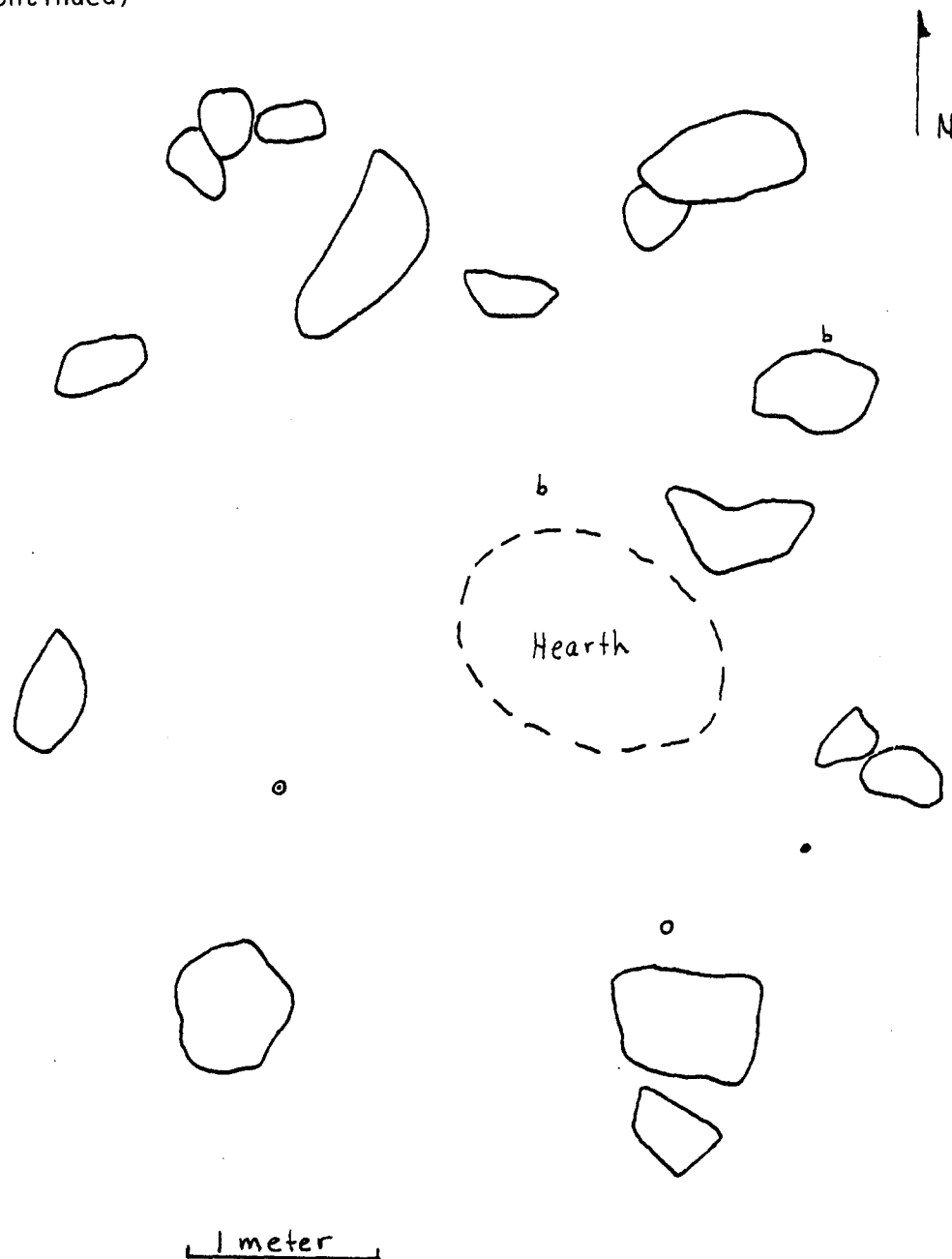


Rock Shape

BI = Blocky
 F = Flat
 VF = Very Flat
 SR = Sub-rounded

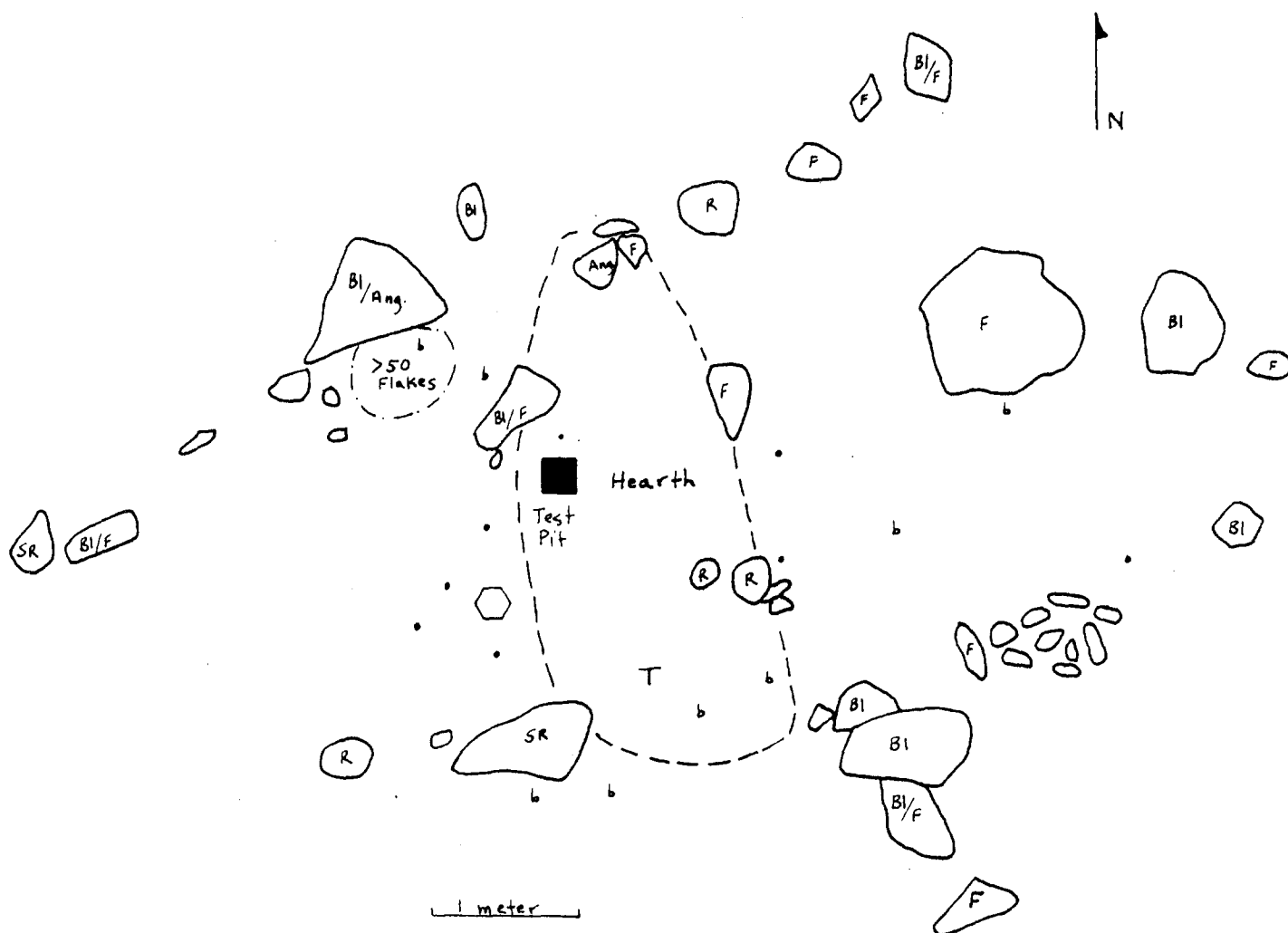
DWELLING #1
 (Southern spur - Area C)

WIS-183 (continued)



Dwelling #3
(Area C - Southeastern)

- ⊙ = Green Chert Tool
- = Quartz Crystal Flake
- = Black Chert Flake
- b = Bone Fragment



Rock Shape

BI = Blocky
 F = Flat
 R = Rounded
 SR = Subrounded
 Ang = Angular

Dwelling # 5 (Area C - Southern)

⬡ = Black Chert Core
 • = Black Chert Flake
 ○ = Black Chert Flake Concentration
 T = Tzi-tho (Boulder Spall Scraper)
 b = Bone Fragment

WIS-183 (continued)

Rock Shape

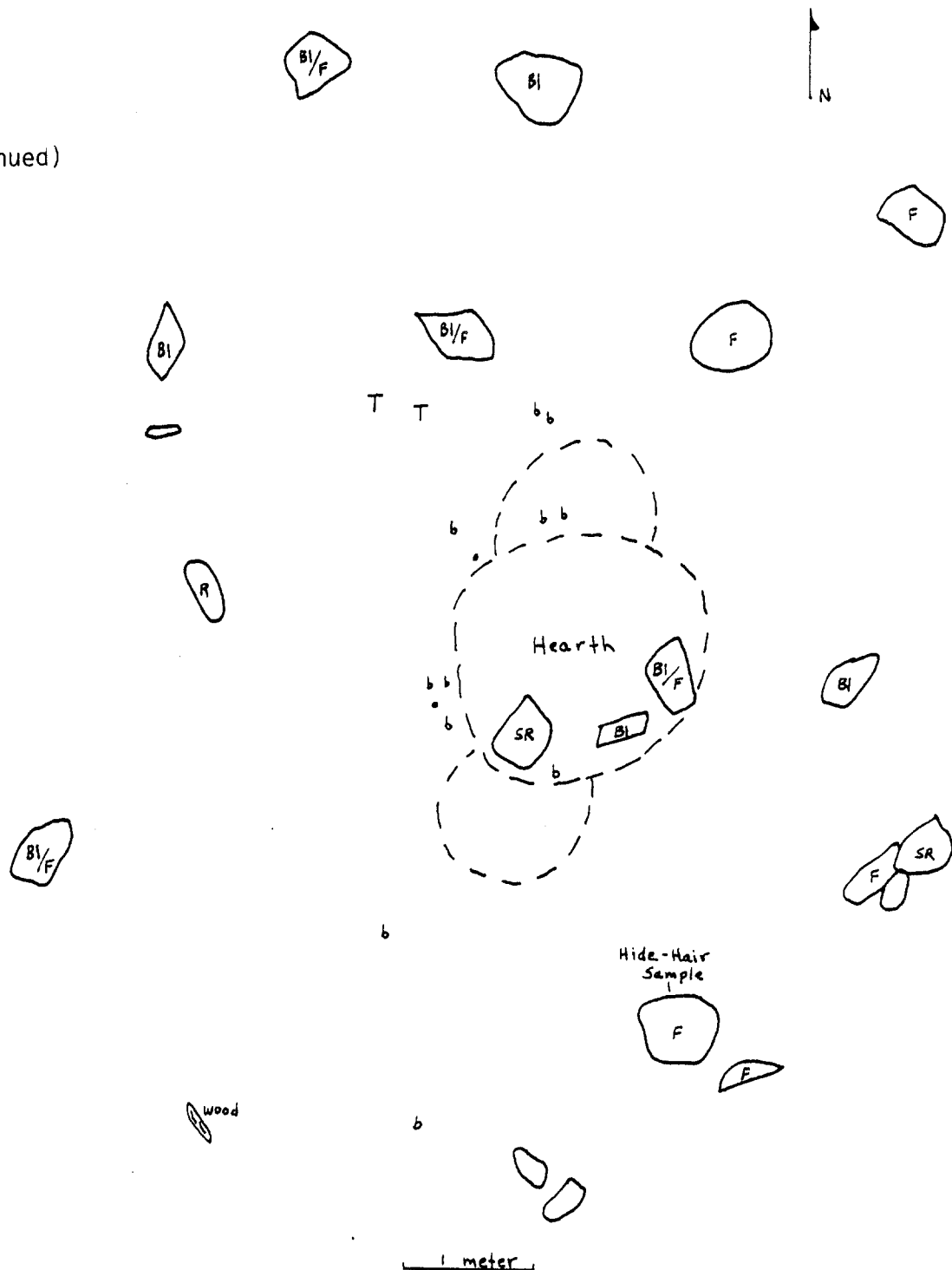
Bl = Blocky
 F = Flat
 SR = Subrounded
 R = Rounded

DWELLING #6
 (Area C - Central)

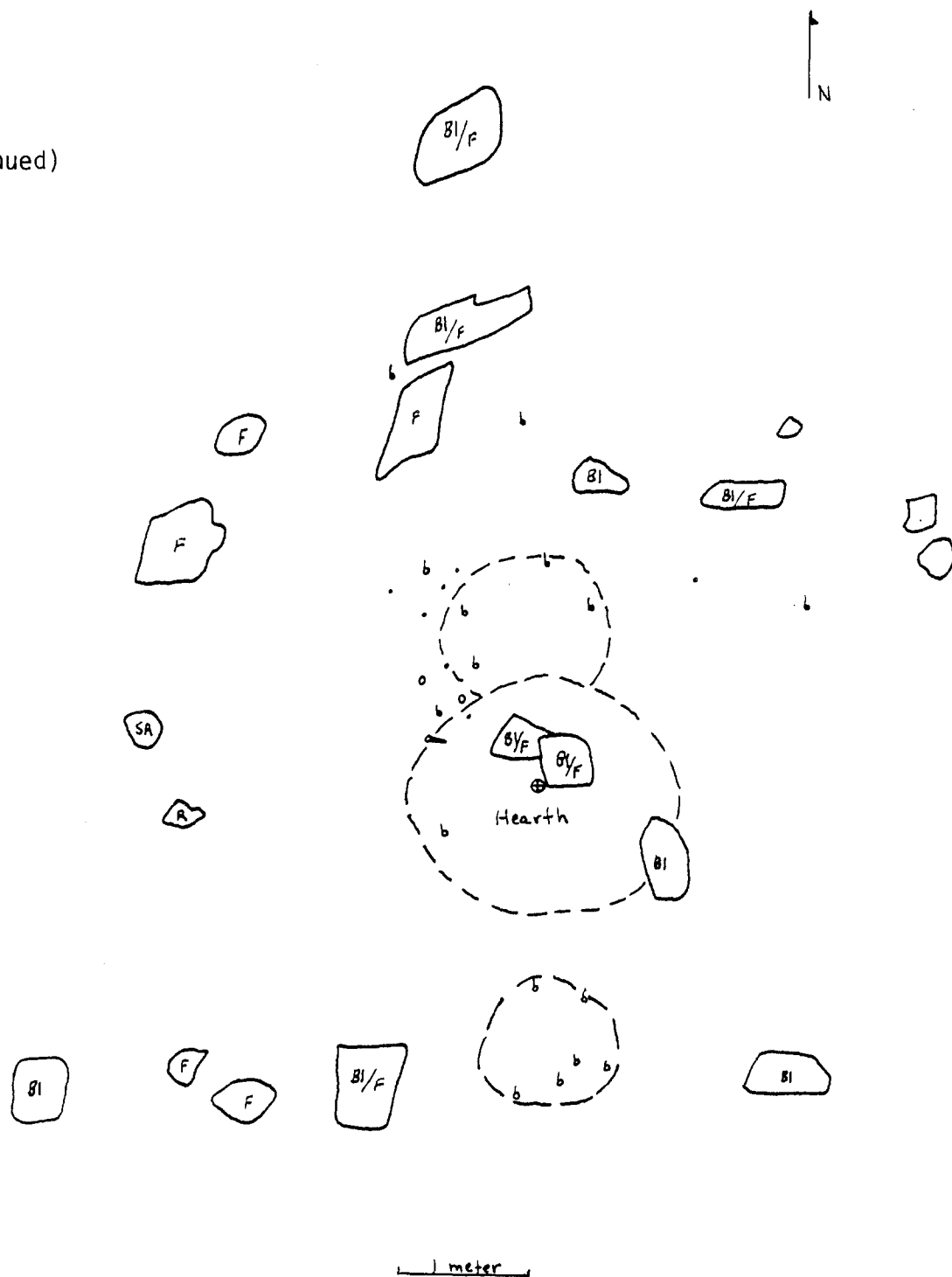
T = Tci-tho

• = Black Chert Flake

b = Bone Fragment



WIS-183 (continued)



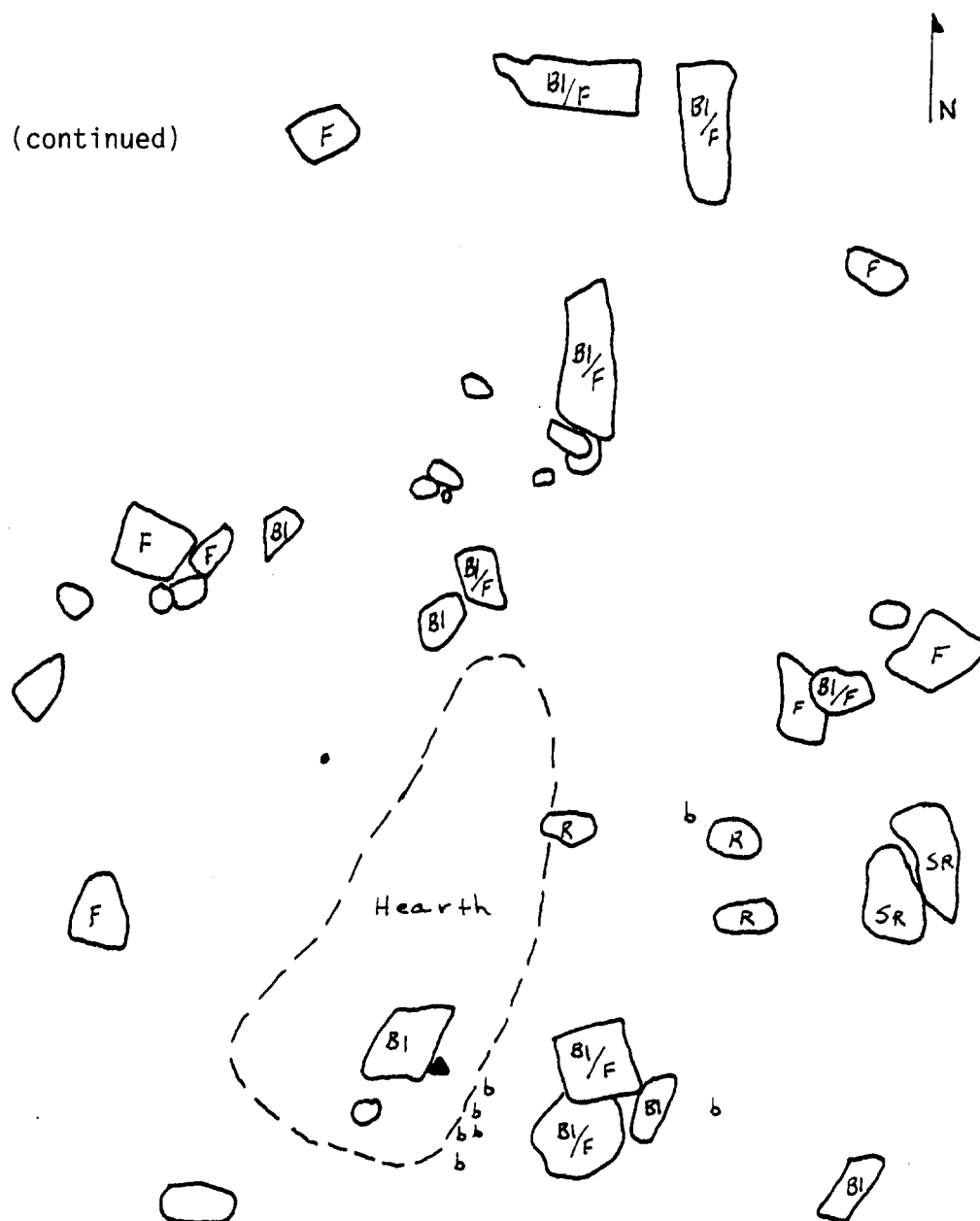
Rock Shape

BI = Blocky
F = Flat
SR = Subrounded
R = Rounded

Dwelling #7 (Area C - Central)

⊕ = Site Datum
☞ = Bone Awl
• = Black Chert Flake
○ = Quartz Crystal Flake
b = Bone Fragment

WIS-183 (continued)



Rock Shape

Bl = Blocky

F = Flat

SR = Subrounded

Dwelling #8
(Area C - Central)

• = Green Chert Flake

b = Bone Fragment

▲ = ¹⁴C sample

1 meter

WIS-184

Site Elevation:	SE1/4, SW1/4	Probable Site Type:
1510 ft.	Section 2	Lookout/Camp
	T35N, R21W	
Site Age:	Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Cultural
Unknown		Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on the north side of Publituk Creek on an ancient terrace remnant which projects westward into both the John River and Publituk Creek flood plains. The confluence of the creek and river lies 800 meters to the west of the site and a large site, WIS-183, lies 800 meters to the east. The site offers an excellent view to the north encompassing at least 6 kilometers of the John River Valley. The view to the west overlooks the flood plain of the river and the valley wall. To the east and south the view is limited to several hundred meters by rapidly rising terrain.

About 80% of the site is covered by a thin but healthy mat of lichen, moss, and grass, with scattered low herbaceous plants and clumps of dwarf birch. Scattered mineral soil and gravel exposures are present, mostly on the northwest facing slope.

The site was located through visual inspection of the surface. Three large flakes of black chert were observed in a mineral soil exposure near the western end of the terrace. No additional cultural material was noted on surface and no subsurface testing was undertaken.

The site's location suggests that it could have served as a lookout and/or camp. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any temporal or cultural assessment of the site.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

WIS-185

Site Elevation:	SW1/4, SW1/4	Probable Site Type:
1525 ft.	Section 12	Lookout
	T35N, R21W	
Site Age:	Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Cultural
Unknown		Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on the western edge of an old river terrace which was formed by the action of both the John River and Publituk Creek. The edge of the terrace lies 375 meters east of the modern channel of the John River and 30 meters above flood plain level. Publituk Creek lies 350 meters north of the site. The view offered by the site to the north and the south is quite good extending between 4 and 6 kilometers. To the east and west the valley walls limit the view to a distance of one kilometer.

Vegetation at the site consists mostly of cotton grass tussocks with some moss and lichen present along the terrace edge. A few scattered spruce trees are present as well as some dwarf birch and willow. Most of the site area is vegetated, although, along the terrace edge there are numerous mineral soil exposures resulting from ground squirrel activity and thermal degradation.

The site was discovered as the result of visual inspection of the surface. Eighteen flakes of black and gray chert were observed in a 2 meter² mineral soil exposure on the terrace edge. No additional cultural material was observed in the area and no subsurface testing was undertaken.

The site's location suggest that it served as a lookout. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any cultural or temporal assessment. However, the variety of lithic material at the site may indicate that more than one occupational event occurred there.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

DRAFT

WIS-186

Site Elevation:
1650 ft.

NE1/4, SE1/4
Section 14
T36N, R21W

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Fairbanks Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located 200 meters southwest of the Yenituk Creek/John River confluence on a discrete knoll, 100 meters west of river. A large accumulation of talus lies on the mountain slope directly behind site. The surrounding terrain slopes gently to the east with an abrupt slope at the river's edge.

The surface of the knoll is only partially vegetated. Vegetation consists of grasses, low woody and herbaceous plants, dwarf birch, and tussock tundra which surrounds site. The view is reasonably good in all directions except to the west where the mountains block the view.

The site was located by inspection of the surface. Two black chert flakes were found atop the knoll in an area of 150 meters². The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes temporal or cultural assessment of the site. The site's location suggests that it served as a lookout.

Site significance is of a local nature and the research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

WIS-187

Site Elevation:
1480 ft.

NW1/4, SW1/4
Section 5
T34N, R21W

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Fairbanks Meridian

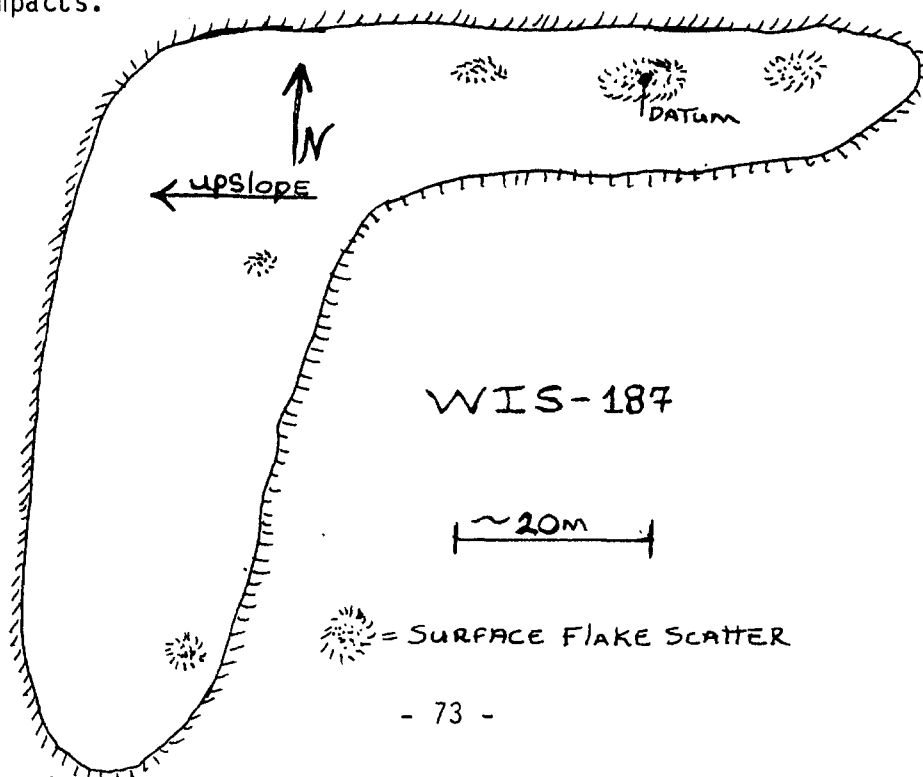
Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This multi-locality site is located on a low east-west trending ridge which dog legs to the south near its western terminus. The site lies 1 kilometer west-northwest of the tight bend in the John River just above its confluence with "Kukluk Creek" and 1.7 kilometers north of Hunt Fork Lake. The view from the site is good to the north but is limited, by trees, to the local area in all other directions.

The site area is vegetated by scattered spruce, stunted birch, dwarf birch, caribou lichen, crowberry, and other low woody and herbaceous plants. Vegetation covers about 60% of the surface of the site. Unvegetated areas occur around the bases of some of the spruce trees and as the result of ground squirrel burrowing.

The site was located as the result of visual inspection of the surface. Flake scatters of the locally abundant black chert occur sporadically along the central portion of the ridge. About 20% of the flakes exhibit cortex suggesting cobble reduction was occurring at the site. No diagnostic artifacts were located, therefore, no cultural or temporal assessment of the site can be made. The location of the site suggests that it served as a lookout. The presence of five discrete flake scatters suggests that the site experienced a number of occupational events.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears to be low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.



WIS-188

Site Elevation: 1250 ft.	NW1/4, NW1/4 Section 8 T34N, R21W	Probable Site Type: Unknown
Site Age: Unknown	Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located at the western end of an east-west trending, well-drained terrace edge. The John River is downslope 200 meters to the east-southeast, and its confluence with the Hunt Fork is 1.6 kilometers to the southwest. Hunt Fork Lake lies 3/4 of a kilometer to the southwest of the site.

The vegetation at the site consists of spruce, paper birch, dwarf birch, lichen, crowberry, cranberry and other low herbaceous and woody plants. The surface of the site is completely vegetated. Evidence of past wildfire activity is abundant. The view from the site is best to the south, although it is quite obscured by trees. All other directions afford only a minimal view.

The site was discovered as result of surface inspection. Beneath the upturned roots of a fallen spruce 3 flakes of black chert were observed. Two 20 cm² test pits were excavated to a depth of 10 cm., one, 1 meter east of the surface flakes, the other 5 meters to the southwest. Both test pits proved to be culturally sterile. Several ax and saw cut tree stumps were observed in the site area and indicate a period of more recent use.

The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any temporal or cultural assessment of the site. The function of the site is unknown, although, its close proximity to the river may indicate it was a short term camp.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears to be low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

WIS-189

Site Elevation: 1149 ft	SW1/4, NE1/4 Section 7 T34N, R21W	Probable Site Type: Camp
Site Age: Unknown	Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on a relativey flat-topped, lake-edge, bluff or terrace which parallels the northeastern shore of Hunt Fork Lake. The bluff is composed of a somewhat sandy, well-drained soil which overlies a matrix of glacially deposited gravel, cobbles, and boulders interspersed with some slabs of the local schist bedrock. The bluff, as well as the

500 meter long lake, appear to have been formed by the Hunt Fork when that river flowed 700 meters north of its present channel and against the steeply rising southern flank of Cairn Mountain. The bluff is roughly 350 meters in length and extends westward from a point 50 meters east of the east end of the lake. The top of the bluff lies 15 meters above the lake and its southern face plunges very steeply to the water's edge. Off the northern side of the bluff the terrain rises gently at first grading into wet, hummocky/tussock tundra, scattered black spruce and hybrid birch and then rises more abruptly toward the mass of Cairn Mountain. The bluff is widest, about 50 meters across, at the location of the USGS bench mark "Hunt Fork" located roughly 100 meters west of the east end of the bluff. The width of the bluff tapers to no more than 5 meters at both ends and averages about 35 meters over the majority of its length.

The surface of the bluff is about 90% vegetated. The understory consists of a thin mat of moss, lichen, clumps of grass and a variety of low woody and herbaceous plants. Trees and shrubs including black and white spruce, dwarf birch and willow, willow, alder, birch, and a few poplar, are thinly scattered over the bluff top producing an open park-like aspect. Numerous, small, unvegetated areas are scattered about, most being associated with the break-in-slope along the bluff's southern edge, ground squirrel burrows or where trees have uprooted as a result of past wildfire activity.

Several living spruce in the area were cored with an increment borer. The cores suggested that the large spruce near the water's edge at the base of the bluff had survived the most recent burn, their ages being ca. 200 years. The largest spruce trees on the top of the bluff appear to be ca. 100 years old and probably post date the most recent burn to occur in the area. Burned snags, stumps, and chunks of charred wood and charcoal are visible, scattered about the surface of the bluff.

The view from the site is excellent to the south encompassing Hunt Fork Lake, the confluence of the John River and the Hunt Fork and the John River Valley for a distance of more than 7 kilometers. To the west approximately 6 kilometers of the Hunt Fork Valley is visible while to the north and east the view is blocked by rising terrain after a distance of less than a kilometer.

The site was located as a result of visual reconnaissance of the surface of the bluff. Evidence of human use of the locale is apparent dating from prehistoric through modern times.

Evidence of prehistoric use is thinly scattered over the entire length of the bluff, with several concentrations apparent, which include artifacts and waste flakes of black, gray, white, and brown chert, green rhyolite, dark gray basalt, and black and reddish brown obsidian. In addition, the remains of several prehistoric hearths were also observed. All of the prehistoric cultural material was observed on or protruding from the surface in unvegetated or very sparsely vegetated areas. At least four concentrations of prehistoric cultural material were located along the bluff.

Locality "B" lies at the eastern end of the bluff. Cultural material was observed in an exposed area along a break-in-slope and in areas where soil was exposed by uprooted trees. The area encompassed by locality "B" is approximately 20 x 10 meters and relates only to exposed material. No subsurface testing was initiated at this locality, however, subsurface material may be present over a large area. Cultural material at this locality included black and reddish brown obsidian and white, black, and gray chert waste flakes. Several of the obsidian flakes exhibited a small amount of cortex. Several isolated pieces of fire-cracked rock were also observed, although, it is impossible to determine, given past wildfire activity in the area, if their origin is cultural or natural.

Roughly 40 meters to the northwest of locality "B" lies locality "A³". The surface cultural material at this locality covers an area of 5 x 10 meters and includes a number of black and gray chert waste flakes, a large flake of green rhyolite (?) which may have been used as a tchi-tho, and a concentration of fire-cracked rock. The fire-cracked rock was observed protruding through a locally robust moss and lichen growth 1.5 x 0.75 meters in area. A 30 cm² test pit was excavated to a depth of 20 cm in the fire-cracked rock concentration and produced, in addition to fire-cracked rock, oxidized soil, ash, charcoal, and fragments of burned bone. Much of this fire-affected material lay at a depth suggesting that it was cultural rather than natural in origin and probably represented a prehistoric hearth.

Approximately 80 meters to the west of locality "A³" lies locality "A²". The most apparent features of the locality are two hearths, one modern and one prehistoric. The hearths are separated by 3 meters and are surrounded by black chert waste flakes as well as modern cultural detritus.

Indications of modern use are present over the entire site as well as the general Hunt Fork area. However, the locality "A²" is the locus of the most intense modern use at the site. The area appears to have been the base camp location of the USGS crew that established the "Hunt Fork VABM" in 1955. This area of the site appears to receive use from both subsistence hunters and trappers as well as recreationalists.

Hunt Fork Lake is often the drop-off point for park visitors floating the John River. A well established portage trail runs from the east end of the lake, passing just below the east end of the site, to the John River.

Seventy meters to the west of locality "A²" lies locality "A¹". This locality consists of a thin scatter of waste flakes associated with a scraper/knife and a large biface fragment all of black chert. This locality encompasses an area of 5 x 10 meters and lies athwart the bluff's southern break-in-slope.

Roughly 40 meters to the north of locality "A¹", locality "A⁰" lies near the northern margin of the bluff. This locality is quite probably an extension of locality "A¹" but is not visually (surfically) connected.

Locality "A0" is the apparent locale of subsurface archeological testing conducted by Jack Campbell in 1958. It appears that the vegetation mat had been cut into several strips and then rolled up like a carpet, exposing the organic/mineral soil in an area approximately 4 meters². Cultural material, which Campbell obviously did not collect, was observed in the soil still adhering to the rolled up root mat and in the sparsely revegetated area from which the vegetation had been stripped. Cultural material consisted of numerous large and small chunks and flakes of black chert and a single microblade fragment. The lithic cultural detritus could literally be measured by the pound, so numerous and large were some of the pieces.

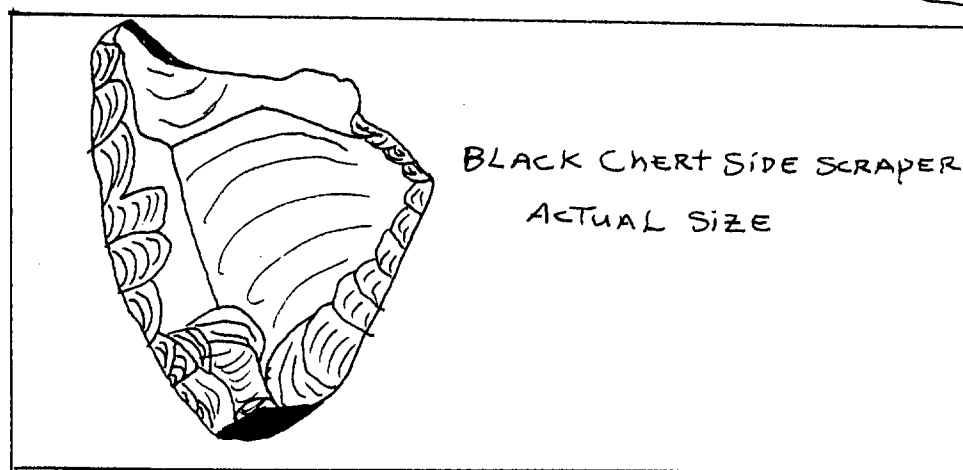
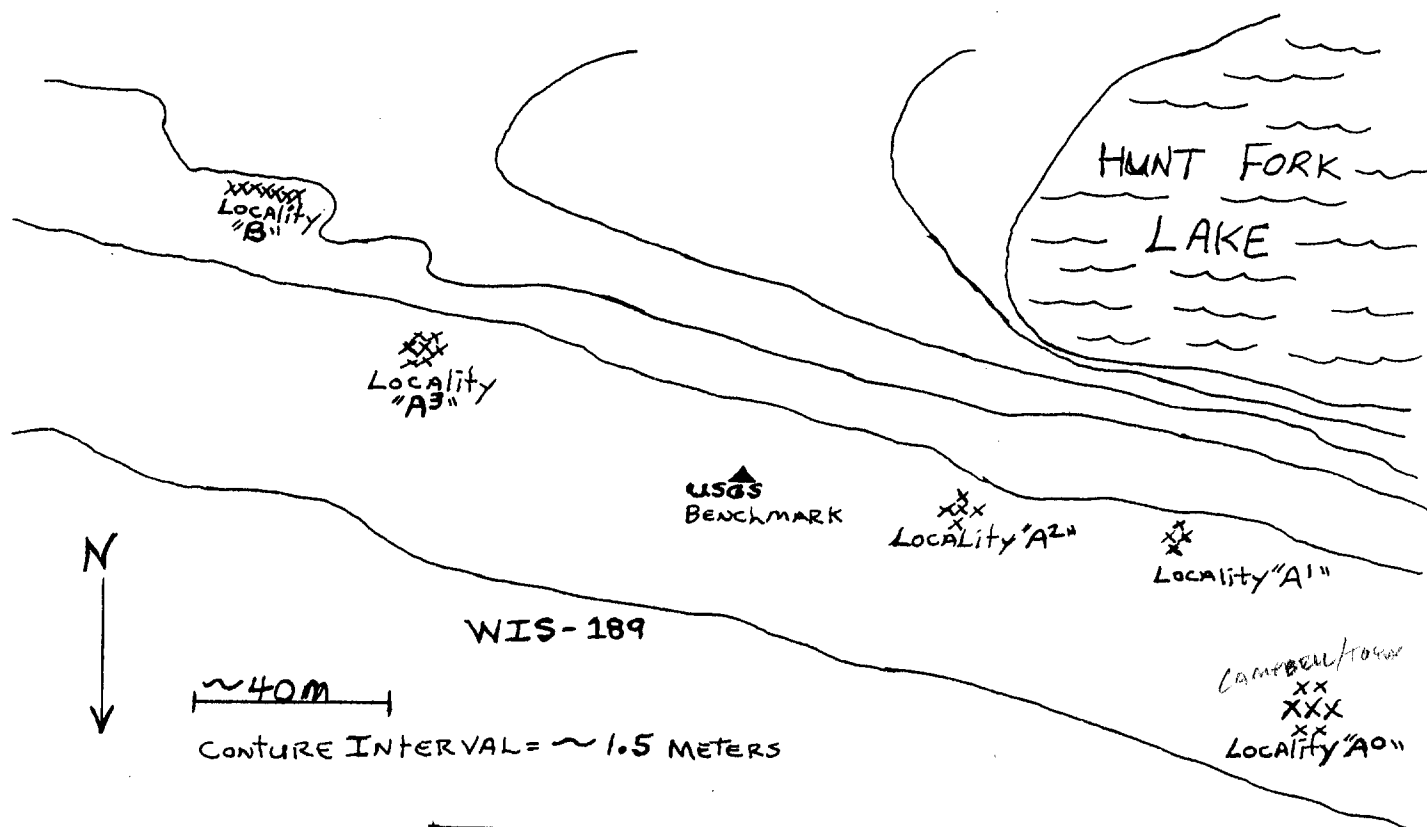
Campbell (personal communication, 1985) has stated that this site is one he visited in 1958 during an archeological survey of the area and was the basis for the establishment of the Toyuk Complex. Campbell, in his PhD dissertation, reports that the site lies four air miles above the confluence of the John and the Hunt Fork, however, by his admission the location is incorrect. On the basis of site testing (locality "A0") and examination Campbell noted that the, "impoverished Toyuk Site" was represented by few artifacts including crude choppers, microblades, a burin-like tool, and the base of a well made projectile point. Campbell also noted that the site contained no organic material and he, therefore, felt it to be older than Ipiutak but more recent than Denbigh (Campbell, 1962).

Twenty-seven years later only slightly more data exists concerning the site. The presence of microblades suggests a minimum age of 2000 years BP for at least one occupation of the site. Evidence is too meager to allow any speculation regarding cultural associations.

The site is without question one of the few large manifestations to be located along the 80 kilometers of the John River Valley investigated during the summer of 1985. The evidence suggest that the site has been used repeatedly over at least the last six or seven millennia. The site's strategic location at the confluence of two major streams, as well as its view potential; southern exposure, and well-drained stable geologic structure suggest its role was multipurpose. The site very probably was used as both a long and short term camp and base of operations for a variety of endeavors.

Site significance can be considered at least moderate in a regional sense. The possibility of extensive subsurface cultural deposits renders research potential high. At present the only adverse impact, possibly, threatening the site is from recreational users. Recent human activities in the site area appear to have had little negative effect with the possible exception of unauthorized collection of surface artifacts. However, past impact of this type is unmeasureable and therefore conjecture. Any adverse impact occurring at this site should be mitigated without delay.

WIS-188 (continued)



WIS-190

Site Elevation:
1900 ft.

NW1/4, SW1/4
Section 34
T35N, R21W

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Fairbanks Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located 2 kilometers east-northeast of the confluence of Wasted Lynx Creek and the John River approximately 300 meters north of creek. Here the deeply incised creek enters its canyon before reaching the John River. The site is situated on a bench-like shale/limestone bedrock outcrop perched on the valley wall. The outcrop is oriented so that the best view of the surrounding country is toward the west and the open glacial terrain near the confluence of the creek and river. The site lies well above the glacial topography to the west which gradually slopes toward the river.

The vegetation at the site is composed of low dwarf birch along the margins of the outcrop with only scattered, clumpy, patches of moss, lichen, grass, and low herbaceous plants on the surface.

A single chert waste flake was the only cultural material observed at the site. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes cultural or temporal assessment. The site's location suggests that it served as a lookout.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

WIS-191

Site Elevation:
1325 ft.

NW1/4, NE1/4
Section 8
T34N, R21W

Probable Site Type:
Cache

Site Age:
ca. 100 years B.P.

Fairbanks Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on a bedrock outcrop on the south side of an unnamed creek which heads in the mountains near Pamichtuk Lake and flows eastward into the John River. The confluence of the John River and the Hunt Fork lies 2.5 kilometers to the southwest. The confluence of the creek and the river occurs 600 meters west of the site. The site lies on the westward projecting point of the outcrop approximately 50 meters above the flood plain of the river.

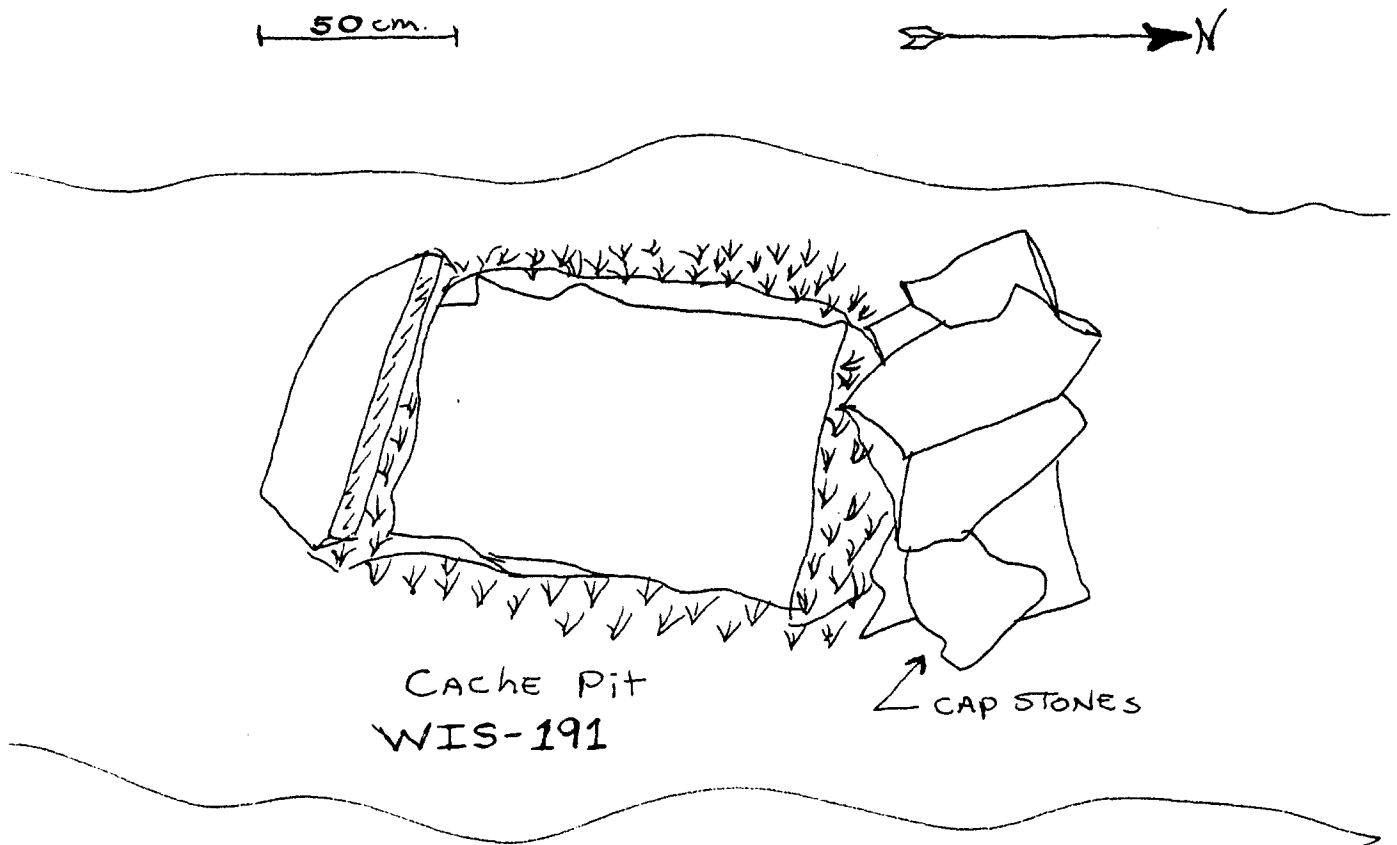
The site overlooks the river flood plain which is vegetated by willow, spruce, poplar, and birch. The view to the north encompasses the John River Valley for about 6 kilometers. Views in other directions are obstructed by trees. If the trees were not present the site would provide a panoramic view.

Vegetation at the site is quite robust and includes spruce, poplar, birch, willow, and dwarf birch. The understory is composed of moss, lichen, and low woody and herbaceous plants. The thick vegetation is punctured along the western edge of the site by exposures of bedrock. Evidence of past wildfire activity is observable throughout the area.

The site was located as the result of visual inspection of the surface. The site appears to consist of a single feature, a cache fashioned from a natural cleft in a bedrock exposure. The cache measures 1.0 x 0.8 x 0.5 meters. It appears that most of the cap stones, slabs of bedrock, had been removed at some time in the past and stacked neatly along the cache's northern edge. Two slabs of bedrock remained in place at the northern and southern ends of the cache. Supporting the southern slab was a short stout, stick, obviously placed there as a structural member. A 10 cm. thick moss layer lined the bottom of the cache, below which was frozen soil. A 25 cm² test pit was excavated to a depth of 20 cm., 4 meters east of the cache. The test pit was culturally sterile.

The site appears to have served as a cache location and possibly a lookout. The fact that a wooden support member is present suggests the cache is no older than 100 years. No cultural assessment is possible.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.



WIS-192

Site Elevation:
1420 ft.

NW1/4, NW1/4
Section 4
T34N, R21W

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Fairbanks Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on the south side of Wasted Lynx Creek atop a knoll which is part of the chaotic glacial topography surrounding the entrenched portion of the creek. The confluence of the creek and the John River lies about 200 meters to the west of this site. The site lies on the promontory of the knoll, about 50 meters above the river flood plain, and provides a fine vantage point. The view to the south is best, extending down river as far as the Hunt Fork. The views to the north and east are partially or completely blocked by rising terrain after a distance of roughly one kilometer.

Approximately 70% of the surface of the site is vegetated. Vegetation is healthy but thin and includes lichen, moss, grass, low woody and herbaceous plants, and some scattered dwarf birch. Scattered spruce, birch, and poplar are also present. Mineral soil exposures are common and may be the result of past wildfire activity.

The site was located as the result of visual inspection of the surface. a 4 meter² area at the northern end of the knoll contained a possible microblade fragment, a flake core, and a dozen waste flakes. Thirty meters to the south a single large chert flake was noted. All cultural material was black chert with the exception of a single flake of gray chert. Two 20 cm² test pits were excavated to a depth of 8 cm.; one adjacent to the flake scatter and the second 15 meters to the east. Both test pits were culturally sterile.

The site's location suggests that it served as a lookout. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes temporal or cultural assessment.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

WIS-193

Site Elevation:
1530 ft.

NW1/4, NW1/4
Section 4
T34N, R21W

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Fairbanks Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site lies on the spine of a kame in the chaotic glacial topography which borders the south side of Wasted Lynx Creek. The confluence of the creek and the John River is about 350 meters to the west of the site which lies roughly 85 meters above the valley floor. From its elevated position the site offers an excellent view to the south extending beyond the Hunt Fork. To the north the view is somewhat more restricted being limited to about 2 kilometers by rising terrain. To the west the flood plain of the river and the valley wall are visible while to the east the view is reduced to several hundred meters by higher ground.

Vegetation in the site area consists of scattered stands of spruce, and a few birch and poplar. Lower vegetation includes dwarf birch, low woody and herbaceous plants, moss, lichen, and grass. The surface of the site for roughly 10 meters on either side of the spine of the kame, is unvegetated. This mineral soil exposure extends for a distance of 60 meters.

The site was located as the result of visual inspection of the surface. Cultural material was observed scattered along the unvegetated portion of the spine of the kame. A total of 18 flakes were noted, the majority of which were black chert. No subsurface testing was undertaken, however, some subsurface cultural material may be present.

The site's location and the cultural material suggest it served as a lookout. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes temporal or cultural assessment. The variety of lithic material present suggests more than one occupational event may have occurred at the site.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

WIS-194

Site Elevation:	NE1/4, SE1/4	Probable Site Type:
1750 ft.	Section 33	Lookout
	T35N, R21W	
Site Age:	Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Cultural
Unknown		Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on the eastern edge of the chaotic glacial topography which borders the entrenched portion of Wasted Lynx Creek. The site lies slightly less than 2 kilometers east of the creek's confluence with the John River, between two rocky spurs which project from the creek's southern bank. The site sits about 40 meters above the deeply entrenched creek and offers a good view in all directions except to the south.

Vegetation at the site consists of dwarf birch and alder on the slope and lichen, moss, grass, and some low herbaceous plants on the top of the bank. The vegetation is very sparse and patchy so that roughly 70% of the surface of the site area is unvegetated.

The site was located through visual inspection of the surface. Cultural material consisting of more than 20 black chert flakes was thinly scattered along the slope of the bank over a distance of roughly 10 meters. No subsurface testing was undertaken.

The site's location suggest that it served as a lookout. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any temporal or cultural assessment of the site.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

WIS-195

Site Elevation:	SW1/4, SW1/4	Probable Site Type:
1300 ft.	Section 33	Lookout
	T35N, R21W	
Site Age:	Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Cultural
Unknown		Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on the edge of an old cut-bank of the John River 150 meters north of the confluence of the river and Wasted Lynx Creek. The active channel of the John River lies 200 meters west of the site. The cut-bank is almost shear and is composed of weathered limestone and shale bedrock. The top of the bank stands 20 meters above the valley floor. The view from the site is limited to the local area by surrounding trees and shrubs.

Vegetation at the site consists of spruce, birch, poplar, willow, alder, and shrub birch. The understory consists of a healthy mat of lichen, moss, grass, and low woody and herbaceous plants. Vegetative cover is complete except along the break-in-slope at the top of the bank where erosion has exposed a 2 meter wide strip of mineral soil.

The site was located through visual inspection of the surface. In the mineral soil exposure at the edge of the cut-bank, a single waste flake of gray chert was observed. No additional cultural material was noted and no subsurface testing was undertaken.

The location of the site suggests that it served as a lookout. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any temporal or cultural assessment of the site.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

~~DRAFT~~

WIS-196

Site Elevation:
1480 ft.

SW1/4, NW1/4
Section 33
T35N, R21W

Probable Site Type:
Unknown

Site Age:
Unknown

Fairbanks Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

The site lies roughly 1/2 kilometer due north of WIS-181 and 400 meters east of the John River. The confluence of the John River and Wasted Lynx Creek lies 1 kilometer to the south and 70 meters below site elevation. The site is located on a low lying kame amid an area of stagnant ice depositional features which occupies the western 1/2 of Section 33. Because this topographic feature lies lower than most of the surrounding terrain the view from the site is very limited except to the west where a small portion of the river valley is visible as well as the western valley wall.

The site area is quite flat, the small kame being almost square in shape. Ninety percent of the surface of the site is unvegetated and appears to be somewhat deflated. What little vegetation is present, consists of clumps of grasses, lichen, moss, and low herbaceous plants. The margins of the site support a relatively robust growth of dwarf birch and some willow.

Black and gray chert waste flakes are thinly scattered over the surface of the site in a 15meter² area. The vast majority of the flakes are of the locally abundant black chert.

Little more can be said about this site which probably served as a flaking station and may be associated with one of the other nearby sites. Even though some subsurface material may be present the significance of the site is low except as it is associated with other local sites. The site does not appear to be in danger from any natural or human impacts.

WIS-197

Site Elevation:
1550 ft.

SE1/4, NW1/4
Section 33
T35N, R21W

Probable Site Type:
Lookout/Quarry

Site Age:
Unknown

Fairbanks Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

The site lies amidst chaotic glacial topography approximately 250 meters south-southeast of WIS-196 and 800 meters west of the John River. The confluence of the River and Wasted Lynx Creek lies roughly one kilometer to the south.

The site is composed of five localities. Locality "A" of the site lies on the highest topographic feature in the area, approximately 100 meters above the valley floor. An excellent view of the John River valley as far south as the Hunt Fork is available while the views to the north and east are limited to the local area. To the west the view is limited by the valley wall.

The surface of locality "A" is 75% vegetated. The vegetation mat, however, is quite thin and the pebbles, cobbles, and small boulders of the till often poke through. The steep sides of the kame are primarily exposed till with just enough vegetation present to prevent serious erosion from taking place. Vegetation at the site consists of grasses, moss, lichen, and low herbaceous plants. At the south end of the kame some willow and small poplar are present. The surface of the kame is relatively level and averages about 5 meters in width.

Cultural material consisting of several varieties of the local black chert, white, gray, and green chert as well as several flakes of obsidian, one worked, were observed on and protruding from the surface. While scattered over the 60 meter length of the kame the majority of the lithics (black chert) were concentrated near the promontory which is also the widest portion of the site. At this location cultural material is thickly scattered over a 6 meter² area. There are many large flakes and partially reduced cobbles of the local black chert present suggesting that the chert nodules were being quarried from the glacial till and reduced on site.

The other varieties of chert are concentrated more to the north end of the kame and these flakes are few in number and small in size. There is no indication that their origin is the till which comprise the kame. Further

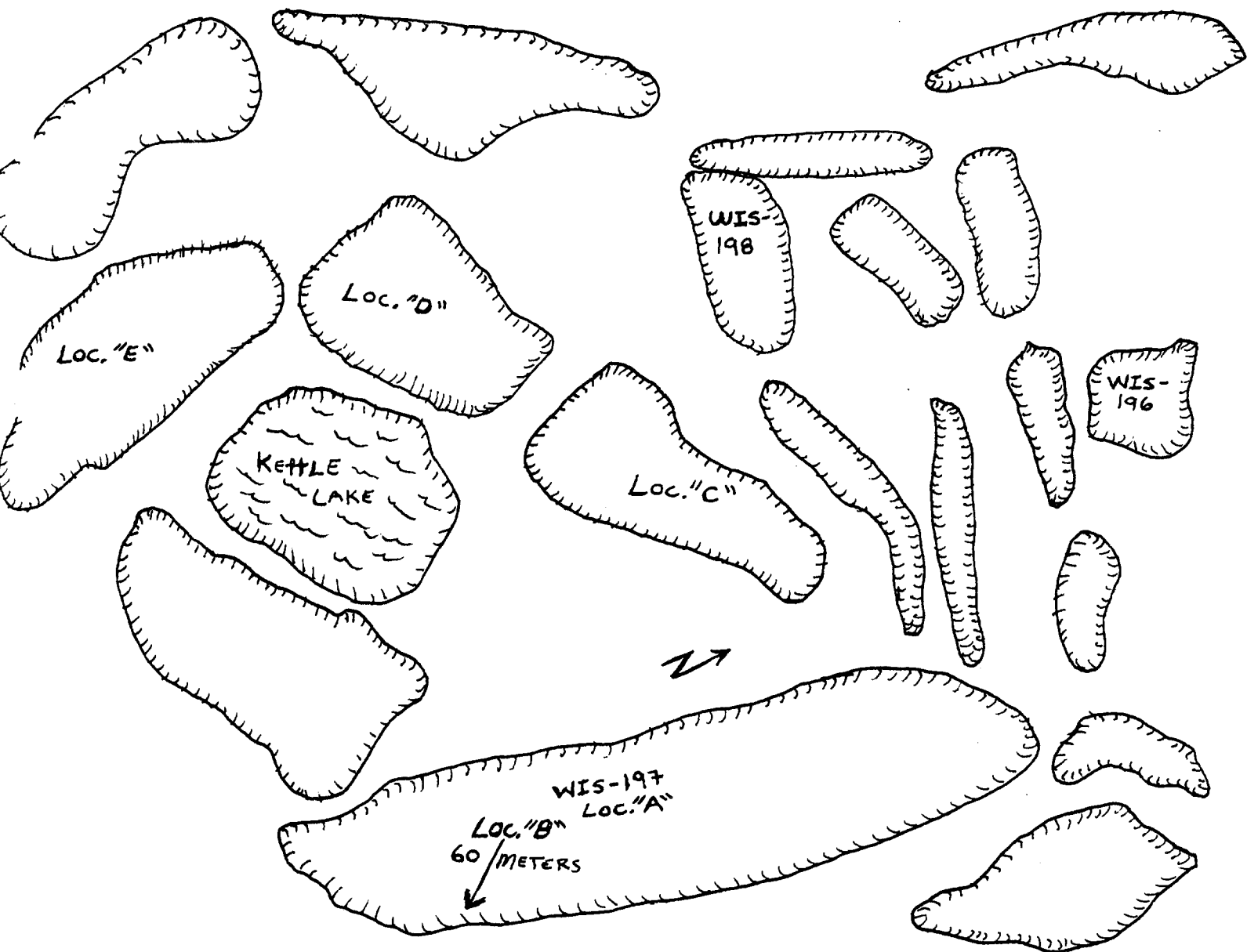
to the north lies the obsidian, roughly 10 meters north of the promontory. The obsidian is represented by two small flakes and a larger chunk exhibiting some cortex. A 15 cm² test pit was excavated at the obsidian location to a depth of 6 cm. below surface. No subsurface obsidian or other cultural material was recovered.

One description will suffice for all of the additional localities B, C, D, and E. All of these are small, low lying, level, glacial features which lie adjacent to locality "A". Locality "B" lies 75 meters to the east southeast, locality "C" 40 meters to the west, locality "D" 105 meters to the west-southwest, and locality "E" 120 meters to the south-southwest. All are exposed glacial till with only a very small amount patchy vegetation present. All appear to have had one or two cobbles of local black chert quarried from the till and reduced on-site. The flaking detritus is very localized on each locality covering no more than a meter² area. The view from all these localities is very local due to their low elevation in relation to surrounding terrain.

In general it appears that the gravels of these glacial features were being quarried, on a very small scale for chert cobbles at least some of which were reduced on-site. The quarrying may represent a single occupational episode. The exception to this may have been Locality "A" which also had exotic chert flakes as well as obsidian present. Locality "A" may have been utilized as a lookout at numerous times in the past.

No diagnostic artifacts were observed at the site therefore no temporal or cultural assessment can be made. However, the presence of obsidian may make a hydration date possible.

The significance of the site is local in nature and based on its association with other local sites and its place in the general subsistence pattern. The site appears to be in little danger from natural or human impacts.



WIS-198

Site Elevation:
1515 ft.

SW1/4, NW1/4
Section 33
T35N, R21W

Probable Site Type:
Quarry

Site Age:
Unknown

Fairbanks Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site lies 250 meters west-northwest of WIS-197 and approximately 125 meters south of WIS-196. The John River lies about 400 meters to the west and 70 meters below site elevation. The view from the site is restricted to the local glacial topography in all directions except to the west where the valley wall and a small portion of the river are visible.

The site is located on a low lying kame which is surrounded by more elevated glacial features. The surface of the kame is quite flat, rising gently to the west. Vegetation is sparse, the majority of the site being exposed mineral soil and the pebbles, cobbles and small boulders of the glacial till. Vegetation consists of grasses, moss, lichen, and low herbaceous plants. Some dwarf birch and willow border the site as do a few scattered spruce.

Cultural material was observed on surface and consisted of large flakes and chunks of the local black chert. This lithic material was concentrated in an area of about 2 meters².

It appears that, like other sites in the area, the chert nodules in the glacial gravels are being quarried and to some degree reduced on site. There appears to have been only one episode of use at WIS-198 which may coincide with the chert quarrying at the other local sites.

No diagnostic artifacts were located therefore no cultural or temporal assessment can be made. Site significance is of a local nature only. The site does not appear to be in danger of impact from natural or human forces.

DRAFT

WIS-199

Site Elevation:
1500 ft.

NW1/4, SW1/4
Section 33
T35N, R21W

Probable Site Type:
Lookout/Flaking Station

Site Age:
Unknown

Fairbanks Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

The site lies about 400 meters south of WIS-197 and 800 meters north of the confluence of the John River and Wasted Lynx Creek. The John River lies 400 meters to the west of the site and 70 meters lower in elevation. The view from the site is excellent to the south, extending for several kilometers beyond the Hunt Fork. To the west, the valley wall and a small portion of the John River are visible. To the east and north the view is limited to the local glacial topography.

The site is located on a series of southward and westward projecting lobes of a large kame which is perched on the bluff edge. The area encompassed by the site is roughly 100 meters². The surface of the site is a series of relatively flat-topped, gravel deposits separated by very shallow willow/dwarf birch choked drainages. The majority of these gravel deposits are poorly vegetated by a thin, intermittent, mat of grass, moss, lichen, and low herbaceous plants. Spruce, up to 7 meters in height and 20 cm in diameter, are scattered in solitary fashion over the site area.

Cultural material was observed on surface, scattered very thinly and sporadically over the entire site area. Cultural material consisted of waste flakes of black, gray, and cream chert, as well as a powder gray rhyolite and a reddish gray basalt. Several flakes of obsidian were also observed. The vast majority of lithic material was of the local black chert. A projectile point base and several biface fragments were located on the southern most projecting lobe of the kame which appears to be the only definite focus of activity at this otherwise impoverished site. Datum was established at this location. The biface fragments and the projectile point base are made of the local black chert and all lie within one meter of each other.

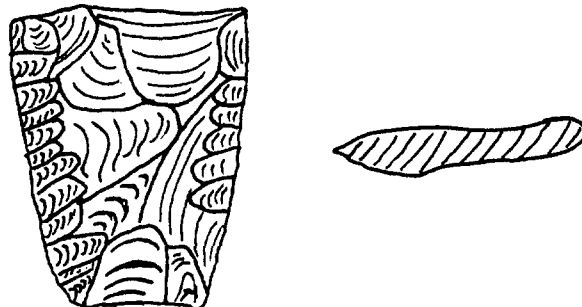
A single test pit, 15cm², was excavated to a depth of 5 cm, four meters from datum on a bearing of 334° mag. A small flake of obsidian was the only cultural material recovered.

The site appears to have served as a lookout and a flaking station. The variety of lithic material suggests that several occupational events occurred at the site. As with other sites in the local area it appears the glacial till was producing most of the raw lithic material for tool manufacture.

The projectile point base appears to be of the lanceolate style. The edges and base have been ground and an attempt at basal thinning has been made. The break appears to have resulted from impact.

No diagnostic artifacts were observed at the site and, therefore, no temporal or cultural assessment can be made. The site appears to be one of the very few in the local area to have served as more than a quarry area/flaking station and to have had more than one or two occupational episodes. Significance is local in nature. The site does not seem to be threatened by natural or human impacts.

WIS-199
Artifact - Actual Size



Projectile Point Base

WIS-200

Site Elevation: 1220 ft.	NW1/4, NW1/4 Section 8 T34N, R21W	Probable Site Type: Camp
Site Age: Unknown	Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

The site lies about 1.5 kilometers northeast of the John River/Hunt Fork confluence on the west (right) side of the John River. An intermittent, deeply incised, small creek flows east 100 meters north of the site. WIS-188 lies 400 meters to the northeast and WIS-189 lies 400 meters to the west southwest.

The site is situated on a very low rise on a relatively non-descript

stagnant ice (glacial) depositional feature. The soil is quite thin and rocky and almost dust-like in consistency due to wildfire activity in the area roughly 50 years ago. The area is openly wooded by a mixture of spruce, birch, and aspen, none of which exceed 10 meters in height. In the wake of the wildfire lichen is just regaining a foothold while moss, grasses, and low herbaceous plants are more securely established. Some willow and dwarf birch are also present. The surface of the site is very hummacky as the result of trees being uprooted following the wildfire.

The view from the site is totally obstructed in all directions by trees. However, prior to the arrival of trees in the area, some 5000-6000 years ago the site would have offered a view of the John River to the east as well as the Hunt Fork confluence to the south.

The site was located as a result of surface observation. Numerous black chert flakes were seen protruding through the soil and thin vegetation mat. Surface indications suggest the site is roughly 3 x 4 meters in size. A single test pit directly adjacent datum produced a soil profile typical of wildfire areas consisting of very oxidized friable mineral soil (all organics burned out) heat fractured rocks, and chunks of charcoal. The test pit was 15 cm² and was excavated to a depth of 6 cm. Several black chert flakes and some pieces of burned bone were found in the test pit.

The site may have served as a camp site as it is only 125 meters from an old river terrace. No diagnostic artifacts were observed therefore no temporal or cultural assessment can be made. Site significance is low except as it relates to other area sites. The site does not appear to be in any danger from natural or human impacts.

WIS-201

Site Elevation:	NW1/4, NE1/4	Probable Site Type:
1980 ft.	Section 10	Lookout
	T34N, R21W	
Site Age:	Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Cultural
Unknown		Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on the top of a bedrock outcrop on the north side of an unnamed creek valley. This creek, which heads in the mountains north of Pamichtuk Lake, joins the John River from the east at a point about midway between Wasted Lynx Creek and the Hunt Fork. The confluence of the unnamed creek and the John River lies 3 kilometers to the west of the site. The south face of the outcrop is sheer and rises about 6 meters above the surrounding country. The view from the site is local except to the east and west, up and down the creek valley.

Vegetation in the site area consists of a thick growth of willow and alder at the base of the outcrop and a sparse, patchy cover of lichen, moss, and grass on top. More than 50% of the surface of the outcrop is exposed mineral soil or bedrock.

The site was located as the result of visual inspection of the surface. Several black chert flakes were observed in an unvegetated area on the southeast end of the outcrop. No other cultural material was noted and no subsurface testing was undertaken.

The site's locations suggests that it served as a lookout. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes cultural or temporal assessment of the site.

Site significance is of local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

WIS-202

Site Elevation:	NE1/4, NE1/4	Probable Site Type:
1950 ft.	Section 9	Lookout
	T34N, R21W	
Site Age:	Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Cultural
Unknown		Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located about 800 meters east of WIS-201 and 400 meters east of an unnamed creek. The confluence of the creek and the John River lies approximately 2 kilometers to the west of the site. The site sits on top of a bedrock outcrop which is mantled by some remnant morainal material. The outcrop is 200 meters in length and slopes gently downward toward the west. Site elevation is sufficient to provide good views to the east, west, and south for distances in excess of 6 kilometers. The view to the north is blocked by higher terrain.

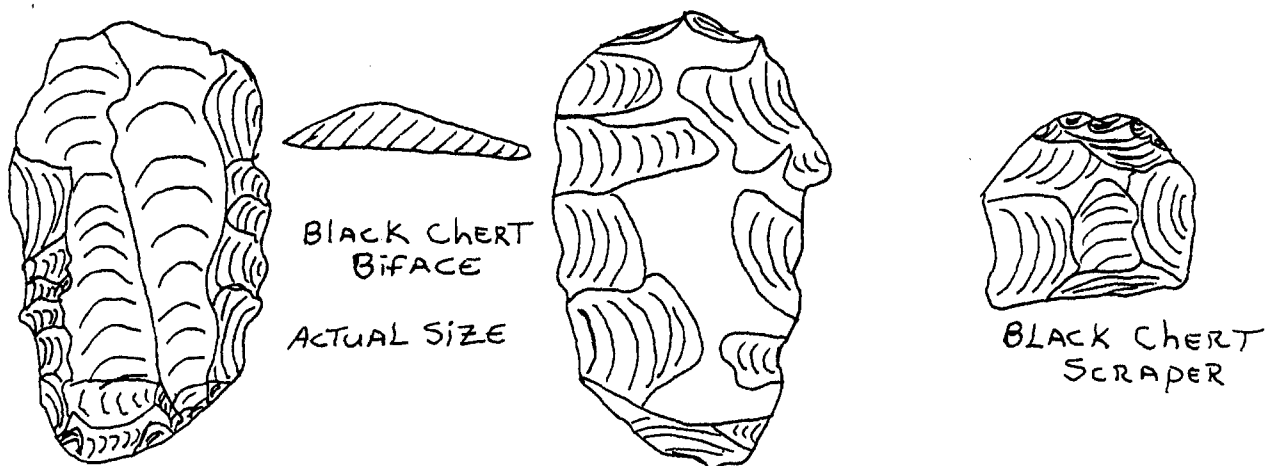
Although sparse and patchy, lichen, moss, and grass make up the primary vegetation. Dwarf birch and willow are scattered about the site area. More than 50% of the surface area consists of exposed mineral soil, gravel, and bedrock.

The site was located as the result of visual inspection of the surface. Cultural material consisting of about 20 black chert flakes, a scraper and a biface, also of black chert, were observed on the easternmost 30 meters of the outcrop. These artifacts were observed in unvegetated areas and no subsurface testing was undertaken.

The site's location suggest it served as a lookout. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes cultural or temporal assessment. Cultural material at the site suggests it was associated with hunting activities.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present ~~the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.~~

WIS-202



WIS-203

Site Elevation:
1980 ft.

SW1/4, SE1/4
Section 4
T34N, R21W

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Fairbanks Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on a bedrock outcrop roughly 400 meters northwest of WIS-202. The site lies on a bedrock outcrop perched on a southern slope overlooking on an unnamed creek. The confluence of the creek and the John River lies 2 kilometers southwest of the site. The site's location

and elevation combine to provide an excellent view of the surrounding country. The view to the south and west is spectacular including much of the Hunt Fork, its confluence with the John River, and at least 7 kilometers of the John south of the confluence. The eastern view encompasses most of the creek valley while to the north the river can be viewed up to Wasted Lynx Creek.

Willows and alders are fairly dense on the slopes above and below the site. Scattered spruce trees are present on the outcrop and about 60% of its surface is covered by a mat of lichen, moss, grass, and scattered low woody and herbaceous plants. Bedrock exposures, cobbles, gravel, boulders, fractured bedrock, and mineral soil make up the unvegetated areas.

The site was located as the result of visual inspection of the surface. Two flakes of black chert were observed in an unvegetated area. No additional cultural material was observed on surface.

A 20 cm² test pit was excavated to a depth of 10 cm. in the vicinity of one of the waste flakes and proved to be culturally sterile.

The site's location suggests that it served as a lookout. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any temporal or cultural assessment of the site.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

WIS-208

Site Elevation: 1200 ft.	SW1/4, NW1/4 Section 8 T34N, R21W	Probable Site Type: Camp
Site Age: Unknown	Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located 110 meters southeast of WIS-200. Hunt Fork Lake lies 700 meters to the west while a burned cabin locale lies 40 meters to the east. Less than 100 meters east of the site flows the John River.

The site is located atop an old river terrace, the second and apparently the oldest of a succession of abandoned river terraces. The site lies roughly 20 meters above the present river level. Vegetation at the site consists of a healthy mat of lichen, moss, grasses, and low herbaceous plants. Spruce and birch are quite numerous although not overpowering and do not exceed 10 meters in height or 20 cm. in diameter. Some dwarf birch and willow are also scattered about. There is quite a bit of wildfire evidence present in the site area such as toppled trees (uprooted) exposing a desiccated and oxidized soil with numerous charcoal chunks in the soil matrix. The surface of the site is relatively flat and does

not display the wildfire after effect of churning as severely as does the ground further from the terrace edge. Despite the presence of numerous trees, the site affords a reasonable view of the river to the east and south. To the west and north only the mountains are visible.

Cultural material consisting of large and small flakes and chunks of the ubiquitous black chert, was observed in a 2 meter² unvegetated area at the break-in-slope of the terrace face. A single brown chert flake was observed among the black chert flakes but no formal or diagnostic artifacts were observed. Datum was placed adjacent the flake scatter. A possible fragment of fire-cracked rock was observed near the flakes but due to past wildfire activity it would be impossible to make an assumption about the culturality of the rock. A 20 cm² test pit was excavated to a depth of 12 cm., 4 meters west of datum and yielded no cultural material. A similar sized test pit, immediately east of datum, yielded several flakes and chunks of black chert at a depth of 2-4 cm below surface. No cultural material was observed in the soil clinging to the roots of an overturned tree 3 meters to the south of datum.

The site appears to be a little used camping/flaking location. Two different types of chert may indicate the occurrence of more than one occupational event. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any cultural or temporal assessment of the site. It should also be noted that the site is elevated enough so that if the occupation was pre-tree, 5000-6000 years ago, the view in all directions would have been excellent.

The site does not appear to be in danger from natural or human impacts. The river floaters trail from Hunt Fork Lake to the John River lies 200 meters south of the site. The site's level of significance is related to its association with other local sites.

MAP AREA #2

JOHN RIVER VALLEY: HUNT FORK TO WOLVERINE CREEK

Camp #5 June 28 - July 5

We arrived at this camp via rafts from Camp #4. Camp #5 was located on a gravel bar on the right side of the John River 1/2 mile above the mouth of Wolverine Creek and 15 miles south of Camp #4.

Archeological survey was conducted out of this camp for a period of six days during which time an area of roughly four square miles was investigated. No archeological sites were located.

The distance between Camps #4 and #5 had not been anticipated to be so great. Our air photo coverage of the region indicated some reasonably good site locales were present along this portion of the river. However, this was one of the few times that aerial photography proved to be somewhat misleading. There were few good site locales until we arrived in the Wolverine Creek area, and even there six days of survey failed to turn up a single archeological site.

Between the Hunt Fork and Wolverine Creek the river is closely walled on either side by steeply rising mountains. No where along this 15 mile stretch of river is the valley floor more than 1/2 mile wide. The great majority of suitable site locations are on the active flood plain and therefore would not have survived the effect of natural forces for any length of time. John Martin Campbell, who conducted a rapid 12 day archeological survey of much of the John River during the summer of 1958, commented that he found this particular portion of the river "truly impoverished" in terms of archeological remains (Campbell oral communication, 1985).

Besides the topography being generally "wrong" for camping or lookout locales, engaging in overland travel in this area is a truly horrible experience. The following is an excerpt from one of the field notebooks; July 4, 1985.

"The walking in this area is as bad as any I have seen in 16 years of working in the Brooks Range. The surface is rarely level and is covered by a mix of cotton grass tussocks, and knee to waist high dwarf birch, willow, and some alder. The tussocks are of the broad or mushroomed top variety and therefore are impossible to stay on top of when walking. The tussocks are also prodigious in size, 50% exceeding 18 inches in height and many over 2 feet. In many cases the tussocks grow so close together that their tops appear to form a carpet of grass. One or two steps on this carpet proves it to be illusionary as you fall through where the camouflaged tussock edges meet. Suddenly one leg is in a hole almost up to the knee, while the other foot is desperately searching, usually in vain, for something solid to brace on. In addition, knee to waist high shrubs which further camouflage the tussock peril, and are constantly entwining around feet and legs to trip and/or keep you off balance. Additionally, thanks to an extremely wet summer, much of the area between the tussocks is standing water and/or ice. Therefore when you go sprawling face

first onto the tundra, which happens often in this area, with a shotgun around your neck and a 30 lb. pack on your back, you generally end up getting wet and muddy to your knees and elbows. Needless to say the lack of sites in this area may have something to do with the lovely terrain."

And finally: "This camp has proved to be nothing but bad news - tomorrow we are going to move down river hoping for better country and weather."

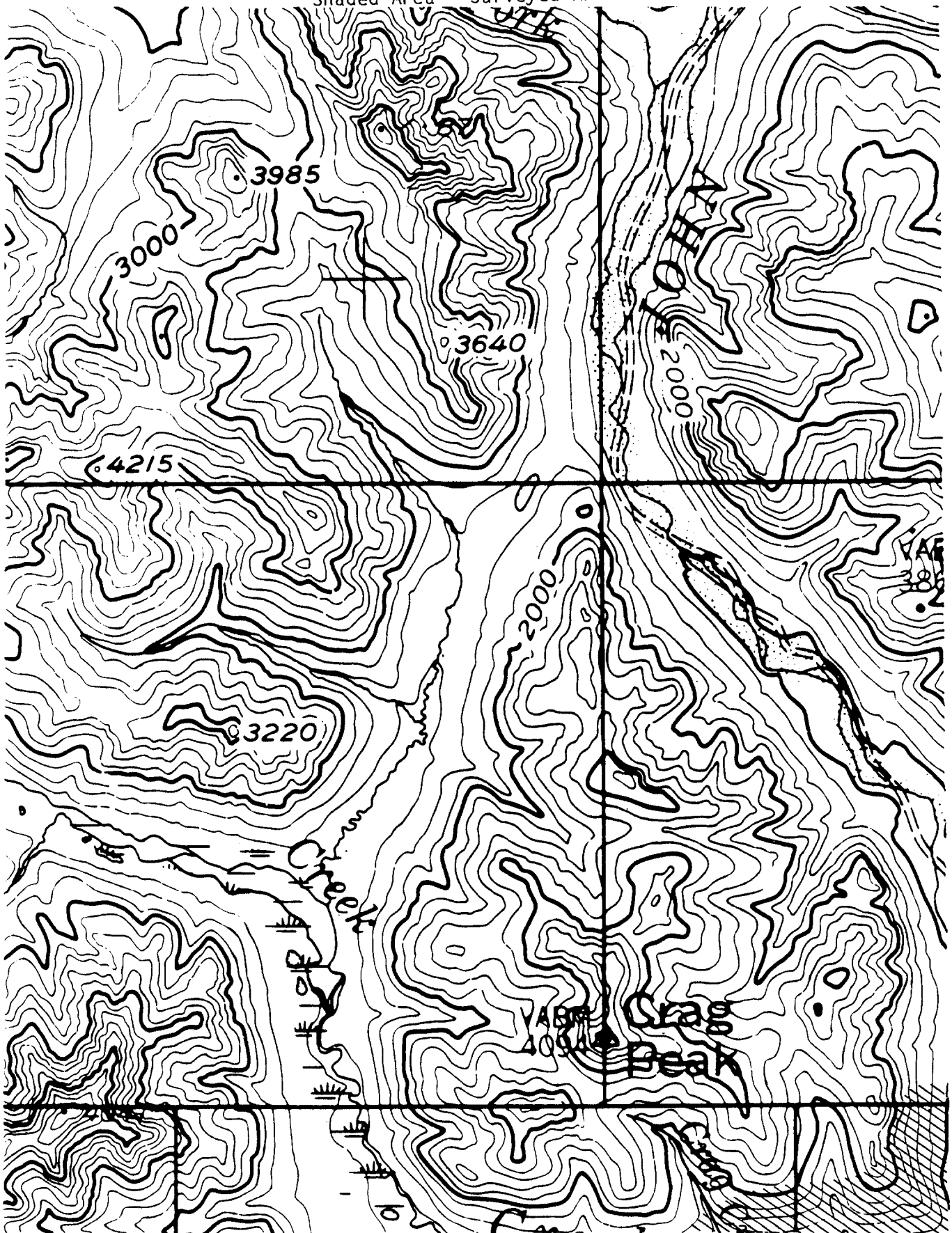
Enough said.

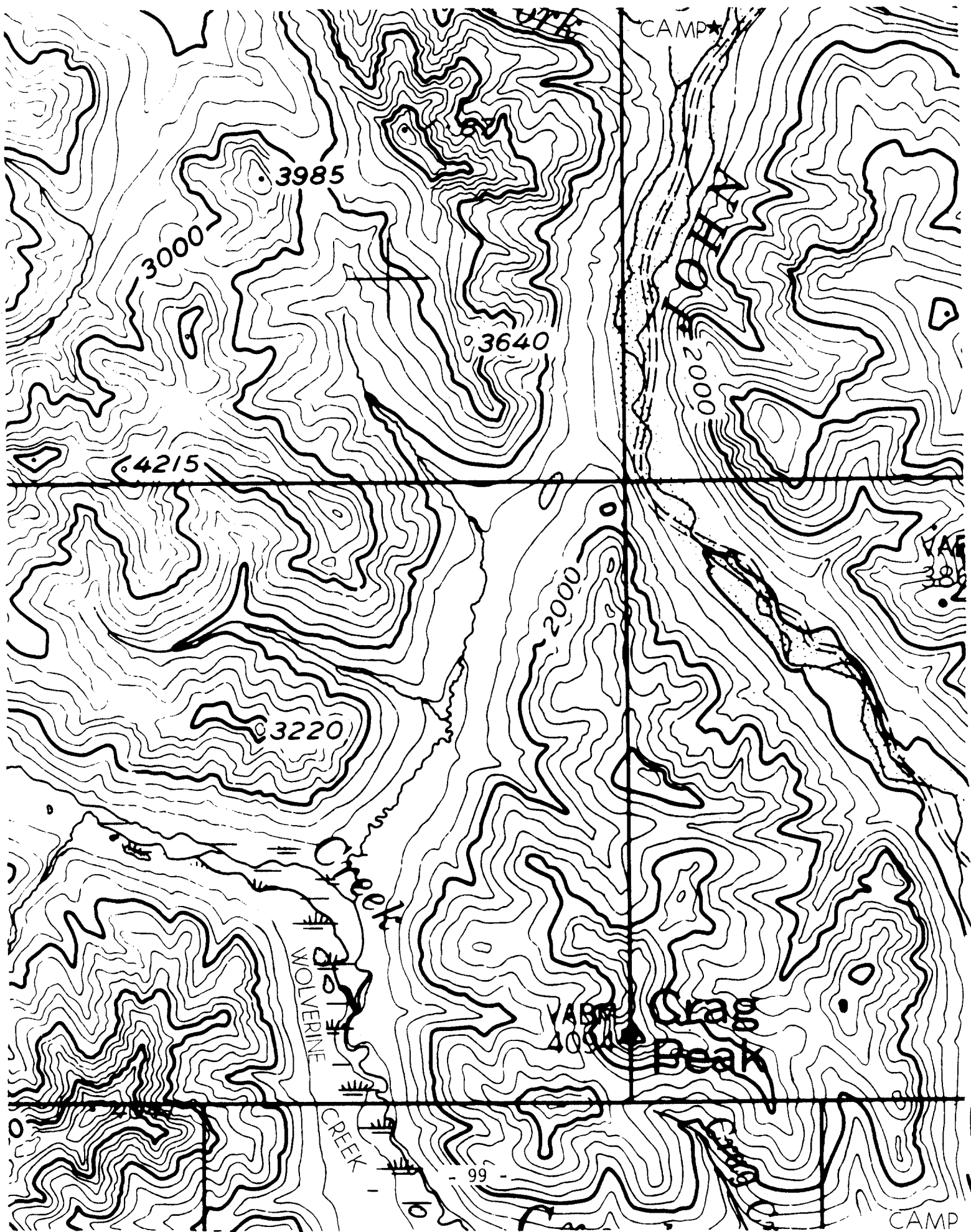
Weather Data During the Survey of Map Area #2

DATE	CAMP #	TEMPERATURE °F		SKY	WIND
		LOW	HIGH		
6-28-85	5	44°		overcast	calm
6-29-85	5			rain	
6-30-85	5	50°		cloudy, rain, fog	
7-01-85	5	49°		rain, overcast	light
7-02-85	5			rain (river up 2 ft.)	
7-03-85	5		60's	partly cloudy	light
7-04-85	5	50°	60's	partly cloudy	breezy

6 miles

Shaded Area = Surveyed Area





MAP AREA #3

JOHN RIVER VALLEY: EAGLE CREEK TO MCKINLEY CREEK

Camp #6, #7, #8 July 6-21

We arrived at Camp #6 via rafts from Camp #5. Camp #6 was located on a gravel bar on the left (east) side of the John River approximately 1/4 mile above the mouth of Eagle Creek.

Archeological survey was conducted out of this camp for a period of four days during which time an area of roughly four square miles was surveyed. A total of six archeological sites were located while investigating this area.

The local region is heavily vegetated and the topography varies from low flats bordering the river to steep-faced bedrock outcrops which are suffering active erosion. While the vegetation is dense the area is generally drier than the Wolverine Creek region and the cross country walking, although not good, is better. These improved conditions seemed to be reflected by the presence of archeological sites. A small portion of the survey work in this area was logistically supported by helicopter.

All of the archeological sites located in this area are of the lookout or very briefly occupied variety. None of the sites appeared to be comprised of more than a few scattered chert waste flakes.

On July 10, we moved our camp, via rafts, about four miles down stream. Camp #7 was established on an extremely large gravel bar on the left (east) side of the John River. The mouth of Sheep Creek lay approximately 1.5 miles to the south of this camp.

While working the Eagle Creek area it had become apparent that a number of caves/rockshelters were present in the limestone outcrops which border the left side of the river in Sections 2 & 11, T31N, R21W, Fairbanks Meridian. The caves, although fairly large, are somewhat difficult to gain access to and are far enough removed from the river not to be overly attractive for use as anything but an overnight camping locale or to obtain shelter from bad weather. Investigation of the most attractive of these caves produced no evidence of human use.

Archeological survey was conducted out of Camp #7 for a period of three days during which time an area of 1.5 square miles was investigated. Although there were some well situated geomorphological features in the area we were unable to locate more than two archeological sites. At present the evidence suggests that there was low level use of the John River Valley, below the confluence of the Hunt Fork, during prehistoric times.

The move from Camp #7 to Camp #8 was made via rafts, Camp #8 was located on a gravel bar on the left (east) side of the John River Valley opposite the mouth of McKinley Creek. Camp #8 was located about a mile down river from Camp #7 which put it 9 miles south of the park boundary. This was our final camp on the John River.

A total of six days were spent working out of this camp during which time an area of roughly 3 square miles was surveyed. Only one archeological site was located as a result of the survey work.

Generally speaking, the topography of this area does not recommend itself for overland travel. Much of the country is low and wet. Those areas which are suitable for human occupation or use are usually at some remove from the river.

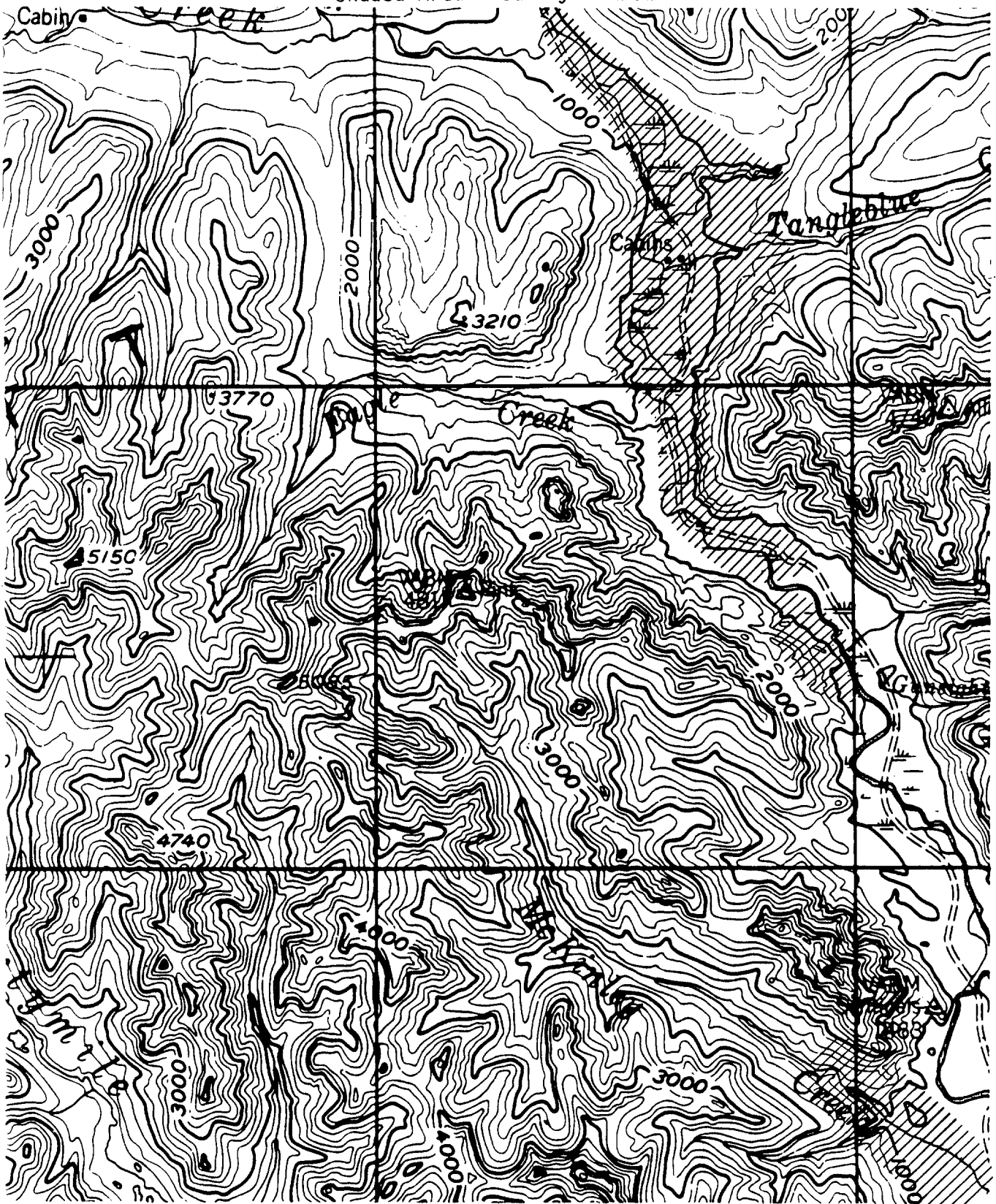
It is quite probable, in the past, that people traveling through the area utilized the river for transportation as we do. As a result most of their base camps, as are ours, would be established on gravel bars, the traces of which the following spring's high water would obliterate.

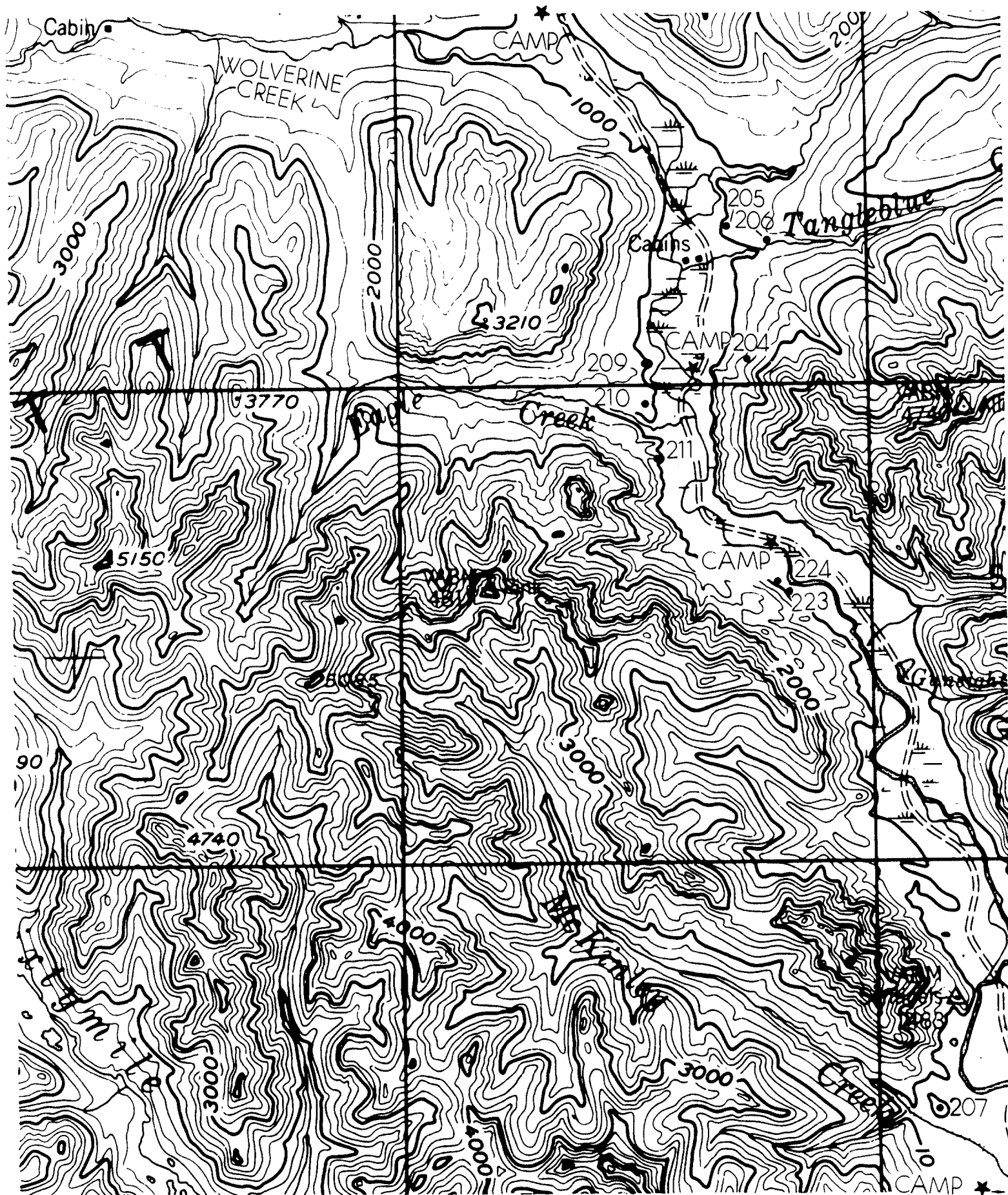
Weather Data During the Survey of Map Area #3

DATE	CAMP #	TEMPERATURE °F		SKY	WIND
		LOW	HIGH		
7-06-85	6	40°	80°	clear	calm
7-07-85	6	47°		high clouds	
7-08-85	6	54°		overcast	S 8 k.
7-09-85	6	40's		overcast	
7-10-85	6	40's	70's	afternoon clear	
7-11-85	6	50°	70's	sunny, evening rain	
7-12-85	7	44°		clear	
7-13-85	7	49°	76°	sunny	light
7-14-85	8	54°		sunny, afternoon rain	
7-15-85	8	48°	65°	sunny, few clouds	N 6-8 k.
7-16-85	8	46°		scattered clouds	N 10-15 k.
7-17-85	8	50°	70's	clear sunny	light
7-18-85	8	45°	73°	clear sunny	light
7-19-85	8	45°	70's	sunny	8 k.
7-20-85	8	40's	70's	sunny	light

6 miles

Shaded Area = Surveyed Area





WIS-204

Site Elevation:	SW1/4, NE1/4	Probable Site Type:
1450 ft.	Section 35	Unknown
	T32N, R21W	
Site Age:	Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Cultural
Unknown		Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on a limestone bedrock spur that is perched 160 meters above the floor of the John River Valley. The confluence of the river and Tangleblue Creek is 2 kilometers north-northwest of the site while the mouth of Eagle Creek lies slightly less than 2 kilometers to the south-southwest. The view from the site is of the local area only except to the north where the river valley is visible for at least 10 kilometers.

The majority of the site is vegetated to a moderate degree. Although open in nature there are scattered birch, poplar, and spruce present. The understory consists of a thin, patchy mat of lichen, moss, grass, and a few scattered low woody and herbaceous plants. The central crest of the spur is mostly exposed bedrock, mineral soil, and gravel. There is some evidence of past wildfire activity in the site area.

The site was located as the result of visual inspection of the area. A large flake of clear obsidian and a small flake of black chert were noted in an unvegetated area 40 meters east of the spur's promontory. A 20 cm² test pit was excavated to a depth of 4 cm. near the location of the flakes and proved to be culturally sterile.

The site may have served as a lookout although much better locations exist nearby. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any temporal or cultural assessment of the site, however, the obsidian may provide a hydration date.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

WIS-205

Site Elevation:	NW1/4, NW1/4	Probable Site Type:
1015 ft.	Section 26	Lookout
	T32N, R21W	
Site Age:	Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Cultural
Unknown		Affiliation: Unknown

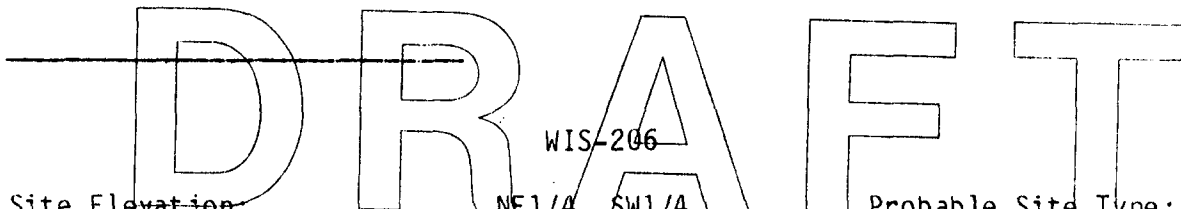
This site is located on an old river terrace 800 meters northeast of the confluence of Tangleblue Creek and the John River. The terrace, which rises 15 meters above the valley floor, overlooks Tangleblue Creek which lies 400 meters to the south. The view from the site is blocked by trees in all directions but south where the river valley may be viewed as far as the mouth of Eagle Creek.

Vegetation at the site consists of a moderately heavy tree growth including birch, spruce, and poplar. The understory is composed of moss, lichen, grass, and low woody and herbaceous plants. Along the front or western edge of the terrace are several large mineral soil exposures.

The site was located as a result of surface reconnaissance. A single black chert flake was observed in an unvegetated area. No other cultural material was noted and no subsurface testing was undertaken.

Cultural material and this site's location suggest it served as a seldom used lookout. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any temporal or cultural assessment of the site.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

		
Site Elevation: 1050 ft.	WIS-206 NE1/4, SW1/4 Section 28 ~~T32N, R21W~~	Probable Site Type: Lookout
Site Age: Unknown	Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on a terrace edge on the north side of Tangleblue Creek. WIS-205 lies 500 meters to the northwest and the confluence of the creek and the John River is 750 meters to the west-southwest. The terrace stands about 10 meters above the creek and 12 meters north of the mean high water level. The vegetation restricts the view to the immediate area.

Vegetation at the site consists of birch and spruce with an understory of moss, lichen, grass, and some low woody and herbaceous plants. The site proper is almost 100% exposed mineral soil. Evidence of past wildfire activity is apparent.

The site was discovered as the result of surface reconnaissance. Two black chert flakes were observed just below the break-in-slope on the terrace edge. A single 20 cm² test pit was excavated to a depth of 8 cm. on the terrace top several meters up-slope of the flakes, and proved to be culturally sterile.

The site's location suggests it may have served as a lookout for hunting activities along the creek. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any temporal or cultural assessment of the site.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

WIS-207

Site Elevation:	NE1/4, NE1/4	Probable Site Type:
1115 ft.	Section 19	Lookout
	T30N, R20W	
Site Age:	Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Cultural
Unknown		Affiliation: Unknown

The site lies on the promontory of a bedrock hill on the north side of McKinley Creek approximately 500 meters southeast of the confluence of the creek's first tributary stream. The confluence of the John River and McKinley Creek lies slightly more than 2 kilometers to the south-southeast of the site. The homestead of Bill Fickus lies 8 kilometers to the south-southeast.

While the hill is a bedrock outcrop it is well mantled with soil and supports a relatively robust vegetative cover. The hill thrusts eastward into the John River/McKinley Creek flood plain, its elevation slightly less than 100 meters above river level. The hill is distinctive and isolated from the valley wall mountains which lie within 2 kilometers of the site to the northwest and north. The hill is the most elevated isolated landform in the outwash portion of the creek valley.

The view from the site is truly panoramic. To the north the view encompasses the John River and its valley for a distance of 5 kilometers while to the south hills 40 kilometers distant can be seen. The western view covers the narrow McKinley Creek drainage and the mountains beyond for perhaps 2 kilometers. To the east the view includes the valley wall, 4 kilometers distant, as well as the confluences of the Allan River and Crevice Creek to the south-southeast.

About 85% of the surface of the site is vegetated by a robust mat of lichen, moss, grasses, and low woody and herbaceous plants. Trees, including shrubs, include numerous small to medium sized spruce, a few scattered birch and alder and some dwarf birch and willow. The aspect of the site is, however, relatively open and park-like.

There is only slight evidence of past wildfire activity. The fire that burned this area appears to be older than the fire(s) further up river. Wind and frost action have caused a few scattered areas of the site to be unvegetated and the mineral soil exposed.

It was in an area of exposed mineral soil that cultural material was observed. Two pieces of chert were observed on surface as well as a microblade fragment of pinkish/orange chert which appears to have been stuck from a rotated core. This artifact lay 15 meters from datum on a bearing of 275° mag. The other example of cultural material was a gray chert flake which lay 12 meters from datum on a bearing of 20° mag. Two of three 20 cm² test pits were excavated to a depth of 12 cm while the third test pit was excavated to a depth of 30 cm. None of the test pits yielded any cultural material.

The variety of lithic material at the site may indicate that more than a single occupational event occurred there. The paucity of cultural material, however, suggests that the site was not often or intensively used and probably served as a hunting lookout.

The significance of the site is only of local interest mainly because archeological sites appear to be infrequent in the area. The site does not appear to be in danger from either natural or human impact.

WIS-209

Site Elevation:
900 ft.

NW1/4, SW1/4
Section 34
T32N, R21W
Fairbanks Meridian

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located 1.6 kilometers north-northwest of the John River/Eagle Creek confluence. The John River passes the site 100 meters to the east while the park boundary lies approximately 0.8 kilometers south. The site is approximately 50 meters above river level and occupies the south facing slope of a prominent peninsular limestone ridge. The ridge is the northernmost in a series of five east-west trending ridges to the north of Eagle Creek.

The view from the site is good both up and down valley as well across the valley to the east, where a rather easy river crossing is located. There is abundant evidence of a wildfire which appears to have occurred between 50 and 100 years ago.

The vegetation on the site consists of various willow shrubs, low woody and herbaceous plants, moss, lichen, birch and spruce. The south facing slope is undergoing slight to substantial erosion.

The site was located as the result of surface reconnaissance. Two flakes of black chert were observed on the upper part of the exposed south facing slope. Modern use of the site is evidenced by the presence of a tin can lid.

The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any cultural or temporal assessment of the site. The site's location suggests it may have served as a lookout.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site is being adversely impacted by erosion. However, the paucity of cultural material argues against any management concern or mitigation.

WIS-210

Site Elevation:
1025 ft.

NE1/4, NW1/4
Section 3
T31N, R21W

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Fairbanks Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

The site is located about one kilometer north-northwest of the confluence of Eagle Creek and the John River. WIS-209 is located approximately one kilometer to the north. The site lies atop a vegetated bedrock hill. While not located on the promontory of the hill the site offers an excellent view as it is situated on a shear sided spur which projects to the southeast away from the bulk of the hill. The view down valley, to the south, is as good as is available, the valley being visible until it turns east. To the north the view is obstructed by trees, although the potential for a view in excess of 6 kilometers may have existed prior to the establishment of the modern forest. To the east the view is blocked by the valley wall while to the west a several kilometer view up Eagle Creek is available.

A wildfire has passed through the area as evidenced by the well weathered, standing, burned snags, burned stumps and fallen burned trees. The soil is reddish as the result of oxidation and is hard packed and crusty, which is typical of burned areas. The soil contains abundant chunks of charcoal. Several of the larger hilltop spruce were cored and their age found to range between 52 and 60 years which suggests the most recent wildfire occurred 60-80 years ago. Vegetation in the site area consists of spruce, aspen, and birch of small to slightly less than moderate size. The understory consists of moss, lichen, grass and low woody and herbaceous plants such as Tanana Rose, Sage and Eskimo Potato. Active erosion of the face of the shale/schist bedrock hill is occurring.

It was as a result of the erosion that the site was located. Four flakes of the local black chert were observed eroding out of the soil along a 3 meter section of the site. A 20 cm² test pit was excavated near the location of the surface flakes and yielded a single flake of black chert which displayed some cortex. The evidence suggests that the site is quite small or that the majority of it has already eroded away.

Little else can be said about this site. The location probably served as a lookout, perched as it is 100 meters above the valley floor. Due to a lack of diagnostic artifacts no cultural or temporal assessment can be made. Site significance is local in nature. The site is actively eroding, however, it appears there is little left and is not worth mitigation efforts.

WIS-211

Site Elevation:
1150 ft.

SE1/4, SW1/4
Section 3
~~T21N~~, R21W
Fairbanks Meridian

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

The site lies atop the easternmost promontory of the southernmost of two linear, east-west trending, bedrock ridges which project eastward into the John River Valley on south side of Eagle Creek. The confluence of Eagle Creek and the John River lies 1 kilometer to the east-northeast and WIS-210 is located slightly more than a kilometer to the north on the north side of Eagle Creek. The site is elevated roughly 100 meters above the valley floor and offers an excellent view in all directions except to the west where nearby trees and higher terrain block the view. The north, south, and east sides of the site proper are sheer or almost sheer drops of about 25 meters before the talus slope begins. To the west a rising hogback ridge connects the site area to the main body of the ridge.

Vegetation at the site proper is sparse consisting of moss, lichen, scattered grass clumps, and scattered patches of low herbaceous plants. Most of the surface is exposed mineral soil and bedrock spalls. Nearby diminutive spruce and dwarf birch and willow are abundant. There is visible evidence of past wild fire activity in the site area as there is throughout the region.

The site was located through visual reconnaissance. On a surface exposure, separated by one meter, two very small black chert flakes were observed. No additional cultural material was noted and no subsurface testing was carried out.

Due to the lack of diagnostic artifacts no cultural or temporal assessment of the site can be made. The site's location suggests it was utilized as a lookout. Significance is of a local nature only. Some active erosion is taking place at the site but mitigation need not be considered.

WIS-223

Site Elevation:
975 ft.

N/E/4, SE1/4
Section 14
T31N, R21W
Fairbanks Meridian

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on the west side of the John River 3.8 kilometers below the mouth of Eagle Creek. The site lies on a 50 x 6 meter bedrock outcrop 50 meters west of the mean higher water line of the river. At

its promontory, the western end, the outcrop stands 10 meters above the river. The view from the site is excellent to the north, up river, encompassing 10 kilometers of the valley. To the south about 5 kilometers of the valley are visible while to the east and west the view is restricted to the local area by rising terrain.

Vegetation at the site consists of lichen, moss, grass, and low woody and herbaceous plants. Scattered dwarf willow, willow, birch and spruce are also present. Some unvegetated areas are present along the river-side edge of the outcrop.

The site was located as the result of surface reconnaissance of the area. More than a dozen black chert waste flakes were noted in a small mineral soil exposure near the edge of the outcrop. Some of the flakes were on surface, some protruding from the surface, and others on as deep as 8-10 cm. below surface. A 20 cm² test pit was excavated to a depth of 20 cm. adjacent to the flake location and proved to be culturally sterile. A second similar sized test pit was excavated about 5 meters to the east and also proved to be culturally sterile.

The site's location suggests that it served as a lookout. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any temporal or cultural assessment of the site.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

WIS-224

Site Elevation: 980 ft.	SE1/4, NE1/4 Section 14 T32N, R21W	Probable Site Type: Lookout
Site Age: Unknown	Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

The site lies on a rounded bedrock outcrop on the west side of the John River approximately 400 meters upstream from WIS-223. Located twenty meters to the west and 15 meters above the river the site offers an excellent view up and down the valley. The view to the east and west is local due to rising terrain.

Vegetation at the site is scant, covering only 5% of the surface of the outcrop. Low vegetation consists of moss, grass, lichen, a few scattered spruce, birch, and willow are also present.

The site was located through visual inspection of the surface. Near the high point of the outcrop six black chert waste flakes were noted in a large unvegetated area. A near by 20 cm² test pit, excavated to a depth of 8 cm. proved to be culturally sterile.

The site's location suggests it served as a lookout. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any temporal or cultural assessment of the site.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

DRAFT

MAP AREA #4

HELPMEJACK HILLS/LAKES

Camp #9 and #10 July 22-29

We arrived at Camp #9, 50 miles southwest of Camp #8 via helicopter. The move required three round trips. Camp #9 was located on the edge of a morainal complex on the northwestern margin of an unnamed lake on the northeastern edge of the Helpmejack Hills. The lake, Lake Creek Lake (our name), lies at the eastern end of the "Alatna Portage" slightly less than 5 miles southwest of the Alatna River. The camp was located on the site of a recent hunting camp and lies about 12 miles south of the park's south-central boundary.

Archeological survey was conducted out of Camp #9 for a period of three days during which time an area of roughly three square miles was investigated. A total of seven archeological sites were located in this area. The area was, for the most part, easily surveyed because most of the country is made up of well drained morainal topography. In addition, the area had, within the last several decades, been ravaged by wildfire, creating excellent walking and observational conditions.

As is typical, in our experience, following a wildfire burn, the area abounds in wildlife. More bears and moose, to say nothing of lesser creatures, were observed in the first day at this camp than the entire period spent on the John River. This tends to add weight to our theory that on the forested southern slopes of the Brooks Range, past human use of an area may be closely linked to wildfire activity.

The archeological sites in this area all appear to be associated with hunting activities and include both lookouts and short term camps.

On July 25 we moved eight miles south, via helicopter, and established Camp #10 on the northern shore of the largest of the Helpmejack Lakes. This area, like the Camp #9 locale, is comprised of morainal topography dating from the Walker Lake Glaciation.

Archeological survey was conducted out of this camp for a period of four days during which time an area of roughly 2.5 square miles was investigated. A total of eight archeological sites were located in the area surrounding the lake. An inflatable raft and outboard motor provided logistic support for surveying much of the area surrounding the lake.

Two of the sites on the margins of the lake appear to be long term habitation sites one of which may contain semi-subterranean house features. The remainder of the sites appear to be of the hunting/lookout variety.

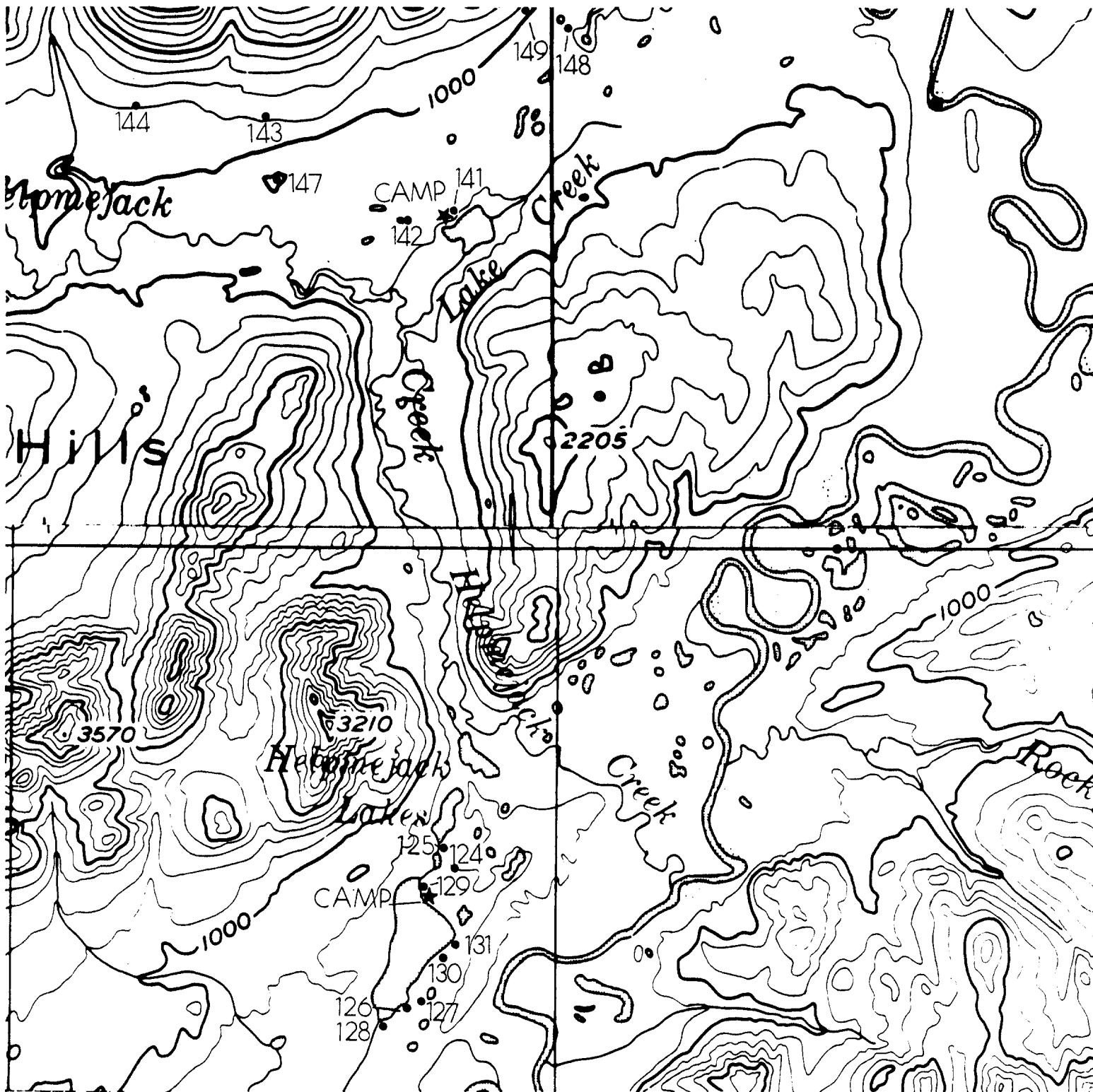
Of additional interest is the fact that the sites in the Camp #9 and #10 region display a much higher incidence of obsidian than those to the northeast along the John River. This is, no doubt, because the only known source of obsidian in central and northern Alaska is located less than 90 miles to the south at Batza Tena, near Hughes on the Koyukuk River.

The lake provides an excellent fish resource, which includes lake trout, pike, burbot, and whitefish. At present moose appear relatively abundant in the area. The availability of these types of resources may be the reason for the location of two long term habitation sites on the shores of the lake.

Weather Data During the Survey of Map area #4

DATE	CAMP #	TEMPERATURE °F		SKY	WIND
		LOW	HIGH		
7-21-85	9	40's	70's	sunny	light
7-22-85	9		70's	sunny	light
7-23-85	9	40°		high overcast	
7-24-85	9	48°		high thin clouds	
7-25-85	10	46°		clear	NE light
7-26-85	10	58°		clear	S 8 k.
7-27-85	10	38°		clear (first frost)	calm
7-28-85	10	42°		clear	calm
7-29-85	10	38°		clear	calm
7-30-85	10			clear	calm

6 miles



XSP-141

Site Elevation: 810 ft.	SW1/4, NE1/4 Section 14 T19N, R24E	Probable Site Type: Lookout
Site Age: Unknown	Kateel River Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located at the eastern extreme of a large east-west transection valley known as the Alatna Portage. This glacially sculpted terrain consists of broad undulating morainal topography. The site lies above Lake Creek Lake which is approximately 1.3 kilometers in length. The low area to the south of the site, surrounding the lake, is mostly marshy with a few low, well-drained glacial knolls scattered across the flats. The Helpmejack Hills lie several kilometers to the southwest. Helpmejack Creek, located 1.6 kilometers to the southwest, bends southward toward Helpmejack Lake after flowing eastward across the Alatna Portage from its headwaters just east of Kichiakaka Creek.

The site sits upon the southern edge of a broad, relatively flat moraine. The south face of the moraine slopes steeply to the north shore of the lake 100 meters distant. The view from the site is best to the south across the lake and to the south-southwest down the Helpmejack Creek Valley.

The vegetation on the site consists of a fire revegetation assemblage of seedling and sapling sized poplar, spruce, willow and dwarf birch. The moss ground cover remains mostly desiccated, but is developing new growth. The wildfire responsible for the present vegetation conditions is probably between 25 and 50 years old.

The site was discovered during surface inspection of the area. The moss mat, although burned and desiccated, is intact over 99% of the surface of the site and therefore precludes ideal surface inspection conditions. Two dark gray chert flakes were found imbedded in the moss.

A 20 cm² test pit was excavated to a depth of 8 cm. between the two flakes, which lay roughly one meter apart. No additional flakes or artifacts of any kind were observed. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes cultural or temporal assessment. The location of the site suggests it served as a hunting lookout.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts other than the excavation of ground squirrels by bears and the use of the locale as a modern hunting camp. This site lies outside the boundaries of the park and preserve.

XSP-142

Site Elevation: 825 ft.	SE1/4, NW1/4 Section 14 T19 , R24E	Probable Site Type: Lookout
Site Age: Unknown	Kateel River Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located near the eastern edge of a large morainal complex 1 kilometer west-northwest of Lake Creek Lake. The site occupies the elevated terrain on the eastern and southeastern margins of a kettle lake and its outlet stream.

This two locality site is covered with typical "after burn" vegetation consisting of young poplar, willow, spruce and dwarf birch. Fireweed, rose, blueberry and cranberry are also present. The moss mat remains burned, crusty and desiccated but is slowly re-establishing itself. The site's northern locality looks onto the kettle lake 50 meters to the west. The southern locality offers a view of the lowlands to the southeast and east of the moraine as well as a view to the south along the eastern side of the Helmejack Creek Valley.

The northern locality, located on the eastern edge of the circular depression which holds the kettle lake, was found during surface inspection. Eight obsidian flakes were observed scattered over 1 meter area. Cortex is present on one of the flakes. A 10 cm² test pit was excavated to a depth of 12 cm. through slightly oxidized loess and proved to be culturally sterile.

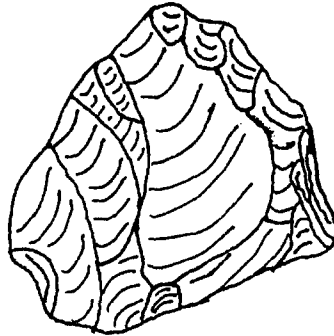
The southern locality, 85 meters south of the northern locality lies on the northern side of the kettle lake outlet. Scattered over an area of 35 meters, an obsidian biface fragment, four obsidian waste flakes, and six black chert flakes were noted. A 20 cm² test pit was excavated to a depth of 10 cm. adjacent to the location of the obsidian biface fragment and proved to be culturally sterile.

The occurrence of both obsidian and chert at the southern locality may indicate more than a single occupational event has taken place at the site. The lack of any diagnostic artifacts precludes any cultural or temporal assessment. However, the presence of obsidian provides the possibility of obtaining a hydration date. The site's location suggests it probably served as a lookout.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts. This site lies outside the boundaries of the park and preserve.

XSP-142 (continued)

XSP-142



Obsidian Biface Fragment
ACTUAL SIZE

XSP-143

Site Elevation:
1225 ft.

NE1/4, NE1/4
Section 9
T19N, R24E

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Kateel River Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

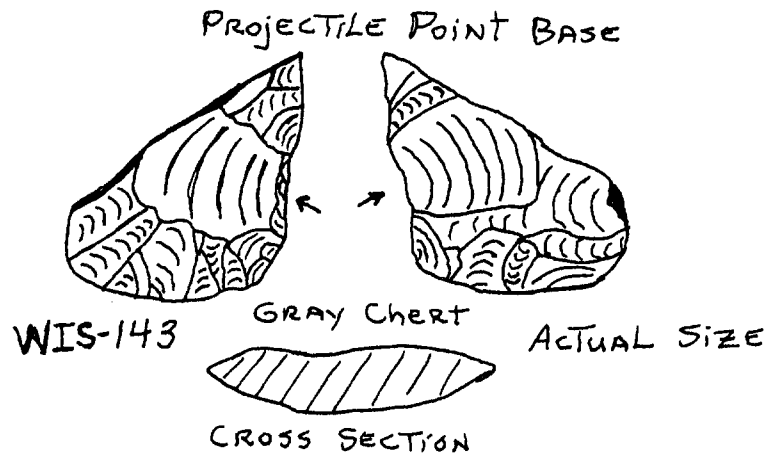
This site is located on a prominent morainal feature perched on the northside of the east end of the Alatna Portage. The site is elevated 50-75 meters above the valley floor. XSP-147 is located 1 kilometer to the south. The view of the valleys to the east, south and west is virtually unlimited while to the north the view is obstructed by rising terrain.

Vegetation on the site consists of the young poplar, birch, spruce, willow and dwarf birch typical following a wildfire. The burned, crusty lichen/moss mat, although hard and brittle, remains intact over most of the site. The top of the knoll measures 50 x 50 meters with abrupt slopes on all but the north side where a saddle between the knoll and the rising valley wall is present. Ground cover on the western end of knoll consists of low woody and herbaceous plants while the eastern end is exposed gravel and mineral soil and sparsely vegetated. A well used game trail runs along the base of the knoll in an east-west direction.

The site was discovered as the result of surface inspection of the area. A basal fragment of a black chert projectile point was observed protruding from the lichen mat on the central portion of the western edge of the site. Further surface inspection failed to reveal additional cultural materials and no subsurface testing was conducted.

The projectile point base appears to be of the constricting stem variety and is well made. The lateral margins of the artifact are lightly ground which the base exhibits heavy grinding. The style of this projectile point is similar to varieties included in the Northern Archaic Tradition described at the Onion Portage site (Anderson, 1968, 1970). This isolated artifact may represent occupation of the site between 4000-6000 years ago. The site's location suggests it served as a lookout.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts. This site lies outside the boundaries of the park and preserve.



XSP-144

Site Elevation:
1220 ft.

NE1/4, NW1/4
Section 8
T19N, R24E

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Kateel River Meridian

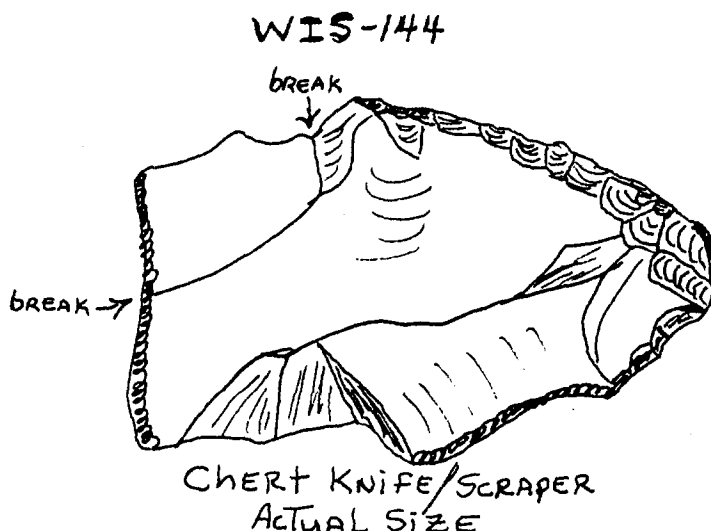
Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on a glacially formed knoll 1.6 kilometer east of the northern tributary of Helpmejack Creek. The site lies on the north side of the Helpmejack Creek Valley 400 meters south of the foot of the mountain front which runs from the Alatna Valley on the east to the headwaters of Helpmejack Creek on the west. This 3 kilometer linear area bordering the mountain foot is characterized by glacial topography offset by drains flowing south into the Helpmejack Valley. Lowlands of willow, alder, and black spruce border the eastern end of the site while dense stands of willows may be found at the southern and western ends. On the north the site is bordered by black spruce. The vegetation on the top of this well-drained knoll consists of spruce, young poplar, occasional willow, and dwarf birch. Labrador tea, blueberry and a few other ericaceous plants are scattered over the lichen/moss covered ground.

A game trail runs the length of this 250 meter long knoll. The eastern end of the knoll is most prominent and is the location of the cultural material. During surface inspection of the area a large gray/green, marbled chert flake tool was observed protruding from the game trail near its eastern end. Two additional fragments of the tool lay nearby, suggesting the breakage may be the result of animal traffic over the trail. The tool is unifacially worked and exhibits extensive edge retouch and appears to have been used as a knife/scrapper.

The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes temporal or cultural assessment of the site. The site's location suggests it served as a lookout.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts. This site is located outside of the boundaries of the park and preserve.



XSP-147

Site Elevation:
1035 ft.

SE1/4, SE1/4
Section 9
T19N, R24E

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Elevation:
Unknown

Fairbanks Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on the western end of an east-west trending low relief ridge which rises slowly toward its western promontory. Two kilometers to the south, Helpmejack Creek makes a pronounced jog to the south before resuming its eastward direction. The site occupies the highest ground in this portion of the Helpmejack Creek Valley and provides

an excellent 360° view. To the west, the direction which constitutes the most extensive and encompassing view, lies what may be termed the western extent of the Alatna Portage. This area is characterized by low rolling topography set off by a few isolated ridges and knolls which constitute the high ground in otherwise low terrain.

Vegetation at and around the site is typical of burn recovery areas. The understory is composed of crusty, desiccated, moss mat upon which low woody and herbaceous plants grown in moderate density. Burned spruce snags, standing and fallen, are common and sapling size spruce, poplar, birch and willow are scattered about.

The site was discovered as a result of surface inspection. Two flakes of black translucent obsidian were observed 10 meters east of the ridge top. Cortex is present on the striking platforms of both flakes. A third larger fragment of cortex bearing obsidian, exhibited retouch on the ventral surface and may have been an aborted attempt at biface reduction.

Two 20 cm² test pits were excavated to a depth of 5 cm. at the site. Test pit #1 was placed adjacent to the surface obsidian and yielded two crude biface fragments and nine flakes of obsidian as well as three flakes of gray chert. Test pit #2 was excavated on the promontory of the ridge and proved to be culturally sterile.

The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any temporal or cultural assessment of the site. However, the variety of lithic material suggests that more than a single occupational event occurred at the site. The obsidian may provide a hydration date. The site's location suggests it served as a lookout.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts. This site lies outside the boundaries of the park and preserve.

XSP-148

Site Elevation: 850 ft.	NW1/4, NW1/4 Section 6 T19N, R25E	Probable Site Type: Lookout
Site Age: Unknown	Kateel River Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

This site is not in the park. The site is located in a morainal complex in the northeast end of the Helpmejack Hills about 4.5 kilometers southwest of the Alatna River. Lake Creek Lake is 4 kilometers south-southwest of the site and XSP-149 lies about 1 kilometer to the west-northwest. The site lies on a linear morainal ridge which lies between two ponds; one 250 meters to the north and the other 500 meters to the east-southeast. The site offers a good view of the area for a distance of 8-10 kilometers in

all directions except to the north. Due to a recent wildfire there is little living vegetation although the majority of the surface is covered by a hard, dry, crusty mat of burned lichen and moss. The thinly scattered living vegetation consists of low woody and herbaceous plants, small birch, dwarf birch and willow. Standing and fallen burned spruce snags are common.

The cultural material consisted of obsidian flakes, some with cortex, thinly scattered on surface over an area 10 meters². One 20 cm² test pit was excavated to a depth of 10 cm. and no cultural material was encountered.

Cultural material suggests the site was used only once as a hunting lookout. Cortex on some of the flakes suggest the reduction of an obsidian cobble occurred on site.

The significance of the site is of a local nature and the site is in no danger of adverse impact. The lack of diagnostic artifacts makes a temporal or cultural assessment impossible, although, the obsidian might provide a hydration date.

DRAFT

XSP-149

Site Elevation:
1100 ft.

NW1/4, NE1/4
Section 1
T19N, R24E

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
4600 years B.P.

Kateel River Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on a valley edge lineal rock outcrop which appears to have been incorporated into a lateral moraine. XSP-148 lies one kilometer to the east-southeast, while Lake Creek Lake lies 3.5 kilometers to the south-southwest. This site is outside the boundary of the park.

The site provides an excellent view south across the valley, west to the Helpmejack Creek drainage and east to the Alatna River drainage. To the north, the valley wall is 250 meters distant.

The area is one of recent wildfire activity. As a result, that portion of the surface which is not exposed bedrock or till, is covered by the hard, dry, crusty mat of lichen and moss common to well drained recently burned areas. A few small birch and aspen are growing on the site. Standing and fallen burned spruce snags are present.

Cultural material consists of very large cortex bearing obsidian flakes and chunks which were observed lying on and in the surface. The site area is 1 x 15 meters. One test pit was excavated to bedrock, 5 cm. below surface, and no cultural material was recovered. A single amorphous tool fragment was the only artifact noted. This artifact was not diagnostic and no cultural assessment can be made. A sample of obsidian was submitted

for hydration analysis at two laboratories which returned measurements of $2.59u + 0.24u$ and $2.64u + 0.32u$. Using the hydration rate derived at Lake Selby of $1.44u^2/1000$ years the hydration rind thickness indicates a site age of roughly 4600 years B.P.

Evidence suggests that the site was a once used hunting lookout. Cortex on the flakes suggests cobble reduction was taking place.

Significance of the site is on a local level only and at present no adverse impacts appear to be threatening the site.

HUG-124

Site Elevation:
800 ft.

NW1/4, SE1/4
Section 23

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

T18N, R24E
Fairbanks Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located in the chaotic glacial topography which surrounds the Helpmejack Lakes. Located on a morainal ridge, 400 meters northwest of the mouth of the largest of the lakes inlet stream, the site offers a good view of the local area. This is especially true to the north where the view encompasses numerous small lakes and ponds scattered throughout the undulating glacial topography.

Vegetation in the site area consists of scattered birch, spruce, shrub birch, and willow. The great majority of the surface cover is composed of lichen, moss, and scattered low woody and herbaceous plants. There are a few small, scattered mineral soil exposures in the site area. There is some evidence of past wildfire activity.

The site was located as the result of visual inspection of the surface. A single large flake of smokey obsidian was observed in a mineral soil exposure on the northern margin of the ridge. A 20 cm^2 test pit was excavated to a depth of 10 cm. near the flake location and proved to be culturally sterile.

The site's location suggests it served as a lookout. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes temporal or cultural assessment of the site. However, the obsidian may provide a hydration date.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts. This site lies outside the boundaries of the park and preserve.

HUG-125

Site Elevation: 760 ft.	NW1/4, SE1/4 Section 23 T18N, R24W	Probable Site Type: Unknown
Site Age: Unknown	Fairbanks Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on a lake-edge kame in the chaotic glacial topography that surrounds the Helpmejack Lakes. This site lies approximately 200 meters northwest of WIS-124 at the southern end of the largest lake north of "Big" Helpmejack Lake. The site is situated 4 meters above lake level and 6 meters east of the lake shore and provides only a local view.

Vegetation at the site consists of scattered birch, spruce, willow, and shrub birch. Low vegetation includes lichen, moss, grass, and some low woody and herbaceous plants. A game trail runs along the crest of the kame exposing the mineral soil. Other mineral soil and gravel exposures are also present.

The site was located as the result of surface reconnaissance of the area. A flake core of black chert was noted just off the crest of the kame in a mineral soil exposure. No subsurface testing was undertaken and no additional cultural material was observed.

Neither site location or cultural material suggest what the purpose of this site may have been. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any temporal or cultural assessment of the site.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts. This site lies outside the boundaries of the park and preserve.

HUG-126

Site Elevation: 700 ft.	NE1/4, NW1/4 Section 35 T18N, R24E	Probable Site Type: Camp
Site Age: Ca. 4000 years B.P.	Kateel River Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

This site lies on a flat topped, dead-ice, glacial feature on the southeast corner of Helpmejack Lake about 1/2 kilometer north of the southern end of the lake. This site lies outside the park boundaries.

The bench or terrace that the site lies on is associated with the morainal ridge which parallels the eastern shore of the lake roughly 400 meters from the waters edge. The morainal ridge is in turn, part of the general, chaotic, glacial topography which surrounds the lake. The formation of

the lake is obviously glacial in origin. The bench is composed of gravel, sand and cobbles and is extremely level. The bench parallels lake shore for a distance of at least 50 meters and rises abruptly from the gravel beach at the annual high water or ice thrust line to an elevation of 3-4 meters above the lake level. At present the flow line of the lake edge lies no more than 5 meters from the benches's break-in-slope. The hard, well-drained, level, portion of the bench is roughly triangular in shape the narrow end, approximately 3 meters across, to the south, and the wide end, roughly 15 meters across, on the north.

At present the view from the site encompasses the entire lake. However, due to the trees, a person must move from place to place on the site to obtain the complete view. The view also includes most of the morain complex and more distant hills that surround the lake. Prior to the arrival of trees in the area, 5000-6000 years ago, the view from the site would have been excellent. The lake is at least 5 meters deep off the site.

Vegetation at the site consists of a thin, yet healthy, mat of lichen and moss with scattered low woody and herbaceous plants. On the drier, firmer portions of the bench small to medium sized spruce trees are present, none of which exceed 12 meters in height nor 15 cm. in diameter. On the less well-drained portions of the site, dwarf birch and willow are present accompanied by an increase in density of low woody and herbaceous plants, and a much more robust mat of lichen and moss. There is some limited surficial evidence of past wildfire activity; charcoal is present throughout the thin soil profile, the majority of the larger chunks lying in and incorporated at the bottom of the root mat. Coring of the largest trees on the site indicate an average age of about 70 years. This suggests that the most recent wildfire to burn the area occurred between 70 and 100 years ago.

There are no unvegetated areas on the site with the exception of scattered, small areas along the break-in-slope on the bench's western edge. No erosion is presently occurring. Two active game trails run the length of the bench. In these trails the surface vegetation has been obliterated exposing the organic soil.

The site was located through a visual survey of the surface of the bench. At some time in the past 10-15 years, the bench was used as a short term camp locality. A small excavation, now well revegetated, was dug for a hearth. It was in the scattered back dirt of the excavation that four obsidian flakes were observed. A careful visual survey of the northernmost 25 meters (the most attractive portion of the bench) of the site yielded no additional cultural material. During this visual reconnaissance of the site, no depressions which could be construed as possible cultural features were observed.

A 30 cm² test pit was excavated just south of the modern hearth. This test pit, test pit #1, will be referenced as site datum as no site tag was placed in the site as it is located outside the park boundry. The test pit was excavated to a depth of approximately 15 cm. Test pit #1 yielded numerous obsidian flakes, several black chert flakes and a small

obsidian end scraper one surface of which was covered with a sugary cortex. Test pit #2 (all test pits are 30 cm² x 15 cm. deep) lies 5 meters from test pit #1 on a bearing of 26° mag. Test pit #2 produced a single brown chert flake from a depth of 4 cm. below surface. Test pit #3 yielded three obsidian flakes from 2-6 cm. below surface and lies 9 meters from test pit #1 on a bearing of 02° mag. Test pit #4, 5 meters from test pit #1 on a bearing of 105° mag. produced numerous black chert flakes and a few obsidian flakes, as well as a black chert tool fragment all between 2-10 cm. below surface. The tool fragment appears to have been detached from the tool by potlid fracturing which suggests association with extreme heat. This heat source could have been generated either by an aboriginal camp fire or by past wildfires. Test pit #5 produced one obsidian flake and one black chert flake between 2 and 6 cm. below surface. Test pit #5 lies 14 meters from test pit #1 on a bearing of 204° mag. Test pit #6, 15 meters from test pit #1 on a bearing of 74° mag., proved to be culturally sterile.

The following is the generalized soil stratigraphy for the site: lichen/moss mat and roots 0-3 cm. thick. Very dark brown organic soil with some pebbles and a occasional cobble 2-5 cm. thick. An apparent A2 horizon which is an almost white, very sandy, pebble and cobble rich soil 5-10 cm. thick. A reddish, B horizon which is a very sandy soil, pebble and cobble rich, thickness and depth unknown.

The majority of the site is well drained and soil development appears good. Charcoal is present to some degree throughout the soil profile but is most common in the root mat and organic soil. Due to wildfire activity and lacking a formal hearth or fire pit it is impossible to determine culturally produced charcoal from naturally produced charcoal. Some fish scales were noted in the test pits but their rather dry nature suggest they fell in from the surface when the vegetation was removed from of the test pits. No bone of any type was found in the test excavations.

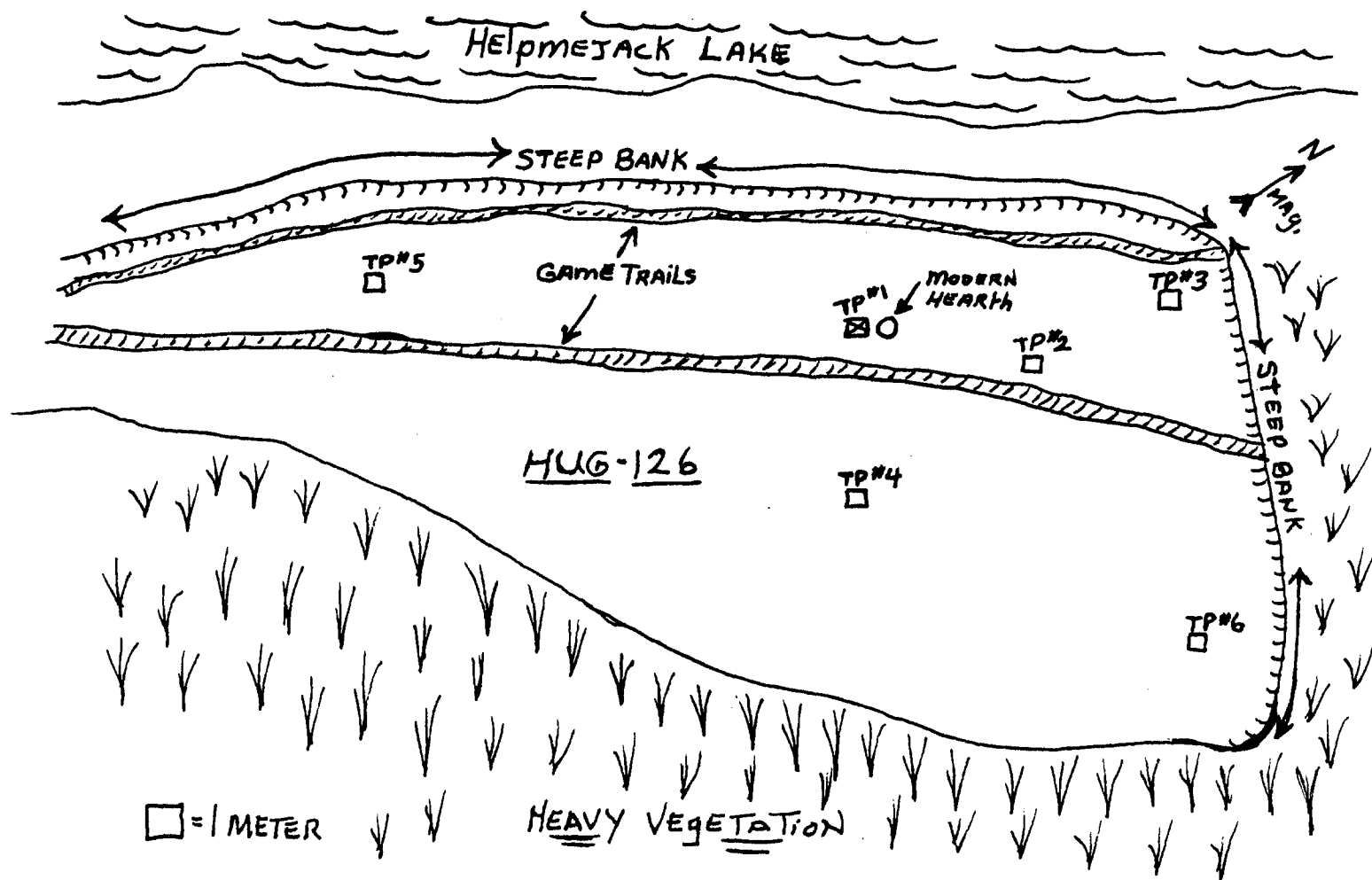
The site can be considered fairly large. Evidence suggests the site was a camp site probably used many times. It is probably not an over-wintering habitation site as features such as house pits or cache pits generally associated with that type of site appear to be absent. The site could have been a spring, summer, fall fishing and/or hunting camp and may be associated with the hunting lookout sites located on the morainal ridge to the east, south and north.

The physical integrity of the site is excellent. There is no active erosion taking place and there appears to be little chance that any will occur. The entirety of the site's surface is protected by vegetation.

The site is of a type expected to be found around a large deep water lake with good fish and game resources. Large pike are easily caught in quantity on hook and line and lake trout are also present. It is assumed that whitefish and burbot also reside in the lake.

The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes cultural assessment of the site. A sample of obsidian was submitted for hydration analysis to three different laboratories. The ring measurements varied to the extent that they may be unreliable. However, a midrange measurement of $2.41u \pm 0.20u$ suggests that the site age is roughly 4000 years B.P. This age assessment is based on a locally (Lake Selby) developed hydration rate of $1.44u^2/1000$ years.

The significance of the site could be high but only further investigation can determine if such is the case. Research potential is good.



HUG-127

Site Elevation: 780 ft.	NW1/4, NE1/4 Section 35 T18N, R24E	Probable Site Type: Lookout
Site Age Unknown	Kateel River Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

The site lies on a prominence on the morainal ridge on the east side of Helpmejack Lake. HUG-126 lies about 300 meters to the west. The view from the site is excellent as it lies approximately 30 meters above the lake. The entirety of the lake and the local area around the lake can be easily viewed.

The surface of the site is covered by a robust mat of lichen, moss and low woody and herbaceous plants. Several game trails cross the site area and they, as well as some limited frost action, have exposed scattered small patches of mineral soil. Trees and shrubs at the site are represented by scattered small spruce, birch, willow and dwarf birch. Charcoal, resulting from wildfire activity, is visible in the soil profile.

A single green chert flake was observed on the surface of the lichen mat. Two 20 cm² test pits were excavated to a depth of 18 cm. and both proved to be culturally sterile. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes temporal or cultural assessment of the site.

The site is most likely a hunting lookout and as such may be associated with the nearby HUG-126. Site significance is of a local nature only. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts. The site lies outside the park boudary.

HUG-128

Site Elevation: 770 ft.	NW1/4, NW1/4 Section 35 T18N, R24E	Probable Site Type: Lookout
Site Age Unknown	Kateel River Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

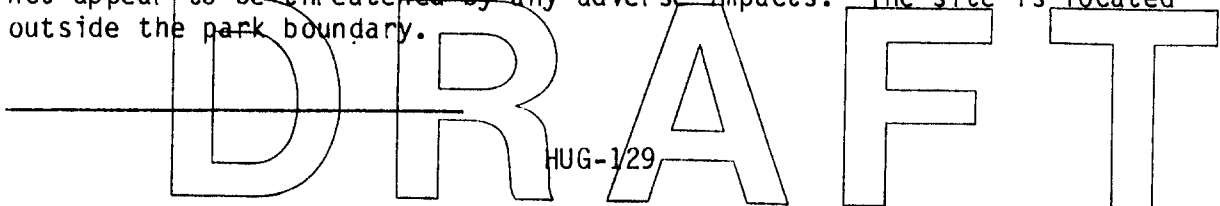
This site lies on the southern prominence of the morainal ridge which parallels the eastern shore of Helpmejack Lake. HUG-126 lies approximately 350 meters to the north-northeast. The site is located at the extreme southeast corner of the lake and overlooks the lake's outlet stream from an elevation of 30 meters above the lake. Due to its position the site offers a good view of the lake to the north and west and also provides a good view of the first few kilometers of the outlet stream valley.

Vegetation at the site consists of a robust mat of lichen, moss, and low woody and herbaceous plants as well as small spruce, scattered poplar, and a few dwarf birch and willow. Evidence of past wildfire activity

can be seen in the soil profile at the base of the root mat. The southern face of the ridge has a large mineral soil exposure due to frost and wind action.

On this exposure about one dozen black chert flakes were observed on and in the surface. A 20 cm² test pit, test pit #1, was excavated to a depth of 15 cm., 4 meters north of the surface flake location. Test pit #1 yielded ten very small black and gray chert flakes between 2-5 cm. below surface. Test pit #2 was excavated three meters west of test pit #1 and proved to be culturally sterile. The site produced no diagnostic artifacts, therefore no temporal or cultural assessment can be made. The variety of lithic material may indicate that several occupational events occurred at the site. The site probably served as a hunting lookout and may be associated with the large site, HUG-126.

Site significance is of a local nature only. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts. The site is located outside the park boundary.


HUG-129

Site Elevation: 710 ft.	SW1/4, SE1/4 Section 23 T18N, R24E	Probable Site type: Camp
Site Age: Unknown	Kateel River Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on the northern shore of Helpmejack Lake on the site of what appears to have been guiding camp or a BLM fire camp 10-20 years old. The shore along this portion of the lake is relatively low rising only a meter above the water's edge. Thirty to seventy meters north of the water's edge the land begins to rise, 40-70 meters, forming the ridges and knolls of morainal topography. Ancient strand lines marking former lake shore levels, probably during post-glacial lowering of this lake, give the rising terrain at the rear of the site a terraced or stepped appearance. There are between 4 and 5 levels or sublevels represented.

The vegetation on and around the site is made up of black spruce, dwarf birch, some paper birch, and poplar while the understory is comprised of moss, lichen, grass, and low woody and herbaceous plants.

The site was initially discovered by noting the anomalous grassy vegetation occurring in a sub-rectangular pattern which covered an area of 5 x 4 meters. A very distinct elevated area in the apparent center of the feature measured 1 meter² at the base and projected 15-20 cm. above the surrounding, flat surface of the feature. This knob, when cross-sectioned, revealed a 30 cm. thick mat of sphagnum moss possibly representing multiple artificially placed layers which conformably overlay a 5 cm, thick dark brown organic zone. A pronounced band of reddish-brown organic matter

is present in the middle of the thickest portion of this unit and may represent a floor remnant of this feature which has been designated house #1.

A 1 meter x 40 cm. trench, trench #1, oriented parallel to the north-south axis of house #1 was excavated in order to cross-section the elevated moss mound, and the flat, grass covered portion of the feature to the south. The trench and house long axis bear 20° mag. Stratigraphic evidence suggests that the east and west sides may each have an entryway. Unfortunately a hornet's nest was present in the ground on the western side where an entrance-way might be present and no testing was possible.

A portion of the "floor" was removed revealing what may be wooden structural members. The wood is quite decomposed but retains enough structure to differentiate it from large roots. The west wall contains a fragment of wood which measures 1.5 cm. on a side, and is of unknown length; at least 10 cm. was exposed lying on top of the floor. Two cobbles are present at the contact of the floor and underlying gravelly sand and may have been culturally altered.

In association with these cobbles was a large amount of charcoal. A sample of the charcoal was collected from the floor at the south end at the trench and a sample of wood was collected from the west wall. An additional 30 cm² test pit was excavated to the northeast of the north wall of the trench and the stratigraphy is comparable to that found in the southern portion of the trench. No cultural material was observed although some additional wood fragments were present. The amount of development of the A2 soil horizon, which may underlap the organic charcoal, may be indicative of the age of the feature.

Trench #2 was excavated .75 meters northeast of trench #1 and is 2.5 meters east-west x .50 meters north-south. The sod layer was removed and revealed several pieces of wood which may be structural members. Samples of the wood were taken and the rest of the sod/moss layer removed revealing two deposits of charcoal. In association with the charcoal was a small piece of hematite (ochre).

The test excavation in the feature termed, house #2, 15-20 meters west of house #1, provided one of the more interesting stratigraphic sequences with what may be five, superimposed living floors. These units vary in thickness with the uppermost floor being the thickest. Fire-cracked rock, a few pieces of silicified siltstone, fractured at sharp angles, and a large piece of yellow ochre were the only lithics associated with the test pit. It appears from the stratigraphic profile that the uppermost occupation excavated a deep trash/storage pit in this portion of the dwelling, which cut through all four underlying living floors terminating on gravel. The yellow ochre may have come from the trash pit midden. Other small pieces of yellow ochre were observed in the walls of the trash pit and occupation floors. No bone or recognizable worked stone such as flakes, etc. were found though two pebbles may exhibit slight, but unclear battering along their edges.

The test excavation in the feature termed house #5 produced a large cobble which may have been used as a pestel or maul. The site appears large and complex and additional work is necessary for the formulation of any but the most cursory descriptive statement.

Site significance and research potential are unknown at this time. The site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts. This site lies outside the boundaries of the park and preserve.

DRAFT

↑
SLOPE →
← POPLAR →
↓

← RECENT TENT PLATFORMS →

DATUM

↑
N
mag.

HUG-129

GAME TRAIL

House
6
281°

← BLACK SPRUCE →

?

GAME TRAIL →

House
5
247°

?
237°

← BLACK SPRUCE →

House
2
221°

House
4
205°

House
3
193°

House 1
177°

- 132 -

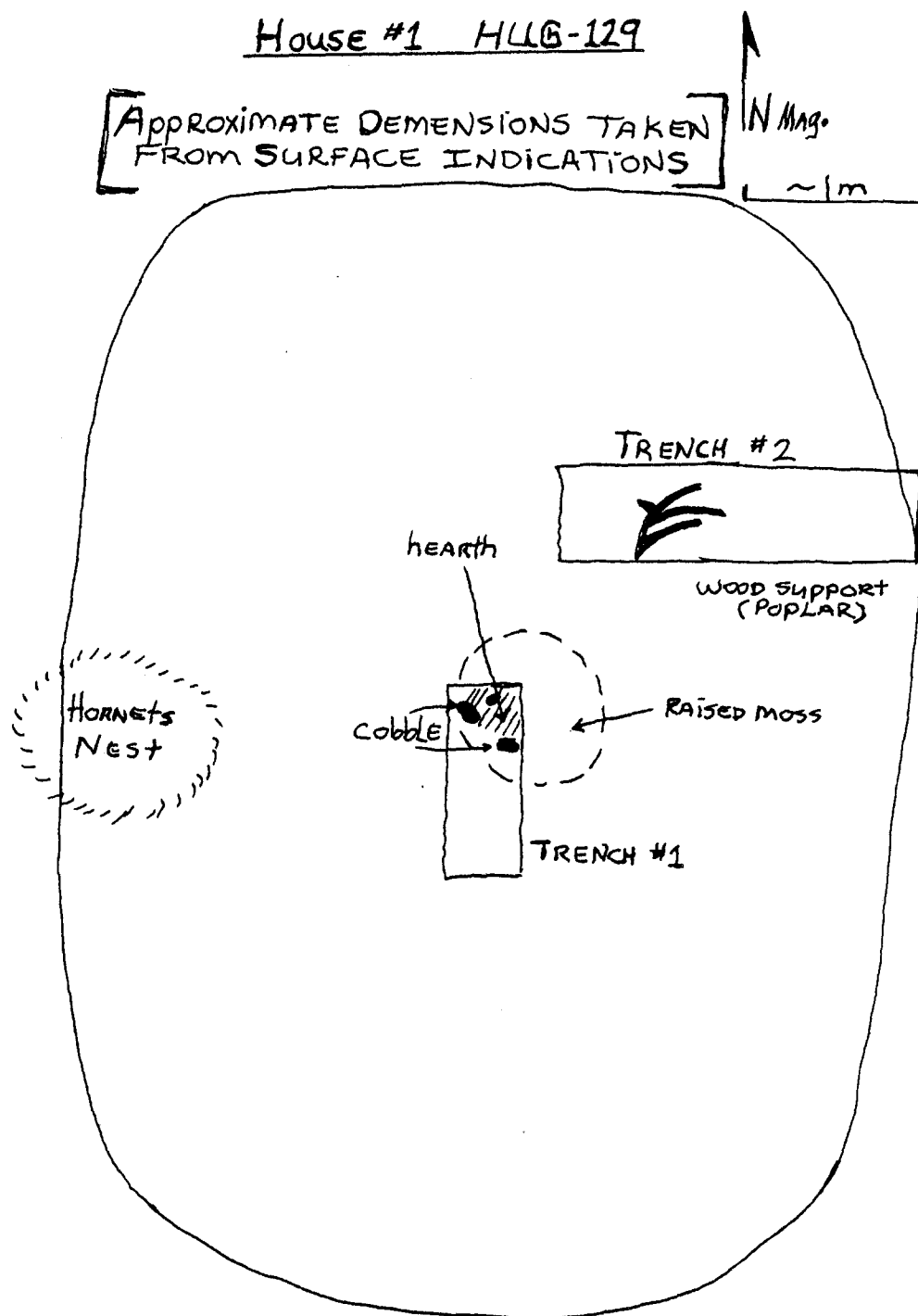
~ 5 METERS

↑
← AXE CUT / SAWN SPRUCE TREES →
↓

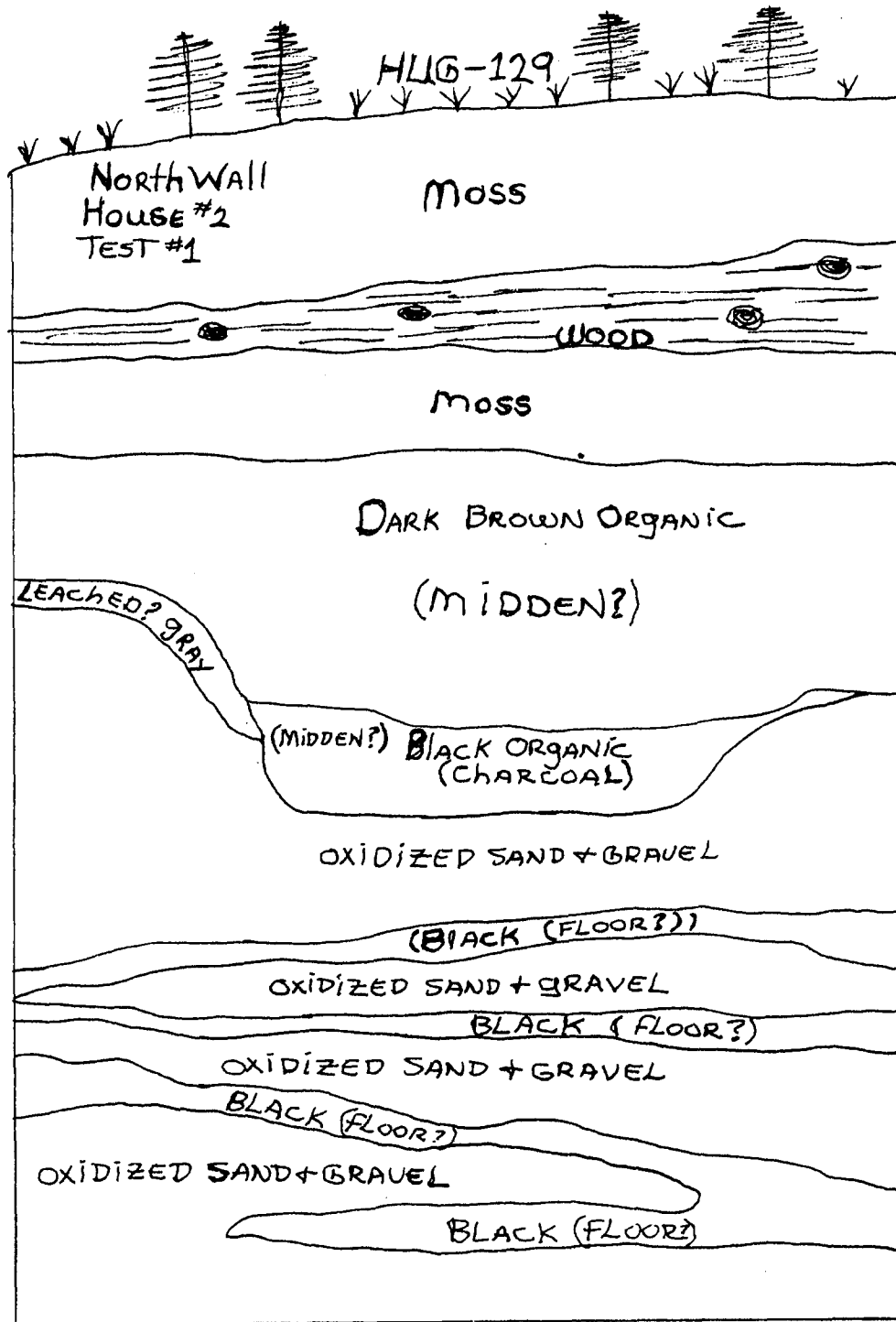
CONTOUR INTERVAL ~ 1 METER

HELPMELT JACK LAKE





HUG-129 (continued)



HUG-130

Site Elevation: 800 ft.	NE1/4, SE1/4 Section 26 T18N, R24E	Probable Site Type: Lookout
Site Age: Unknown	Kateel River Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

The site lies on a prominence on the morainal ridge on the east side of the lake at a point about 4/5 of the way north from the southern end of the lake. HUG-127 lies one kilometer to the south. The site location is on the most prominent of the ridges the east side of the lake. The site offers an excellent view of Helpmejack Lake and the surrounding local country.

The site is vegetated by a robust growth of lichen, moss and low woody and herbaceous plants. There are no mineral soil exposures. Trees and shrubs are represented by small to medium sized spruce and birch and a few scattered aspen. None of the trees exceeds 10 meters in height nor 15 cm. in diameter. Dwarf birch and willow are also present. Although robustly vegetated the site is park-like in appearance. Evidence of wildfire activity is observable only rarely on the surface. However, numerous chunks and flecks of charcoal are present in the root mat and organic soil horizon.

The site area was inspected visually and no cultural material was observed. A test pit (#1) was excavated on the northwestern portion of the site just above the break-in-slope. The test pit was 30 cm² and excavated to a depth of 15 cm. A single obsidian flake was recovered from the organic soil horizon 6 cm. below surface. Five more test pits were excavated in adjacent areas, 1-10 meters distant from the original test pit, and all proved to be culturally sterile.

The site probably served as a hunting lookout. Significance is of a local nature only. No diagnostic artifacts were observed and no temporal or cultural assessment can be made, although, the obsidian may provide a hydration date. Given the amount of area at the site available for use it is odd that cultural material is so scarce. No apparent adverse impacts appear to be threatening the site. The site lies outside the park boundary.

HUG-131

Site Elevation: 780 ft.	SE1/4, NE1/4 Section 26 T18N, R24E	Probable Site Type: Lookout
Site Age: Unknown	Kateel River Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

The site is located on the east side of Helpmejack Lake roughly 1/2 kilometer north of HUG-130 and slightly more than a kilometer east southeast of HUG-129. The site lies on a rather nondescript protuberance of the general morainal ridge that parallels the east shore of the lake. The site is elevated roughly 25 meters above the lake shore which lies 250 meters to the west. The view from the site is excellent encompassing most of the lake and surrounding local country. Only the southeast portion of the lake is not visible.

The surface of the site is covered by a robust vegetation mat made up of lichen, moss, and an assortment of low woody and herbaceous plants. Trees at the site are represented by small to medium sized spruce and birch none of which exceed 12 meters in height or 20 cm. in diameter. The trees are rather dense and only the extreme western and northwestern edges of the site area are open. Dwarf birch and willow are also scattered about. Evidence of past wildfire activity can only rarely be seen on surface. However, many chunks and flecks of charcoal are present in the root mat and in the organic soil horizon. There are no mineral soil exposures or unvegetated areas.

The site was located through subsurface testing. Test pit #1, 30 cm² was excavated to a depth of 12 cm. on the northwest edge of the site area just above the break-in-slope. Test pit #1 yielded five very small obsidian flakes and a single small black chert flake. All of the flakes appear to be of the type derived from the final stages of tool manufacture. The flakes were recovered from the base of the root mat and also incorporated in the root mat, 1-3 cm. below surface. A second similar sized test pit (#2) was excavated 1 meter to the north of test pit #1 and yielded a single small obsidian flake. Test pit #3, 4 meters to the south of test pit #1, and test pit #4, 3 meters to the northwest of test pit #1, were both culturally sterile.

The site appears to have been a hunting lookout. The variety of lithic material suggests that more than one occupational event occurred at the site. No cultural or temporal assessment can be made due to the lack of diagnostic artifacts. However, the obsidian may provide a hydration date.

Site significance is of a local nature only and research potential is low. There does not appear to be any adverse impacts threatening the site. This site lies outside the boundary of the park.

MAP AREA #5

LAKE KIPMIK/LAKE AMITCHIAK

Camp #11 July 30 - August 7

We moved to this camp via float equiped fixed-wing aircraft and helicopter. Camp #11 was located at the northwest end of Lake Kipmik 130 miles northwest of Camp #10.

Archeological Survey, logistically supported by inflatable raft and out-board motor, was conducted out of this camp for a period of seven days during which time an area of roughly 4 square miles was investigated. A total of 21 archeological sites were located while working out of this camp.

The Camp #11 area lies just south of the Continental Divide. The location is beyond both latitudinal and altitudinal tree line. This region is one of tundra covered hills and steeply rising, rocky mountains which reach elevations of more than 5000 ft.

Lake Kipmik and Lake Amitchiak are twin lakes separated by an inlet/outlet stream slightly less than 1/4 mile in length. Together the lakes are slightly more than 5.5 long. The lakes possess an excellent fish resource including lake trout, grayling, burbot, and whitefish. Caribou are seasonally plentiful. The last day we were at this location more than 3000 caribou passed by our camp.

There are a number of large sites located around the lakes. Several of these sites are representative of late prehistoric Eskimo. These sites consist of semi-subterranean house remains, cache pits, and midden deposits. It appears that these sites were over-wintering locales which attests to the area's abundant and reliable subsistence resources. At least one of these groups of semi-subterranean houses may be considerably older than late prehistoric Eskimo and may represent occupations by Eskimo Continuum cultures between 1000 and 4000 years ago.

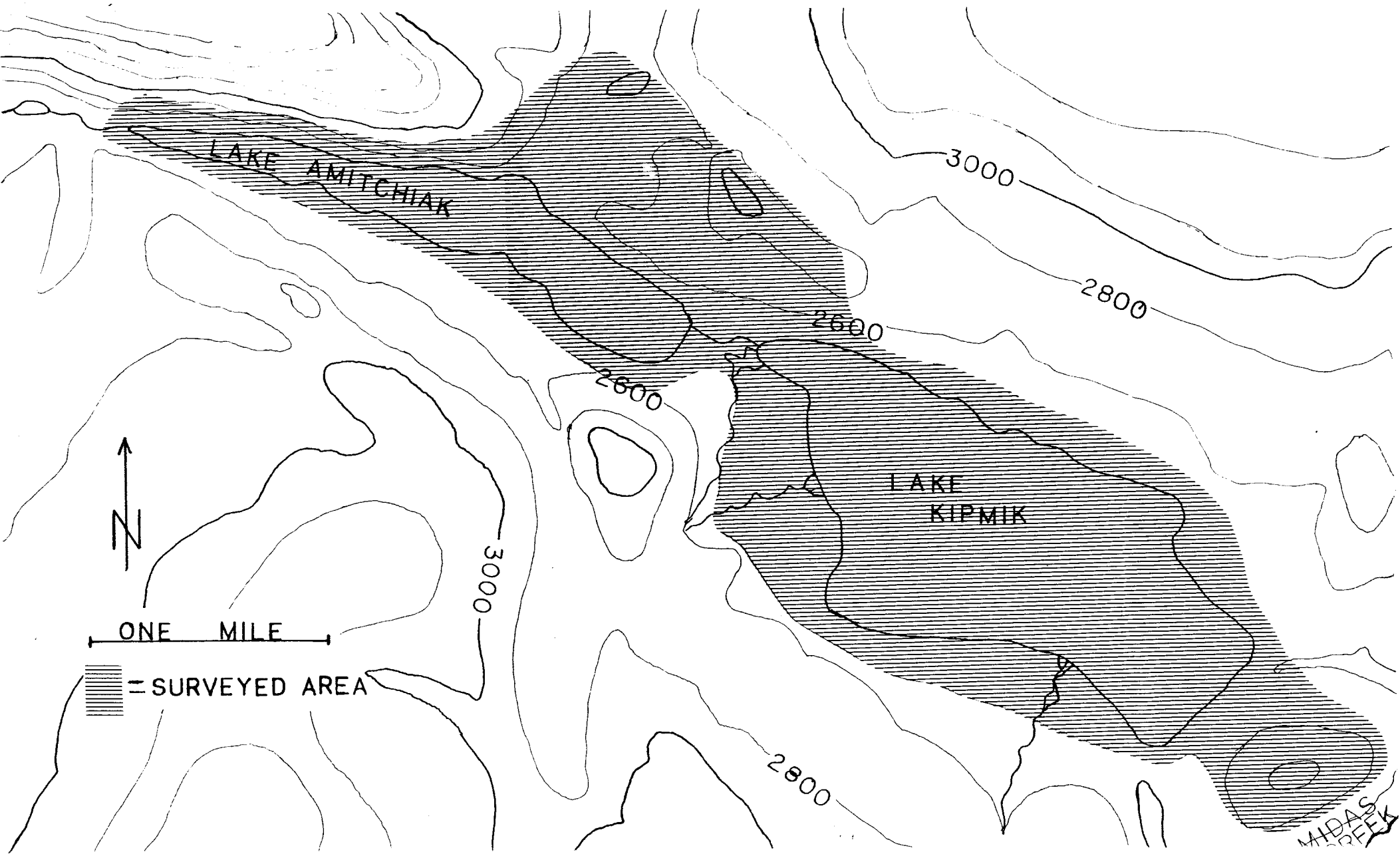
An extremely large Denbigh Flint Complex site was discovered on the shores of Lake Kipmik. The site is definitely an often used habitation locale but does not appear to be of the over-wintering type. There are no indications of semi-subterranean house structures nor would the site's location allow for the construction of any but the shallowest and most inefficient of dwellings. Therefore, this site appears to be of a rather unique type; a very large non-winter, habitation site. This site without question is one of the most important sites located during the course of the 1985 survey.

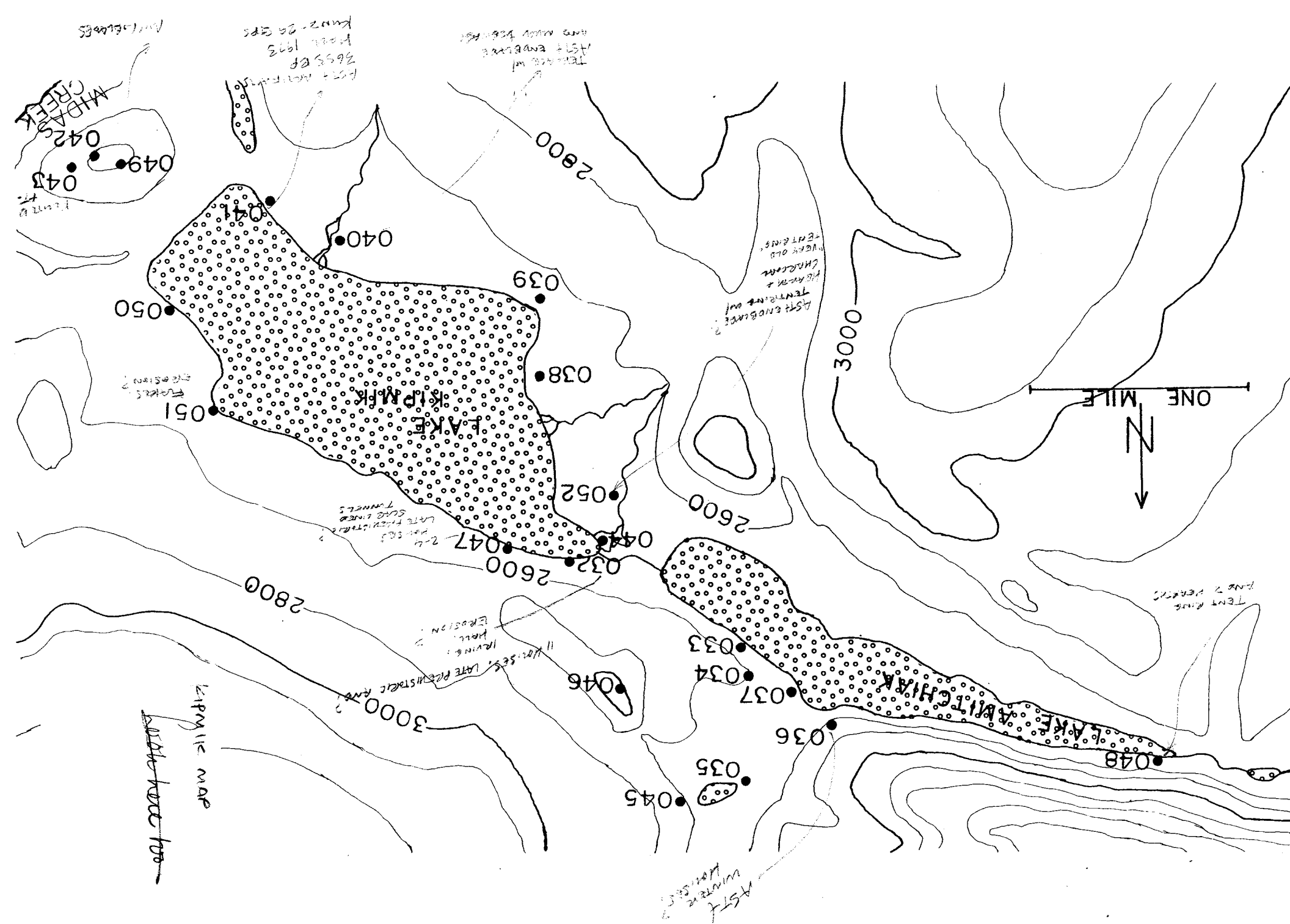
An isolated fluted projectile point was located a mile or so southeast of Lake Kipmik. Although fluted projectile points do not necessarily indicate antiquity it appears that this area has supported human occupation over at least the last 7 or 8 millennia.

Weather Data During the Survey of Map area #5

DATE	CAMP #	TEMPERATURE °F		SKY	WIND
		LOW	HIGH		
7-31-85	11			clear	calm
8-01-85	11	35°		fog on lake, sunny clear	
8-02-85	11	38°		clear	calm
8-03-85	11	34°		high thin couds, sunny	calm
8-04-85	11	34°		clear	calm
8-05-85	11	32°		clear	calm
8-06-85	11	34°		sunny, evening rain	
8-07-85	11	38°		few clouds, clear	calm

DRAFT





AMR-032

Site Elevation: 2460 ft.	NW1/4, SE1/4 Section 29 T30N, R12E	Probable Site Type: Semi-Subterranean House (village)
Site Age: ca. 500 years B.P.	Kateel River Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Late Prehistoric Eskimo

This site is located on a lake-edge bluff on the northwest corner of Lake Kipmik 200 meters east-northeast of the lake's outlet stream. The site is located on an 8 meter high bluff which, after sloping gently toward the lake for a distance of 30 meters, plunges abruptly to the rocky beach. The view from the site is panoramic and encompasses all of Lake Kipmik and the surrounding country as well as the eastern portion of Lake Amitchiak.

Vegetation at the site is typical of the vegetation found on lake-side prehistoric village sites throughout this region of the Arctic. The high organic content of the soil, resulting from the intense and long term human occupation of the locale, has produced a thick, lush, robust vegetation mat. Ground cover consists of grass, cotton grass tussocks, moss, lichen, and scattered, patchy dwarf willow and willow.

This site was initially reported by W. Irving in 1962 and later examined and reported on by E. Hall in 1973. We had considerably more time to spend in our examination of the site than did Irving or Hall and therefore, noted more site detail than they had an opportunity to do. Our more in depth investigation leaves us in general agreement with Hall's and Irving's site assessments.

Prior to examining the site our main concern was its possible degradation. In his 1973 report, Hall states that the houses were in the process of sliding off the bluff into the lake. Using Hall's description of the site in 1973 as a baseline, it appears that little additional sloughing/sliding over/down the bluff face has occurred during the intervening 13 years. Although, some limited erosion has been and is occurring at the site the majority of the bluff face appears to be at least semi-stabilized by vegetation; mostly willow and grass. This is not to say that site destruction/degradation is not occurring, but is occurring at an extremely slow rate. Evidence of site degradation is apparent at the base of the bluff at about the mid-point of the site area. In places the beach is littered with the complete and fragmentary bones of caribou and moose, flakes and chunks of chert, and fire-cracked rock. It is evident from the physical condition of much of this cultural material that it has been exposed on the beach for a considerable period of time. As Hall notes there is a 10-12 cm. thick band of midden material eroding out of the face of the bluff which is the origin of the cultural debris on the beach.

Hall estimated that site to be 66 x 33 meters which is close to our estimation of 65 x 20 meters. Hall did not include a site map with his report and, therefore, it was somewhat difficult to orient the houses

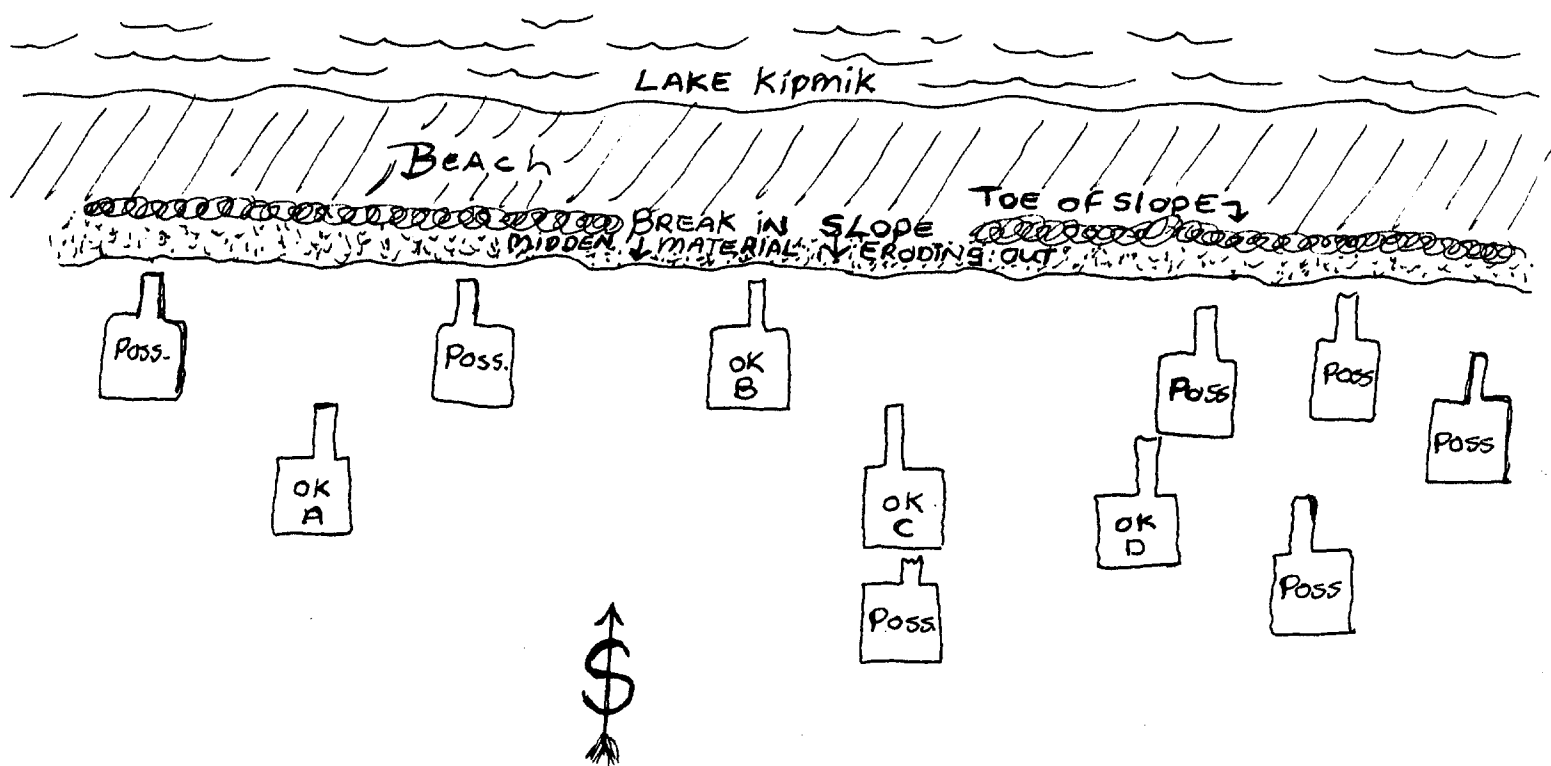
other than going by physical description and/or evidence of previous testing. Hall positively identifies four semi-subterranean houses and suggests there may be more. Our work confirms the presence of Hall's four houses and suggests that seven additional houses may also be present. The difference in the degree of visibility or definition of the house remains may indicate several periods of occupations occurred at the site. Several small depressions may represent cache pits. The houses average 4-5 meters in length, 4 meters wide, and all have south facing entrance tunnels 3-4 meters long. The house depressions average 45 cm. below the level of the surrounding ground. The entry tunnels appear to be offset in relation to the south wall of the houses; the tunnels do not exit in the center of the wall. The entrance tunnels are lined and roofed with bedrock slabs measuring, on the average, 1.0 x 0.75 meters. Additional evidence suggests that the houses were also lined with bedrock slabs. The majority of the houses appear to have been built very close to the face of the bluff even allowing for 500 years of bluff-face erosion. *

Subsurface testing at the site, past and present indicates that the surface vegetation covers a peaty layer that is very thin or non-existent in culturally disturbed areas such as the house depressions. In the undisturbed areas the peat layer was up to 15 cm. thick. The peat level, where present capped a 10-15 cm. thick organic soil layer which contained cultural material. The soil in this level is stained dark brown to black, feels greasy, smells bad, and contains charcoal bone, burned bone, fire-cracked rock, bedrock fragments, waste flakes and artifacts of a variety of chert types. The cultural level overlays a brownish/gray mineral soil/fractured bedrock matrix of unknown depth. Non-habitation areas of the site show essentially the same stratigraphy except that the organic soil horizon is thinner and often contains no cultural material.

Evidence suggests that the site, at least the portion represented by the four "obvious houses" represents a late prehistoric Eskimo over-wintering village site. Other features may represent an earlier occupation. Caribou are currently abundant in the region and faunal evidence suggests they were at the time of site occupation. Fish resources in the lake(s) are excellent and moose are also present. At present there appears to be an inexhaustible supply of willows in the local area. ?

Site significance is moderate to high and research potential is excellent. At present the site is mildly threatened by on-going low level erosion. The site is quite visible and therefore potentially threatened by park visitors. The site should be monitored periodically.

AMR-032 (continued)



AMR-032

Poss.= Possible House

OK= Positive House

MAP APPROXIMATELY TO SCALE

1 METER = □

AMR-033

Site Elevation:
2700 ft.

NE1/4, NE1/4
Section 30
T30N, R12E

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Kateel River Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on top of the most prominent bedrock ridge on the northeast quadrant of Lake Amitchiak. The ridge lies approximately 0.8 kilometers east of the outlet stream of two small lakes located 1-1.5 kilometers north of the lake. The site is located on the westernmost and highest part of this northeast-southwest trending ridge. To the

south the ridge drops abruptly to the shore of Lake Amitchiak 300 meters to the south. To the north the terrain is open tundra sloping westward into the small lake basins. To the east the land slopes south toward the lake.

The vegetation on the site is a combination of grasses, mosses and lichen, with low woody and herbaceous plants and dwarf willow making up the remainder. The view from the site is excellent in all directions. The low pass to the north toward the two small lakes is a known caribou migration route and caribou signs are abundant.

The site was discovered as a result of subsurface testing. No lithics were observed on the surface, although a fairly recent indication of use of the site was apparent in the sawn caribou skull and the base or top of a tobacco can lying on the south slope. The grass/moss area where the site lies is 5 meter² and slopes slightly to the north. A 30 cm² test pit was excavated near the center of this vegetation, where a distinct robusticity of plant growth was apparent. Between 10 and 20 cm. below surface, in a matrix of broken, burned bedrock, silt, and organics, 12 chert flakes of various colors, three obsidian flakes, and a possible burin were recovered in association with two bone fragments and one small piece of charcoal. This test pit bottomed out at 25 cm. below surface on bedrock. No discernable natural stratigraphy was apparent in the test pit. It appears that the test pit may have intersected a portion of a hearth. A second 30cm² test pit was excavated 3 meters northwest of test pit #1 and proved to be culturally sterile.

On the southern portion of grass/moss covered area of the site was a group of several large boulder sized blocks of bedrock. By lifting a few of the larger blocks a view into what appeared to be a part of a structure was available. Bone fragments and moss were beneath a few of the blocks and the texture of the surrounding grass/moss vegetation mat may indicate an organic accumulation such as a midden. Such a site would not be surprising as at least two late prehistoric Eskimo over-wintering sites occur in the area.

The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any temporal or cultural assessment of the site. However, the presence of obsidian and cultural organics may provide a date for the site. The variety of lithic material suggests that more than a single occupational event occurred. The location of the site suggests it may have served as a lookout and/or camp.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential may be moderate. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

AMR-034

Site Elevation: 2700 ft.	NW1/4, NE1/4 Section 30 T30N, R12E	Probable Site Type: Lookout
Site Age: Unknown	Kateel River Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on the middle, broad, flat portion of a prominent northeast trending ridge on the north side of Lake Amitchiak. The delta of the outlet stream of two small lakes which lie 1 kilometer north of Amitchiak is located 450-500 meters to the west. The bluff face drops steeply to the sloping north shore of Amitchiak Lake which lies 100 meters south of the site, and 60 meters lower. The view from the site is good to the north, west, south and southeast. The view to the east is less extensive with AMR-033 obstructing the view northeast.

The vegetation on the site is fairly sparse, coverage approximately 50% of the surface. Seasonal freezing and thawing keeps the unvegetated portions of the site well churned. Low woody and herbaceous plants, dwarf willow, mosses, grasses and lichen make up the patchy ground cover. Much of the surface is littered with fragmented bedrock.

The site was discovered as a result of surface inspection. Thirty meters east of the western break-in-slope, on a centrally located rise, ten black chert flakes and two brown banded chert flakes were found in a 2 meter² area. Sixty-five meters to the east on a slightly higher rise, along the southern edge of the ridge, additional cultural material was observed. Within a 8 meter² area a large blade-like flake of tan/brown banded chert, a small tool fragment of gray chert, and five flakes of dark gray chert were observed.

The site's location suggests it served as a lookout. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any temporal or cultural assessment of the site. The variety of lithic material suggests that more than one occupational event occurred at the site.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

AMR-035

Site Elevation:	SW1/4, NE1/4	Probable Site Type:
2750 ft.	Section 19	Lookout
	T30N, R19E	
Site Age:	Kateel River Meridian	Probable Cultural
Unknown		Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on the northwest corner of the northern of two small lakes 1.4 kilometers north of Lake Amitchiak. The site lies on top of a well-drained glacially formed knoll which is relatively flat over its 60 x 40 meter area. The knoll is elevated 15 meters above the small lake and offers a good view in all directions.

Vegetation at the site is sparse and patchy consisting of lichen, moss, grasses, low woody and herbaceous plants, and scattered dwarf willow. Mineral soil exposures, gravel, and shattered bedrock are common.

The site was discovered as a result of surface inspection. A large black chert flake exhibiting unifacial retouch along one edge and a graver spur on the opposite margin was found on the southeast slope of the knoll. What may be a fragment of a ground slate implement was also observed on the top of the knoll.

The site's location suggests that it served as a lookout. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any temporal or cultural assessment of the site.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears to be low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

AMR-036

Site Elevation:	SE1/4, SW1/4	Probable Site Type:
2625 ft.	Section 19	Village
	T30N, R12E	
Site Age:	Kateel River Meridian	Probable Cultural
4000-2000 years B.P.		Affiliation: Arctic Small Tool Tradition

This site is located on a relatively flat peninsular lake terrace 15 meters east of the outlet stream of the two small lakes to the north of Lake Amitchiak. The outlet stream has built a broad delta to the south of the site and Amitchiak at its closest point lies 120 meters to the south-southeast. The surface area of the site is triangular in shape with its longest axis running almost due west. The northeastern boundary of the site consists of a ancient, higher lake terrace, around the base of which are three or four rubblely mounds of unknown origin. The site area

is 70 meters east-west x 50 meters north-south and tapers to a point at its western end near the creek. The site lies approximately 25 meters above the lake level and provides an excellent view to the northwest, west, southwest, south, southeast, and northeast. To the north the view is blocked by rising terrain.

The site vegetation consists of mosses, some grasses, lichen, and ericaceous plants. Vegetation covers +95% of the surface of the site.

* The site was discovered as a result of surface inspection when several probable house features were observed. No cultural detritus was observed on any part of the surface of the site. Nine house features were identified. This remains a minimum number, however, as several more possible features which were less distinct, especially on the eastern end of the site where dwarf birch and willow have obscured the ground surface, may be present.

In general the house dimensions were vague, the entryway being somewhat easier to identify. The character of the features is one of almost complete reversion to the land's natural state. Only in a few cases was moss thick and spongy near the house center, marking a vegetational variation from the remainder of the well-drained terrace. The houses are subrectangular in outline, all with entryways facing either due south or slightly east of south. Most of the entrances are between 3 and 4 meters in length. The houses themselves, as far as could be determined, were roughly 3 meters north-south by 4 meters east-west; this is a minimum size. Surficial evidence suggests that soil movement toward the interior of the houses has obscured and lessened their true dimensions. The houses lie along the incline of the terrace in an east-west alignment with only one house south of the general alignment.

Time did not allow for investigation at each house, therefore, only three houses were tested.

House #4, was tested with three 30 cm² tests. Test #1, to the west of the entry in the southwest corner of the house, revealed two horizontal slabs of shale in association with a brown organic soil below 10 cm. of moss/lichen. These slabs were left in place and a second test, 2.5 meters east in the northeast corner of the house, revealed 10 cm. of moss overlying 10 cm. brown organic silt with numerous associated rock fragments which appeared to represent structural members similar to those encountered in test #1. Thirty-two fire-cracked black chert flakes, six gray banded chert flakes, one gray chert flake and one black chert fragment, which may be a portion of a microblade, were recovered from this brown silt at a depth of 10-23 cm. below surface. Below the cultural level sterile beach lag was encountered. In an attempt to recover datable organics, a third, smaller (20cm²) test was excavated near the door. No charcoal was observed and the stratigraphy was comparable to the first two tests. House #6, the largest, was punctured by four test excavations, all between 20 and 30 cm². In the westernmost test a 15 cm thick deposit of brown silt overlay a 3 cm. thick, white band. When wetted, the white material dissolved into a thin paste which may represent wood ash. No charcoal

was observed. In the easternmost test a quartz cobble with one side worn flat was found just below the moss layer. The function of this artifact(?) is unknown. The other two tests revealed nothing identifiable as cultural material other than possible structural members; slabs of shale bedrock.

House #7 received a single 20 cm² test pit near its center which produced five black chert flakes.

This site is most likely a winter village. The possibility of it representing occupation by Arctic Small Tool Tradition peoples is reasonably good. Indeed the ancient condition of the houses, i.e. almost completely unrecognizable, argues favorably for this cultural/chronological assessment. X

The possibility that this site represents a over-wintering occupation by Arctic Small Tool Tradition peoples makes its significance moderate and the research potential high.

At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

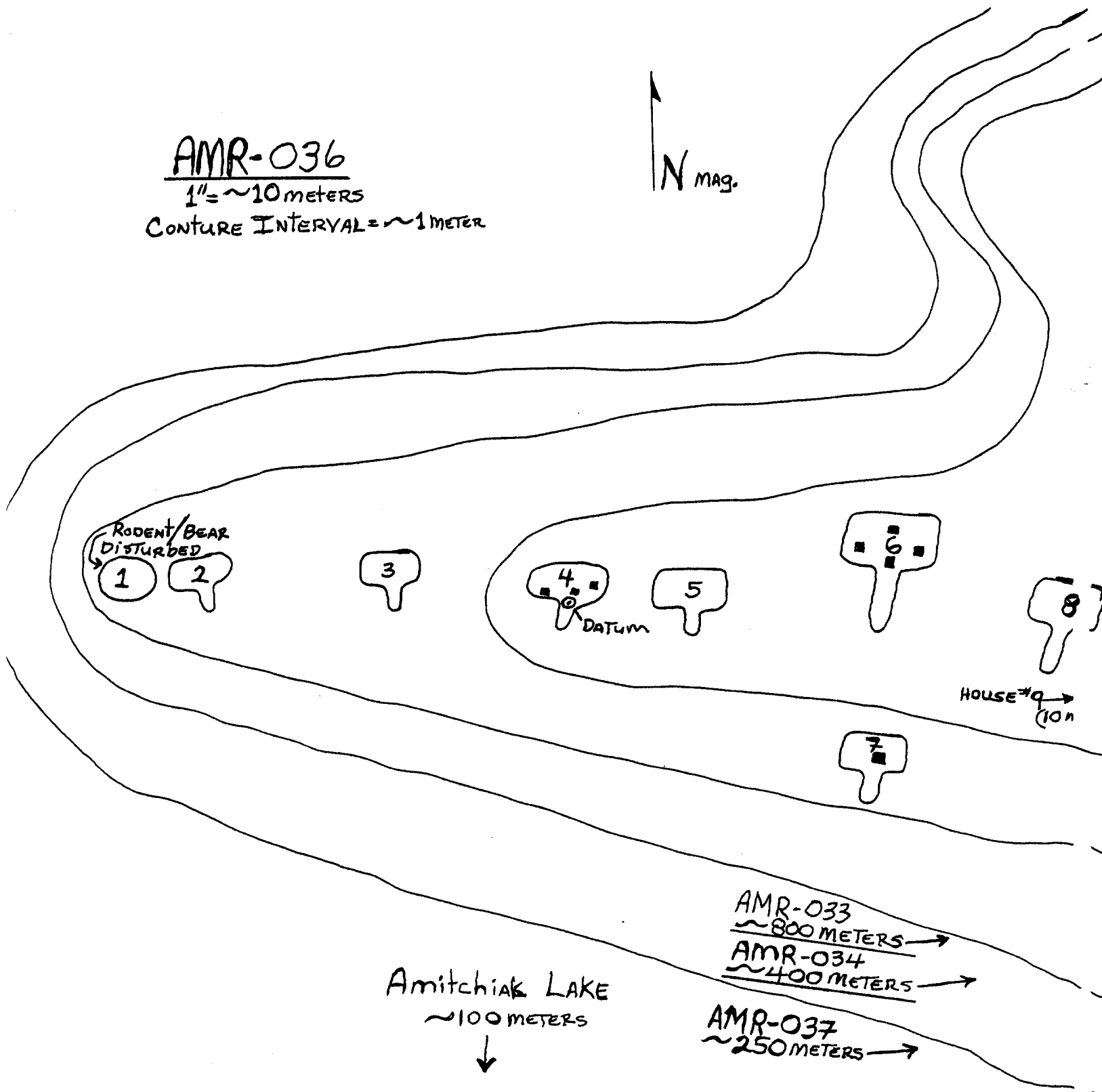
DRAFT

AMR-036 (continued)

AMR-036

1" = ~10 meters

Contour Interval = ~1 meter



AMR-037

Site Elevation: 2665 ft.	NE1/4, NW1/4 Section 30 T30N, R12E	Probable Site Type: Winter Camp
Site Age: ca. 100 years B.P.	Kateel River Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Nunamiut Eskimo

This site is located on a promontory overlooking Lake Amitchiak's north shore 300 meters east of the outlet stream of two small lakes which lie 1 kilometer north of Amitchiak. The site lies on the southwesternmost bluff associated with a ridge which runs northeast, away, from the lake. The bluff is the most elevated and closest to the lake of any of the ridges and bluffs which lie east of the stream. The bluff rises abruptly from the lake shore ascending rapidly to an elevation 40 meters above lake level. AMR-035 lies roughly 250 meters to the west.

Vegetation at the site consists of low woody and herbaceous plants, dwarf willow, grasses, mosses, lichen and some willow. The view from the site is excellent to the west, south, and east, while the view to the north is obstructed by rising terrain.

The site was discovered during surface inspection of the area when two house depressions were observed near the central portion of the bluff promontory. Other cultural features may also be present. A single 30cm² test pit was excavated to a depth of 25 cm. in the center of one of the house features. A moss layer of variable thickness covered a dark brown organic zone which is 2-3 cm. thick. Decaying willow branches and 35-50 small waste flakes of brown banded and black chert were observed in the organic unit. Below this cultural layer was a slab of bedrock.

These cultural features lack clearly recognizable entrance tunnel as were seen at AMR-036. The presence of well preserved wood, although possibly due to micro-environmental conditions, may indicate a later time period for this occupation than is suspected at AMR-036. The possibility of these two features representing moss houses, or ivruliks, winter structures, is a distinct possibility. The dimensions of the features are not easily discernable although they appear to be at least 4 meters x 2.5 meters.

There is a good possibility that this site is related to AMR-034, located 150-200 meters northeast on the next highest part of the ridge.

Little more can be said about this site without further investigation. Lithic material at this site is similar to that observed at AMR-034 roughly 200 meters to the northeast. If the features do represent the remains of ivruliks the site was probably occupied by Nunamiut Eskimos no more than 150 years ago.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is unknown. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impact.

AMR-038

Site Elevation: 2550 ft.	NE1/4, SE1/4 Section 32 T30N, R12E	Probable Site Type: Lookout/Hunting
Site Age: ca. 500 years B.P.	Kateel River Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Late Prehistoric Eskimo

This site appears to be one located and reported by E.S. Hall in 1973. The site lies on a bedrock knoll on the western edge of Lake Kipmik roughly 2 kilometers southeast of the northwestern end of the lake. The view from the site is panoramic encompassing the entire lake and the surrounding local country. The southeastern end of Lake Amitchiak is also visible.

Vegetation at the site consists of a thin mat of lichen, moss, and low woody and herbaceous plants. The area is north of latitudinal tree line, therefore, no trees are present. Bedrock spalls, chunks, and small outcrops protrude through the vegetation mat creating a surface that is a mixture of rocks and vegetation. The surface topography of the site is composed of a group of small undulating hillocks creating a local relief of approximately 5-8 meters. The site lies roughly 1/2 kilometer from the lake shore and 40-50 meters above the level of the lake. Other than minor frost churning and grizzly bear excavation for ground squirrels there does not appear to be any active erosion taking place at the site.

The site was located through visual inspection of the surface. A line of between 20-25 inuksuk crosses the knoll in a northwest to southeast direction. The line of inuksuk is in excess of 100 meters in length. On a much smaller isolated knoll about 100 meters to the south is another line of inuksuk running in a south-southwest to north-northeast direction. This second line of inuksuk is less than 50 meters in length and is comprised of about 10 inuksuk. At the promontory of the larger knoll a single gray chert flake was found. Datum is at the flake location.

The inuksuk are made of slabs of the platy limestone bedrock. The slabs average about 60 cm² and are 5-10 cm. thick. The slabs have been set into the surface on edge and braced or topped by additional slabs. Most of the slabs have fallen over, however, four or five are still erect.

The lines of inuksuk may be associated with hunting activities of the inhabitants of two small late prehistoric village sites located near the northwest end of the lake.

The site is definitely hunting oriented and typical of the type of sites often associated with large lakes in the Brooks Range. The site's level of significance is moderate as it, in association with the habitations at the northwest end of the lake, adds additional data to aboriginal subsistence activities during the past 500 years.

The site does not appear to be in danger of any adverse impacts.

AMR-039

Site Elevation:	SE1/4, SE1/4	Probable Site Type:
2520 ft.	Section 32	Lookout
	T30N, R12E	
Site Age:	Kateel River Meridian	Probable Cultural
Unknown		Affiliation: Unknown

The site is located on a limestone/shale bedrock outcrop that forms a knoll on the upward sloping tundra 150 meters from the central-western shore of Lake Kipmik. AMR-038 lies roughly 600 meters to the northwest and AMR-040 lies about a kilometer to the south-southeast. The view from the site is excellent as it encompasses all of Lake Kipmik and the surrounding local country.

Vegetation at the site consists of a thin mat of lichen, moss and low woody and herbaceous plants. In many spots the vegetation mat is absent and the surface is covered by platy bedrock spalls and gravel. Soil at the site is very thin to non-existent. There does not appear to be any active erosion taking place.

Cultural material was located through surface observation. Two chert flakes, one black, the other gray, were found 2.5 meters apart on the edge of a natural depression. No other cultural material was observed and no subsurface testing was undertaken.

The site probably served as a hunting lookout. No cultural or temporal assessment can be made due to the lack of diagnostic artifacts. The site does not appear to be in danger of any adverse impacts. Site significance is of a local nature only.

AMR-040

Site Elevation:	SE1/4, NE1/4	Probable Site Type:
2440 ft.	Section 4	Camp/Lookout
	T29N, R12E	
Site Age:	Kateel River Meridian	Probable Cultural
4000-2000 years B.P.		Affiliation: Denbigh Flint Complex

The site lies about 500 meters southwest of the shore of Kipmik Lake. The site borders a stream which enters the lake on a point on the south-eastern shore. The point is the result of a fan or delta built by the creek. The southeastern corner of the lake lies approximately one kilometer to the southeast. AMR-039 is located 1 kilometer to the west.

The site lies on a low bench that appears to be glacial in origin. The bench may also be an ancient creek terrace remnant but it is so different, morphologically and in its composition, from the surrounding stream channels and banks that this seems doubtful. The surface of the bench

is so flat and level that it gives the appearance of having been graded. Several shallow drainages cross the bench in an east-west direction.

The surface of the bench is thinly vegetated by lichen, moss and low woody and herbaceous plants. Small rocks and gravel are exposed everywhere. Several robust growths of grass are present on what may be cultural features. The bench is surrounded by active stream channels which support robust willow growth. Some of the nearby willows are truly giants being in excess of four meters in height with trunk diameters up to 15 cm.

The bench is very steep sided on the north and west margins while the south and east edges grade gently into tundra and willow. The bench averages 25 meters wide and is 100 meters in length. The long axis is roughly north-south. The surface of the bench is elevated about 2 meters above the immediate surrounding country. Although slight, this elevation allows for a good view in all directions. All of Lake Kipmuk and the surrounding local country can be seen.

The site was located by visual inspection of the surface. Blue, green, black, brown, gray, white, pink, and purple chert waste flakes and tool fragments as well as some obsidian flakes were observed scattered over the surface of the site. Also found on surface was a green chert projectile point similar to examples known from the Pailisades Complex and Denbigh Flint Complex. An additional surface find was a gray chert end blade/side blade with the base/other half missing. The tool exhibits the finely controlled parallel oblique flaking technique commonly used in the manufacture of Denbigh Flint Complex end and side blades.

A total of seven 20 cm² test pits were excavated to a depth of 10 cm. at selected locations around the site. The tests revealed the following soil profile which appears to be generally consistent over the entire site. The soil is very thin and rocky. The thin vegetation mat ranges up to 4 cm thick to the bottom of the root mat. From the bottom of the root mat downward the organic soil does not exceed 4 cm. and is usually 3 cm. thick. A reddish brown mineral soil continues down beneath the organic soil to an unknown depth. The entire soil profile, from surface through the mineral soil, contains many rocks ranging in size from pea gravel to large cobbles. Most common however are flat, angular, spalls of the local bedrock which range in size from 4 x 8 x 1 cm. to 25 x 20 x 5 cm.; a few are larger.

The cultural material was recovered from the surface, root mat, and organic soil. No cultural material was found below the contact of the organic and mineral soil horizons. The majority of the subsurface cultural material was recovered from the organic soil horizon, roughly 2-5 cm. below surface.

The various types and colors of cultural material seems to be localized generally speaking, in definite areas of the site possibly indicating occupational events or activity areas.

There are two overlapping, roughly circular, grassy areas at the southwest end of the site. It was thought that these grassy areas might represent cultural features however, when tested there was no indication of a

cultural origin. Datum was established just to the west of the grassy areas.

Test Pit #1: 4 meters from datum on a bearing of 170° mag. - culturally sterile.

Test Pit #2: 1.5 meters from datum on a bearing of 360° mag. - one miniscule gray chert flake.

Test Pit #3: 14 meters from datum on a bearing of 185° mag. - four small gray chert flakes.

Test Pit #4: 14 meters from datum on a bearing of 144° mag. - numerous medium/small gray chert flakes.

Test Pit #5: 22 meters from datum on a bearing of 68° mag. - surface obsidian and black chert flakes; subsurface obsidian and black chert flakes, also gray and white chert flakes of various sizes, cortex present on surface obsidian flake.

Test Pit #6: 70 meters from datum on a bearing of 20° mag. - surface location of end/side blade - subsurface culturally sterile.

Test Pit #7: 63 meters from datum on a bearing of 16° mag. - subsurface culturally sterile.

All test pit locations had some cultural material on the surface. Surface cultural material, because of the thin vegetation mat and very shallow soil seems to be a good indicator of subsurface material. There were many locations of surface material that were not tested.

Projectile Point: 2 meters from datum on a bearing on 308° mag. - surface.

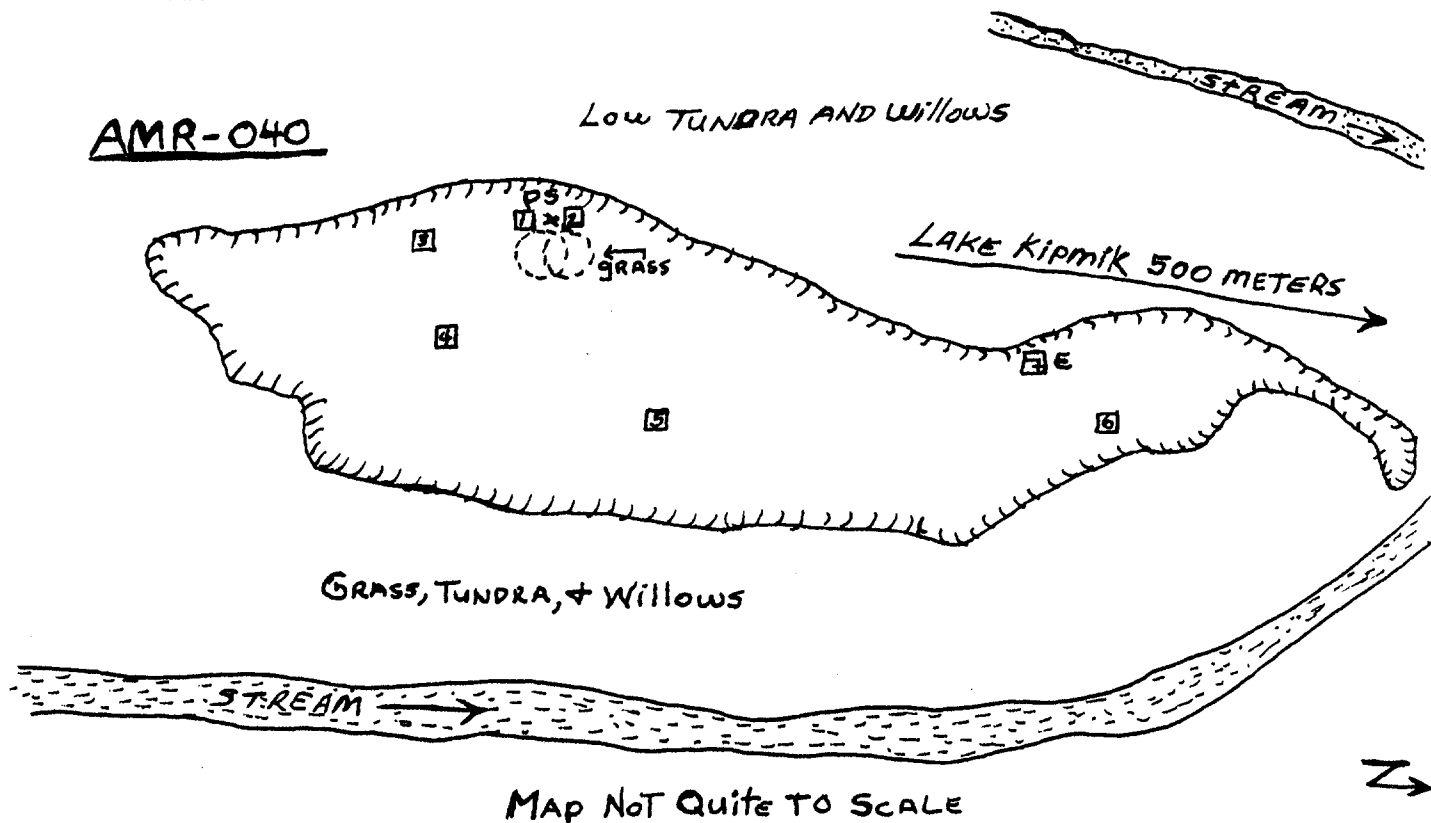
Scraper: 5.5 meters from datum on a bearing of 330° mag. - surface.

Although no microblades or mitten shaped burins were found at the site at least one occupation probably represents the Denbigh Flint Complex as indicated by the end/side blade and possibly the projectile point. The projectile point may also indicate use of the site by Pallisades or perhaps Tuktu people. The site could have been occupied as long ago as 6000 B.P by Pallisades or Tuktu cultural groups while a Denbigh occupation would range between 4000-2000 years ago. More recent occupations may also be represented. The obsidian may provide a hydration date for at least one of the site's occupational events.

The site is an excellent locality for a campsite as well as a hunting lookout as there is an abundant supply of fuel, water, and building material nearby. The Denbigh component may be related to a Denbigh site, reported by E. Hall in 1973, approximately 1 kilometer to the east-southeast.

Site significance is moderate. There is a good possibility that there is a lot of subsurface cultural material at the site but the soil is so thin and rocky that probably little more than an artifact inventory would be gained from excavation. However, that isn't necessarily bad. Research potential does exist.

The site, at present, is not threatened by adverse impacts and is far enough from the lake shore to discourage visits by recreational users of the area.



□ = 2 METERS

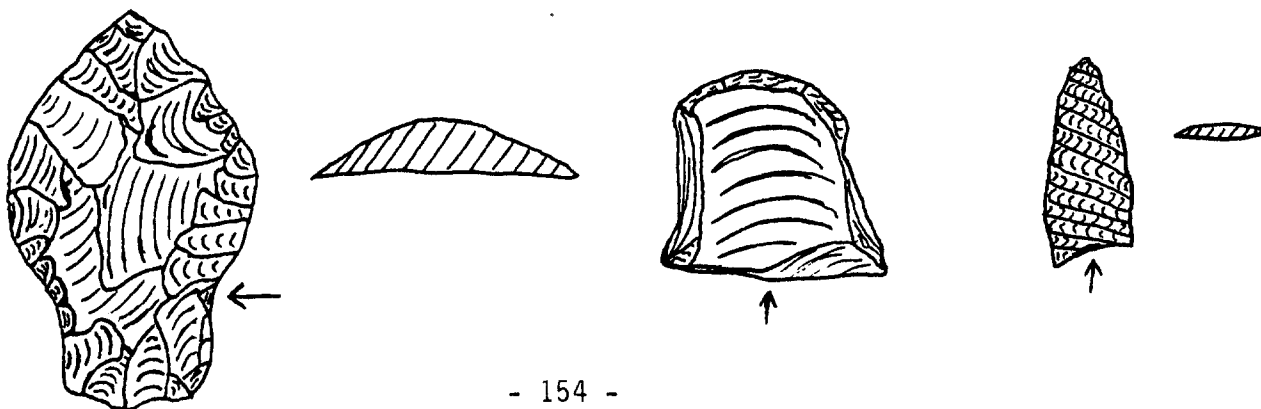
③ = TEST PT +

X = DATUM

E = END/SIDE BLADE

S = SCRAPER

P = PROJECTILE POINT



AMR-041

Site Elevation:
2420 ft.

SE1/4, NE1/4
Section 4
T29N, R12E

Probable Site Type:
Long Term Habitation

Site Age:
4000-2000 years B.P.

Kateel River Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Denbigh
Flint Complex

This site was discovered by E.S. Hall Jr. in 1973. The site is located on a level area at the southwestern corner of Lake Kipmik. The site fronts on the lake above an ice thrust berm that extends about a meter above the present beach elevation. AMR-040 lies one kilometer to the northwest. Except for a narrow, albeit but robust growth of dwarf willow which grows along the top of the ice thrust berm, much of the site is covered by a vegetation mat of grasses, lichen, moss, and some low woody and herbaceous plants. Patchy growths of very low dwarf birch, slightly more than shin high, and some scattered dwarf willow intermittently covers the areas between the three major grassy localities. Conversely, some small grassy areas are scattered amongst the dwarf birch.

The view from the site is quite good given the site's location. Most of Lake Kipmik and the surrounding local country is visible with the exception of a small portion of the lake's northwestern quadrant.

The surface of the site is, for the most part, tussock free and apparently fairly well drained. Hall states that the site lies on an old beach ridge, however, this was not visually apparent. The ground slopes upward very gently to the west and grades into cotton grass tussock tundra between 40-75 meters from the ice thrust berm. Although, no subsurface testing was conducted in the dwarf birch areas, from surface appearances, there is no substrate difference between the birch and grassey areas. Indeed the understory in the dwarf birch areas appears to be the same mix of grass, lichen, moss and low herbaceous plants that form the surface vegetation mat in the non-dwarf birch locales. Why the dwarf birch grows in some places and not others on the site may be directly related to past human occupation. This is purely conjecture, however, as no subsurface testing was initiated in the dwarf birch areas. The entire surface of the site area, be it dwarf birch or grass/lichen/moss covered, is well vegetated; there are no mineral soil exposures. There are numerous cobble sized rocks poking through the vegetation mat in some areas but they are incorporated in the vegetation, their upward thrusting probably the result of frost action.

Hall's 1973 excavation area has revegetated quite well over the past 12 years, enough so that it was not readily identifiable. The only erosion occurring at the site is the ice thrusting (bulldozing) that occurs annually when the lake ice breaks up and the wind shoves it on shore. However, a sizable berm has built up and has been to a great degree stabilized by a robust willow growth. Little, if any, damage is being done to the site.

* The site was located through subsurface testing. With Hall's report in hand, but no site location map, I had a bit of difficulty locating the site as he states that it lies on the, "southeasternmost corner of the lake." The site lies in southwesternmost corner of the lake, depending what one calls a corner. The southeasternmost corner of the lake did not seem well suited for a site so I went across the bay, to the west where a nondescript point of land lay. Upon leaving the raft and climbing on to the area beyond the ice thrust berm I recognized the ground cover from Hall's description. However, I could not locate his 1973 excavation area. It being lunch time I wandered about the area, cold beer in hand, scanning the well-vegetated surface. Finding nothing on the surface I kicked back a bit of the vegetation mat and saw numerous chert flakes lying on the contact between the organic soil/root mat and what I assume to be old beach shingle (flat stones which form the beach). This was Hall's site, but I was on the extreme northwestern end of it. Hall's 1973 excavation, which I later located, lay more than 90 meters to the southeast.

DRAFT

Hall's 1973 description of the substrate/soil profile is quite accurate in terms of description although horizon thicknesses and depths are somewhat more variable than he reports; he only excavated in one small area and spent less than a day at the site so this is to be expected. Using Hall's description in conjunction with my own observations the soil horizons/profile is as follows:

O horizons: living, dead, and decomposed organic material 2-4 cm. below surface. Although I did no trowling I saw no indication that this horizon contained any cultural material.

A horizons: this refers mainly to the A-1 horizon as only in a few instances did I see anything that I could consider even a very thin poorly developed A-2 horizon. Silty loam, platy, thin, slightly plastic roots abundant. Separation with B horizon broken but clear when A horizon not too thin. Contains some small pebbles and small slab like rocks; cultural material. In some places stained yellow/brown/gray from charcoal, ash, and organic material in the cultural detritus. 2-5 cm. thick; 2-7 cm. below surface.

B horizons: silty/grity loam, platy, thin, slightly plastic, roots abundant. Separation with A horizons broken but clear when A horizon not too thin; dark brown to reddish brown. Contains cultural material as well as slab like rocks and pebbles. Lies directly on old beach shingle. Does not adhere in most cases to beach shingle, but will lift off easily as a unit with O and A horizon. 2-7 cm. thick, 4-10 cm. below surface.

C horizons: I did not excavate so I have no idea as to the thickness. The upper surface which incorporates the beach shingle occurs at 6-10 cm. below surface except when directly overlain by vegetation mat. It is gravelly, rocky, and somewhat plastic. Contains some cultural material which has worked down among the gaps in the beach shingle. Serves as a

binding agent to hold together old beach shingle as a unit. Small roots common, yellowish brown/gray. Hall states it reaches a depth in excess of 17 cm. Underside of rocks stained dark by carbonates.

The method of testing this site was somewhat unique. In my initial discovery I found that the vegetation mat as well as the A soil horizon and usually all or most the the B soil horizon could be lifted off the old beach shingle and laid back like a carpet. My method of testing became as follows: with an entrenching tool I would chop through the vegetation mat on three sides of a 50 cm² test. I would then lift the vegetation up, along with the A and B soil horizons, and lay it back, soil side up like opening a trap door in a floor. The one uncut edge of the test acting as the hinge. I poked around in the hole a bit and on the surface of the flap but did no troweling as a good percentage of the cultural material was exposed. If a test had cultural material in it I left it open for collection, soil profile description and mapping. If a test did not have cultural material in it I closed it back up immediately. When mapping I discovered this caused a problem, for so perfectly did the tests close up and blend in with the surrounding vegetation they were extremely difficult to relocate. I'm sure there were a few I didn't relocate when mapping the site.

It should be mentioned that the culturally sterile test pits are not necessarily sterile. No true excavation was done in any of the tests. Therefore if cultural material was not obvious to casual inspection the test was sterile.

The tests that produced cultural material were mapped in and a sample of the cultural material was taken. Some tests displayed hundreds of flakes, most quite small. Then the test was closed in the previously described manner.

A total of 29 subsurface tests were made in an area of roughly 7000 square meters; of these, 15 produced cultural material.

Test Pit A: A single, small, gray chert flake 4 cm. below surface at the contact of the soil and the old beach shingle.

Test Pit B: A single black chert flake 6 cm. below surface at the contact of the soil and the old beach shingle.

Test Pit C: Numerous black and gray chert flakes, several obsidian flakes, burin blank or broken projectile point, an obsidian core tablet (from bottom of core) also charcoal, fire cracked rock, and burned bone. Charcoal sample taken. Appears to be hearth possibly in a dwelling. O, A, and B horizons thicker here. Cultural material from soil and beach shingle contact 5-9 cm. below surface.

20M 15
THIS?

- Test Pit D: Numerous black and gray chert flakes - one retouched - also obsidian flakes some with cortex, gray chert projectile point base, mid section of large, broad black chert projectile point. Cultural material in soil and beach shingle contact 3-5 cm. below surface.
- Test Pit E: Single gray chert flake. Soil very shallow. Cultural material from beach shingle contact 4 cm. below surface.
- Test Pit F: Single black chert flake very shallow soil. Cultural material from beach shingle contact 3 cm. below surface.
- Test Pit G: Numerous chert flakes, black, brown, gray, blue-gray. Three chert burin spalls from three different burins also a few pieces of fire-cracked rock and burned bone - no charcoal. Dense concentration of very small blue-gray chert flakes in middle of test. Soil shallow, cultural material from soil and beach shingle contact 3-4 cm. below surface.
- Test Pit H: Three black chert flakes and one obsidian flake. Cultural material in soil and beach shingle contact 4-8 cm. below surface.
- Test Pit I: Four black chert flakes. Soil thickness varies from 4-7 cm. Cultural material from soil and beach shingle contact 3-5 cm. below surface.
- Test Pit J: Three black chert flakes. Shallow soil 1-4 cm. thick. Cultural material from soil and beach shingle contact 2-4 cm. below surface.
- Test Pit K: Numerous chert flakes, black, gray and blue-gray, burin spall, base of Denbigh burin (spall from different burin) lots of fire cracked rock - no charcoal or burned bone. Soil shallow 0-3 cm. thick. Cultural material from beach shingle contact 2-4 cm. below surface.
- Test Pit L: Numerous chert flakes, black, brown, gray, blue-gray, a few pieces of fire cracked rock - no charcoal or burned bone. Soil varying shallow 0-6 cm. thick. Cultural material from beach shingle contact 2-5 cm. below surface.
- Test Pit M: Single black chert flake. Thick soil 3-8 cm. Cultural material from beach shingle contact 6 cm. below surface.
- Test Pit N: Numerous black and gray chert flakes, basalt biface tip. Shallow soil 2-4 cm. thick. Numerous pieces of fire cracked rock. Cultural material from beach shingle contact 2-4 cm. below surface.
- Test Pit O: Three black chert flakes, one obsidian microblade fragment. Numerous pieces of fire-cracked rock and charcoal - possible hearth (microblade in hearth) charcoal sample collected.

Soil shallow 2-4 cm. thick. Cultural material from beach shingle contact 2-4 cm. below surface.

Only tests that produced cultural material were given letter designations. The location of all test pits is approximate. The area is so big that it precluded accurate mapping by a single person given the amount of time allowable for investigating the site.

It was interesting that in most cases the fire-cracked rock was of a different shape and material than the rocks which comprised the beach shingle. Most of the fire-cracked rock, were large cobbles of exotic material. Rocks of this type were probably glacially transported and can be seen thinly and sporadically scattered on the beach around the lake and more commonly as part of the outwash deposited by the lake's feeder streams which flow into the lake from the surrounding hills/mountains. This suggests that the inhabitants of the site were selecting special stones for their hearth areas. *

DRAFT

In terms of relative size the site is huge when compared with other known Denbigh Flint Complex sites in the Central Brooks Range. In the summation of his site report Hall states that the site is a small one, probably occupied by a family group for a short period of time as a hunting camp in the summer or fall. Additionally, he felt, at the time, that these people may have been from Etivlik Lake and that they might have wintered at the larger Denbigh site located on that lake. Given his knowledge of the site in 1973 that was certainly not an unreasonable suggestion.

However, based on the data collected in 1985 it appears that the site at Lake Kipmik, at the least, in terms of size and prolonged use certainly rivals the Punyik Point site at Etivlik Lake.

The main difference between the two sites may have been the season of occupation. The site locale at Lake Kipmik is certainly not well suited for the construction of semi-subterranean houses while the Etivlik Lake site was and did have such dwellings. The data collected to date from the Lake Kipmik site suggests that it was a non-winter habitation locale. Today, spring, summer and fall caribou and moose are abundant and the lake contains excellent fish resource which includes lake trout, grayling, white fish, and burbot. As Hall suggests, people wintering at Etivlik Lake, which lies only 17 kilometers to the north, may have been utilizing the Lake Kipmik resources during the non-winter months. The site and cultural material density of the Lake Kipmik site suggests that use was on a regular basis and on a large scale over a long period of time.

The charcoal sample and obsidian microblade fragment from test pit "0" were submitted for chronologic analysis. The radiocarbon content of the charcoal was measured by the AMS (accelerator) technique. The sample, Beta-14648, produced a radio carbon age of $3655 \pm$ B.P. The corrected date is 4045 ± 150 years B.P.

Portions of the obsidian microblade were submitted to three different laboratories which returned rind thickness measurements which varied 0.50u or less. The most reliable measurement was determined to be $1.68u \pm 0.06u$. Applying a hydration rate of $0.72u^2/1000$ years, which was developed at Itkillik Lake, yields a hydration date of 3920 ± 280 years B.P.

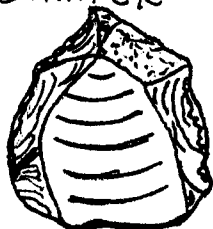
Although the sample is small, the dates corroborate each other. Additionally, the site has been culturally identified as a manifestation of the Denbigh Flint Complex. The radiocarbon and obsidian hydration dates are good, solid, dates for early Denbigh.

This site is highly significant and research potential is extremely high. A site of this size and magnitude, without evidence of winter occupation, is quite uncommon.

Because the site is at the southern end of the lake the potential of visitor impact is probably low but the area should be monitored.

DRAFT

THUMBNAIL
SCRAPER



Obsidian

BASE-DENBIGH
BURIN-CHERT



PROJECTILE POINT
BASE-CHERT



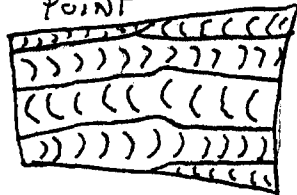
CROSS SECTION



AMR-041

ARTIFACTS ACTUAL
SIZE

MEDIAL SECTION
CHERT PROJECTILE
POINT



CROSS SECTION



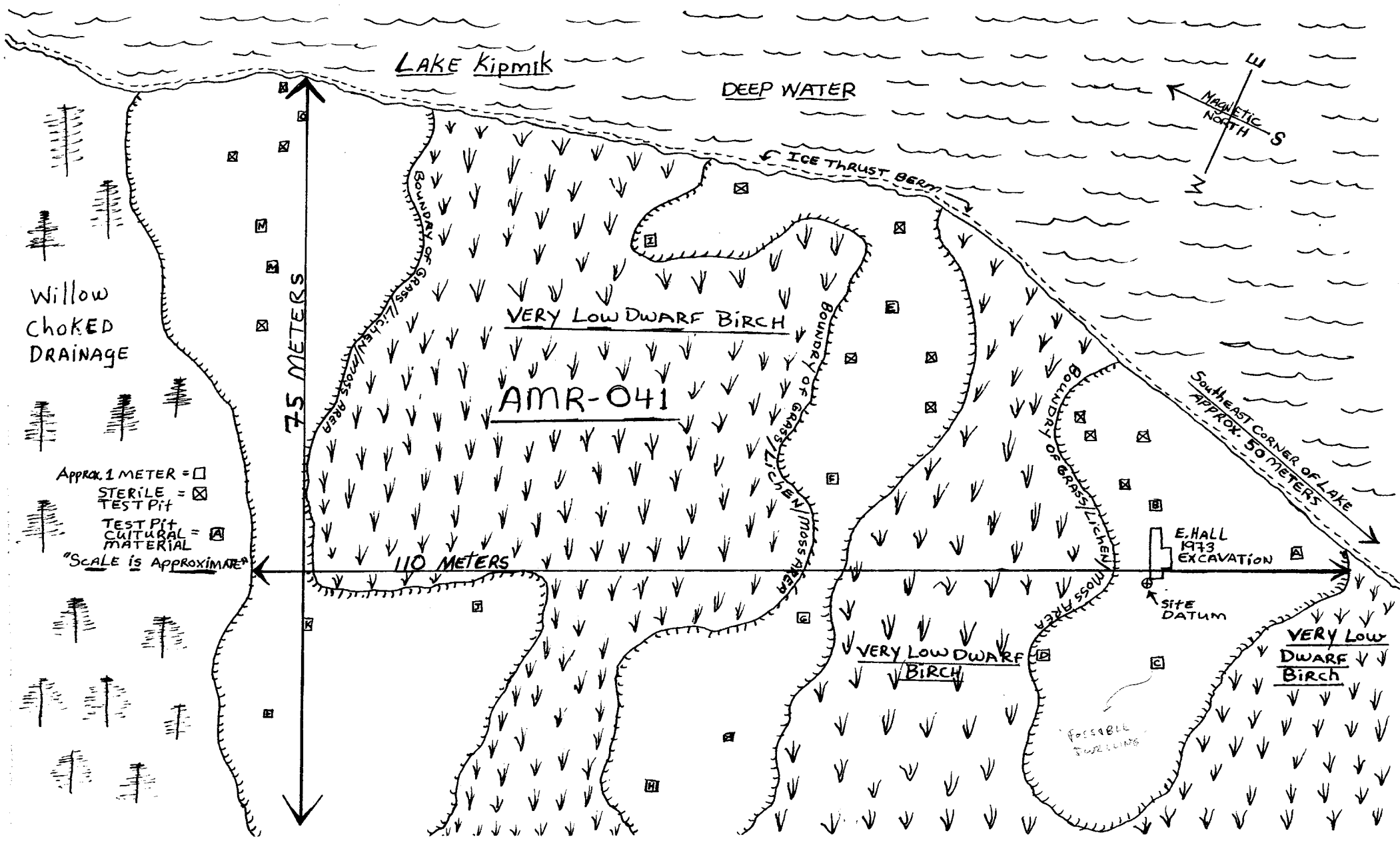
CHERT
PROJECTILE
POINT



CROSS SECTION



BREAK



AMR-042

Site Elevation:	SE1/4, SE1/4	Probable Site Type:
2800 ft.	Section 3	Lookout
	T29N, R12E	
Site Age:	Kateel River Meridian	Probable Cultural
Ca. 2000 years B.P.		Affiliation: Unknown

The site lies on a large hill at the southeastern end of Lake Kipmik. The site is located in a saddle between the promontory of the hill and the promontory of a spur or ridge that extends east from the hill toward Midas Creek. AMR-041 lies about 3 kilometers to the west-northwest and AMR-043 lies 375 meters to the east. Midas Creek lies at the base of the spur 1 kilometer to the southeast.

Because of its location in the saddle, the view from the site is limited to the Midas Creek drainage. However, that view extends at least 15 kilometers to the south-southeast encompassing the creek and all the surrounding country.

Surface cover at the site is comprised of a broken vegetation mat of lichen, moss, and low herbaceous plants. Much of the surface is exposed mineral soil, bedrock spalls, gravel and some large bedrock slabs.

Cultural material was located by visual inspection of the surface. Black and gray chert flakes, both large and small were thinly scattered over an area roughly 7 meters square. In addition there were several black and gray chert microblade fragments as well as a gray chert microblade core fragment. The distal end of one of the microblade fragments was retouched making it appear as a mini-end scraper. Another of the microblades showed edge retouch along both margins.

Based on the observed caribou activity in the area the site probably served as a hunting lookout and a location from which caribou could be intercepted. There may have been some lines of inuksuk on the higher ground to the east and west of the site but the area is so naturally rocky that it is impossible to determine this with any degree of certainty.

The presence of microblades may indicate a minimum age for the site ca. 2000 years. They may also indicate an association with AMR-041 the nearby Denbigh site. The variety of lithic material at the site suggests that more than a single occupational event occurred there.

x (No subsurface testing was done and there is a good possibility that subsurface cultural material is present.

The site's significance is local in nature and research potential appears low. No adverse impacts appear to be threatening the site.

AMR-043

Site Elevation:
2600 ft.

SW1/4, SW1/4
Section 2
T29N, R12E

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Kateel River Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

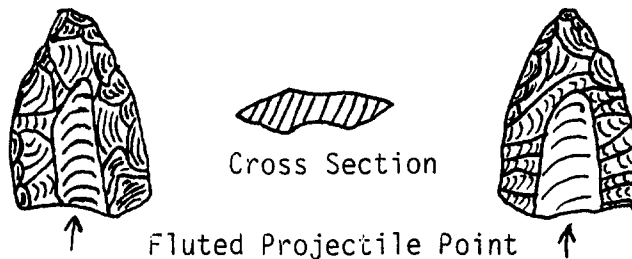
This site is located on the eastern spur of the large hill at the southeast end of Lake Kipmik. The site lies 30 meters from the northeast end of the spur which overlooks Midas Creek. AMR-042 lies 375 meters to the west while Midas Creek lies less than a kilometer to the east at the base of the spur. Although, the crest of the spur is approximately 40 meters lower than the promontory of the main body of the hill the view is still excellent. The Midas Creek drainage is visible for at least 8 kilometers to the northeast and at least 15 kilometers to the south-southwest.

Because the spur extends to the east northeast from the main portion of the hill all but the southwestern portion of Lake Kipmik is also visible.

Vegetation consists of a thin, sparse, broken mat of lichen, moss, and some low herbaceous plants. Most of the surface is exposed mineral soil, small fragments of bedrock, some gravel, and numerous large slabs of bedrock.

The site was located by visual inspection of the surface and is, in every sense of the word, an isolated find. A single artifact comprises the site; a fluted projectile point. The artifact is fragmentary consisting of the upper 2/3, the base is missing. The location of the fracture suggest that projectile point was broken while hafted. A thorough search of the area failed to turn up the basal portion of the artifact. This discovery of a fluted projectile point is consistent with the discovery of many fluted points in the Brooks Range, an isolated find. Fluted projectile point are not necessarily indicators of antiquity in Alaska nor do they appear to be cultural hallmarks. Little else can be said about the site. Since the artifact was collected, in essence, the site no longer exists.

WIS-043
Artifact - Actual Size



AMR-044

Site Elevation: 2410 ft.	SE1/4, SW1/4 Section 29 T30N, R12E	Probable Site Type: Unknown
Site Age: Unknown	Kateel River Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

This site lies on a low beach terrace at the northwest end of Lake Kipmik. Lying no more than a meter above the lake level the site lies adjacent to a feeder stream and the lake's outlet. Although low, the site offers an excellent view of the majority of the lake and surrounding local country. AMR-032 lies 200 meters to the north-northwest.

The site is well vegetated by lichen and grass which is interspersed with robust growths of willow. The site locale is the only dry area in the low lying terrain at the northwest end of the lake.

The site was located through visual inspection of the surface. A large retouched flake of black chert was observed in the ice thrust berm near the water's edge. Two 20 cm² test pits were excavated to a depth of 10 cm. several meters northwest of the surface flake and yielded no additional cultural material.

The site is very possibly associated with nearby AMR-032. The site does not appear to be in any danger except possibly from campers. However there appears to be very little cultural material at the site so very little can be lost through adverse impacts. Site significance is of a local nature only and research potential is low.

AMR-045

Site Elevation: 2800 ft.	SW1/4, NW1/4 Section 20 T30N, R12E	Probable Site Type: Cache
Site Age: ca. 500 years B.P.	Kateel River Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Late Prehistoric Eskimo

This site is located 2 kilometers north of the inlet to Lake Amitchiak on the southwestern slope of a 4000' mountain. The site overlooks the entire local area including two small lakes perched on the valley wall 500 meters to the southwest.

This site consists of a cache pit excavated into the fractured bedrock of the slope and lined with slabs of rock. The cache pit measures 3.5 meters east-west x 4 meters north-south. Three long rectangular shaped blocks cap the cache on the north end while the southern portion is covered by several large slabs. This feature is much larger than most area caches

and is referred to as a cache merely as a convenience. No additional cultural evidence was associated with the cache.

The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes temporal or cultural assessment of the site. However, the near proximity of Late Prehistoric Eskimo sites suggest that this site may be related to that cultural period.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

AMR-046

Site Elevation:
3000 ft.

SE1/4, NW1/4

Probable Site Type:

Site Age:
ca. 500 years B.P.

Section 29

Cache

T30N, R12E

Kateel River Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Late
Prehistoric Eskimo

This site is located 0.8 kilometers north of the Lake Kipmik outlet/Lake Amitchiak inlet stream. The site lies in the saddle of a conical shaped spur of a prominent ridge. The site offers an excellent view of Lake Kipmik and Amitchiak and the surrounding country. Vegetation at the site consists of scattered patches of lichen and moss. The majority of the surface is exposed, fractured bedrock.

The site consists of two large bedrock slab caches similar in size and shape to the one at AMR-045. As with the feature at AMR-045 these features are called caches for lack of a better word. A smaller feature, which may be a hearth, is associated with the caches. No other cultural material was observed.

The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes temporal or cultural assessment of the site. However, the near proximity of several late prehistoric Eskimo sites suggest that this site may be related to that cultural period.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

AMR-047

Site Elevation: 2460 ft.	SE1/4, SE1/4 Section 29 T30N, R12E	Probable Site Type: Semi-Subterranean Houses (village)?
Site Age: ca. 500 years B.P.	Kateel River Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Late Prehistoric Eskimo

This site is located on a prominent bluff which rises 15 meters above Lake Kipmik's northwestern shore approximately 0.8 kilometers east of the lake's outlet. The surface of the bluff slopes gently south toward the lake for a distance of 15 meters and then plunges steeply to the rocky shore. The view from the site is excellent encompassing most of the lake and the surrounding country.

Vegetation at the site is typical of that found at late prehistoric village sites in this region. Due to the organic rich soil resulting from the human activities at the site the condition of the vegetation can best be described as robust. The vegetation consists of grass, low herbaceous plants and some moss. Lichen, willow, dwarf willow and birch tend to grow in clumps and are sporadically scattered about the site.

This site, as is the case with AMR-032, has been briefly mentioned and described by William Irving, 1962 and Edwin Hall 1973. Unlike AMR-032, which lies on the same shore 600 meters to the west, this site's cultural features are much less obvious. Additionally, no bone, charcoal, fire-cracked rock or other lithic debitage is visible eroding from the steep bluff-face as is the case at the larger site to the west.

Inspection of the site indicates that it consists of at least two semi-subterranean houses and possibly two other large cultural features either or both of which may also be houses. Several cache pits may also be present. The site area appears to cover an area of 50 meters east-west x 15 meters north-south.

House #2 is the most well defined feature at the site. This house measures 4 x 3 meters and exhibits a centrally located stone lined, south-facing entryway. Three 30 cm² test pits were excavated to a depth of 20 cm. and with the exception of a single caribou vertebra were culturally sterile. A single 30 cm² test was excavated in the center of house #1. This house measures 3 x 3 meters and has a south-facing entryway which is offset to the east. The test pit produced a fragment of caribou metapodial, a single chert flake, some fire-cracked rock and a few flecks of charcoal. A similar sized test excavation in house #3, if in fact it is a house produced some fire-cracked and a few flecks of charcoal.

Subsurface testing at the site suggests that the cultural levels are shallow and thin and that the location was not intensely used. The cultural evidence suggests the site is an over-wintering locale occupied by late prehistoric Eskimos ca. 500 years ago. The site is probably related to AMR-032 a larger, similar site near the northwest end of the lake.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is moderate at best. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impact.

DRAFT

LAKE Kipmuk

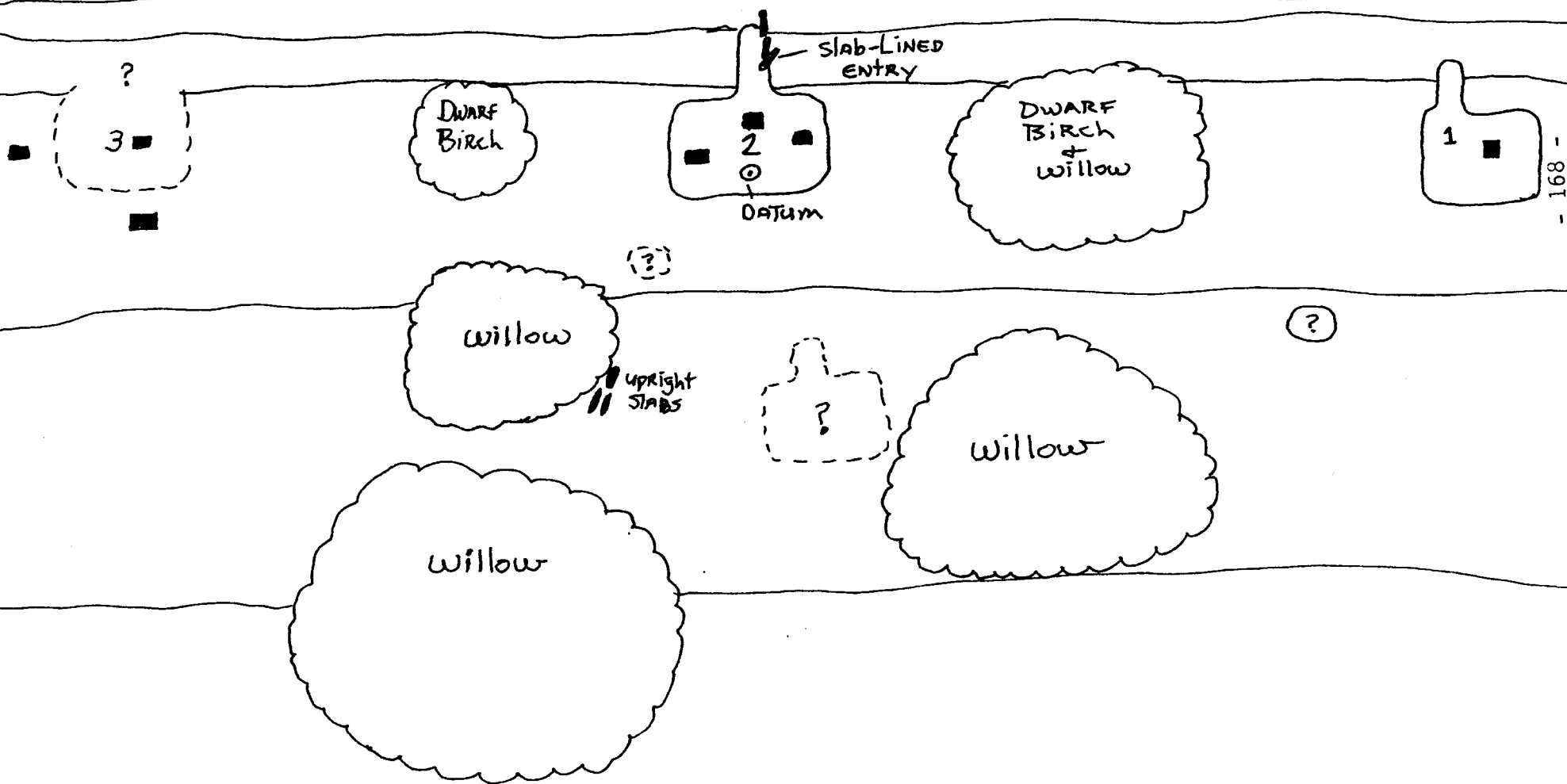
AMR-047

■ = test pit

5 METERS

CONTOUR INTERVAL ~ 2 METERS

← possible caches →



TEST HEARTH #2
(w/ FLAKES)

AMR-048

Site Elevation:
2520 ft.

NE1/4, SE1/4
Section 23
T30N, R11E

Probable Site Type:
Camp/Lookout

Site Age:
ca. 200 years B.P.

Kateel River Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Nunamiut
Eskimo

This site is located on the north shore of the extreme west end of Lake Amitchiak 400 meters east of the lake's outlet stream. The site lies on top of a 15 meter high glacially formed knoll which spans 120 meters of the shoreline. The site occupies the western quarter of the knoll. In this area the lake is quite narrow measuring about 300 meters from shore to shore. To the north of the site, the valley wall rises steeply to 4000' mountains. An embayment of the north shore lies 100 meters west of the site.

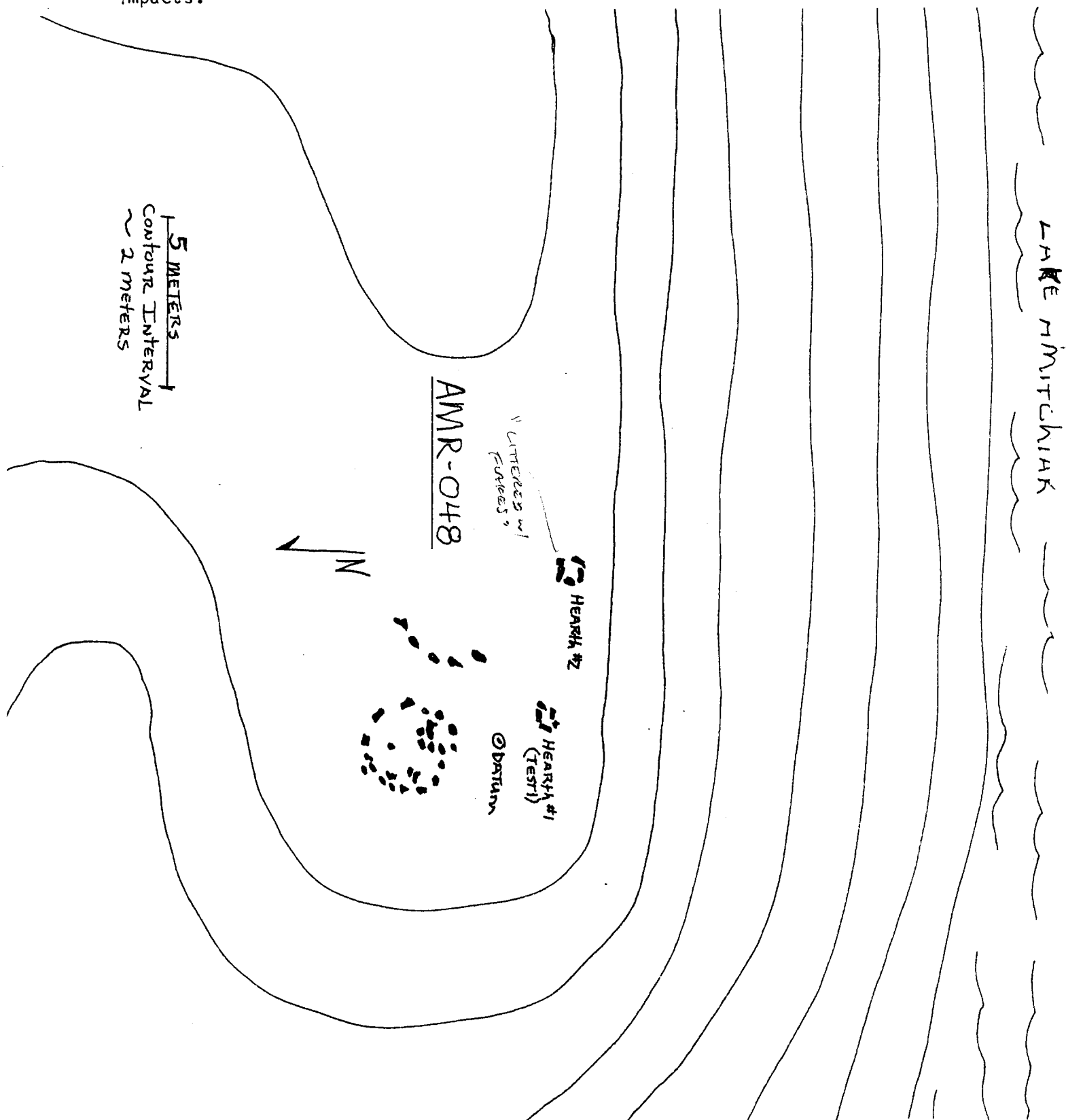
The view from the site is good in all directions, however, the natural focus of attention from the site appears to be the outlet area. The Douglas Creek pass which provides a route south to the Noatak River is located 1.6 kilometers to the west. The view to the east encompasses the majority of the lake. The vegetation on this well drained knoll is composed of low woody and herbaceous plants, grasses, dwarf willow, willow, and dwarf birch.

The site was discovered as a result of surface inspection. At least two hearth areas and a possible tent ring were observed on the west end of the knoll. The westernmost of the two hearths is littered with light gray-blue chert flakes. The second hearth, 4 meters east, is a fire ring 75 cm. in diameter with no visible flakes associated. Six fragments of worked wood are scattered about this end of the site, all are well weathered. The tent ring which lies 4 meters north of hearth #1, measures 2.5 meters in diameter and may have both an interior and exterior hearth. The possibility that a second, "robbed" tent ring, exists one meter east of the first is evidenced by a partial line of bedrock blocks which terminates after 1.5 meters.

Hearth #1 was tested by a 20 cm² test excavated to a depth of 30 cm. A matrix of dark brown organic silt and fire-cracked rock comprised the soil of the first 10 cm. of the excavation. Cultural detritus consisting of two brown chert waste flakes and nine gray chert flakes was recovered from this strata. The following 30 cm. of stratigraphy consisted of a yellowish/reddish/brown sand mixed with fractured bedrock which was culturally sterile.

The site's location suggests that it could have served as a camp as well as a lookout. The lack of diagnostic artifacts preclude cultural or temporal assessment, although, the tent ring and worked wood suggest a recent Eskimo occupation. The variety of lithic material as well as the worked wood would suggest that more than a single occupation event occurred at the site.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.



AMR-049

Site Elevation: 2800 ft.	NW1/4, SW1/4 Section 3 T29N, R12E	Probable Site Type: Lookout
Site Age: Unknown	Kateel River Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

This site may be the one Hall refers to in his 1973 report when he states that he located, "a small chipping station" on the hill at the east end of the lake. The site lies about one kilometer west-northwest of AMR-042 while AMR-041 lies on the lake shore slightly less than 2 kilometers to the west-northwest.

Lying some 130 meters above the level of Lake Kipmik, the site offers a panoramic view of the entire area. All of Lake Kipmik and the surrounding country can be seen as well as much of Lake Amitchiak and many kilometers up and down the Midas Creek drainage.

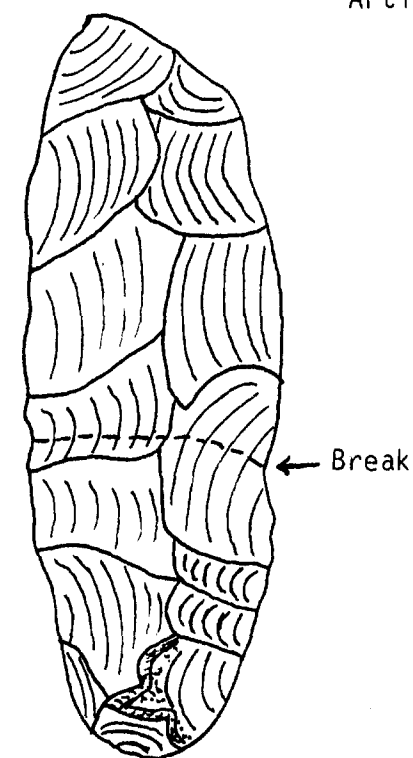
Vegetation at the site consists of a sparse, thin, broken mat of lichen, moss, and low woody and herbaceous plants. The majority of the surface is exposed mineral soil, small chunks of bedrock, some gravel and numerous large slabs of bedrock.

Cultural material was observed on surface in an area roughly 5 meter². A few black and gray chert flakes and four large biface fragments were scattered about the area. Two of the fragments fit together to form a complete artifact. The bifaces are rather roughly made and appear to be blanks or preforms, one may possibly be a knife. There is very little edge retouch on any of the specimens. The waste flakes are of the same material as the bifaces. This suggests the bifaces were manufactured on site, perhaps while a hunter was on the lookout for game. Because the artifacts are not diagnostic no cultural or temporal assessment can be made.

Site significance is of a local nature only. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts. The site could possibly be related to hunting activities from any of the campsites scattered around the lake.

AMR-049 (continued)

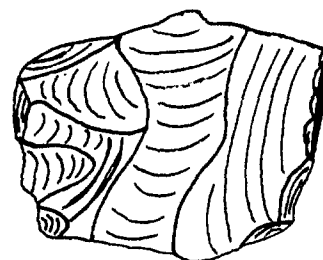
AMR-049
Artifacts - Actual Size
Biface Fragments



Gray Banded Chert



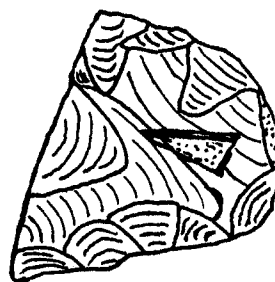
Cross Section



Dark Gray Chert



Cross Section



Black Chert



Cross Section

AMR-050

Site Elevation:
2420 ft.

NE1/4, NW1/4
Section 3
T29N, R12E

Probable Site Type:
Camp/Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Kateel River Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site lies on an old beach terrace or alluvial fan deposit at the southeast corner of Lake Kipmik. AMR-041 lies across the lake 1 kilometer to the southwest. The site is located on the northern end of the terrace 150 meters from the edge of the lake and about 4 meters above lake level.

The view from the site is panoramic encompassing the entire lake and the surrounding local country.

The vegetation at the site consists of a thin mat of lichen, moss, scattered grass, and low herbaceous plants. Patchy growths of very low dwarf birch and a few scattered dwarf willow are also present. The surface is mostly vegetated.

The site was located by visual inspection of the surface. Three chert flakes, two gray and one green, were located within 10 meters of each other. A test pit, 20cm², was excavated to a depth of 8 cm. at the location of the two gray chert flakes. The test pit proved to be culturally sterile, however, subsurface cultural material may be present.

Although, frost heaving has caused numerous hummocks in the surface, the locale would be a fairly good campsite as it is close to the lake shore and offers an excellent view. The site could be associated with AMR-041 across the lake.

Significance of the site is local in nature and research potential is low. There do not seem to be any adverse impacts threatening the site.

DRAFT

AMR-051

Site Elevation:
2440 ft.

NW1/4, SW1/4
Section 32
T30N, R12E

Probable Site Type:
Unknown

Site Age:
Unknown

Kateel River Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site lies on top of a cut-face bluff located on a small bay one kilometer north of the southeast corner of Lake Kipmik. AMR-050 lies one kilometer to the south while AMR-041 lies across the lake 1.5 kilometers to the south-southwest. The top of the bluff is elevated 12 meters above the lake and offers an excellent view of the majority of the of lake and surrounding local country.

Surface vegetation consists of a a broken mat of lichen, moss, and low herbaceous plants. Scattered patches of very low dwarf birch are also present. On the southern end of the bluff an area of dense grass and moss supports some dwarf willow. Mineral soil, gravel and some small flat rocks are exposed over much of the surface of the site area.

Cultural material was located on surface through visual inspection. A black chert blade-like flake and gray chert flake were located about 7 meters apart. A 20 cm² test pit was excavated to a depth of 8 cm. at the location of the blade-like flake and proved to be culturally sterile. A second similar sized test pit was excavated in the moss/grass area to see if the surface vegetation indicated the presence of a subsurface cultural

feature. The test pit proved to be culturally sterile. A depression which may be a cache pit was observed on the bluff edge in front of the grassy area. A visual inspection of the cut face in front of the depression did not reveal any bone or other cultural detritus sloughing off the bluff.

The site location would serve well as a camp location and/or an area for the construction of a semi-subterranean house. The locale would also serve as an excellent lookout.

Site significance is of a local nature only and research potential is low. Active erosion is taking place on the bluff face but the rate at which it is occurring is not known. Due to the paucity of cultural material at the site mitigation of the erosion need not be a pressing management concern.

*DATE
1 MAR 1962*

DRAFT		
Site Elevation: 2500 ft.	AMR-052 SE1/4, NW1/4 Section 32 T30N, R12E	Probable Site Type: Camp
Site Age: ca. 500 years B.P.	Kateel River Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Late Prehistoric Eskimo

This site is located 1 kilometer south of the outlet of Lake Kipmik, and 100-200 meters east of the westernmost creek draining into the lake. The site lies on top of and 90 meters west of the promontory of the very gently sloping alluvial fan built by the creek which drains the 4000' mountains to the south. A creek 800 meters to the east drains a more restricted area, yet contributed to the build up of the fan. The view from the site is surprisingly good and a totally unobstructed through 360°.

The surface of the site is covered by a thin, somewhat sporadic mat of lichen, moss, grass, and low woody and herbaceous plants. Dwarf birch and willow are scattered about as well as cotton grass tussocks in the wetter areas.

This two locality site was discovered during surface inspection. Several flakes of gray, black, bluish green, and brown streaked chert were seen scattered over a two meter² area. A fragment of a bluish-gray chert side blade/projectile point, tip and mid-section was associated with the flake. Fifteen meters to the north, a light brown chert end scraper was observed. Slightly east of the lithic concentration there appears to be a very old tent ring with an associated hearth. A test pit, 30 cm², was excavated in the middle of the hearth which was apparent from the surface indications to the same degree as the rocks comprising the

tent ring. The hearth matrix contained charcoal, burned bone, fire-cracked rock and a few chert flakes and in profile appeared to begin 3 cm. below surface and extend to a depth of 10 cm.

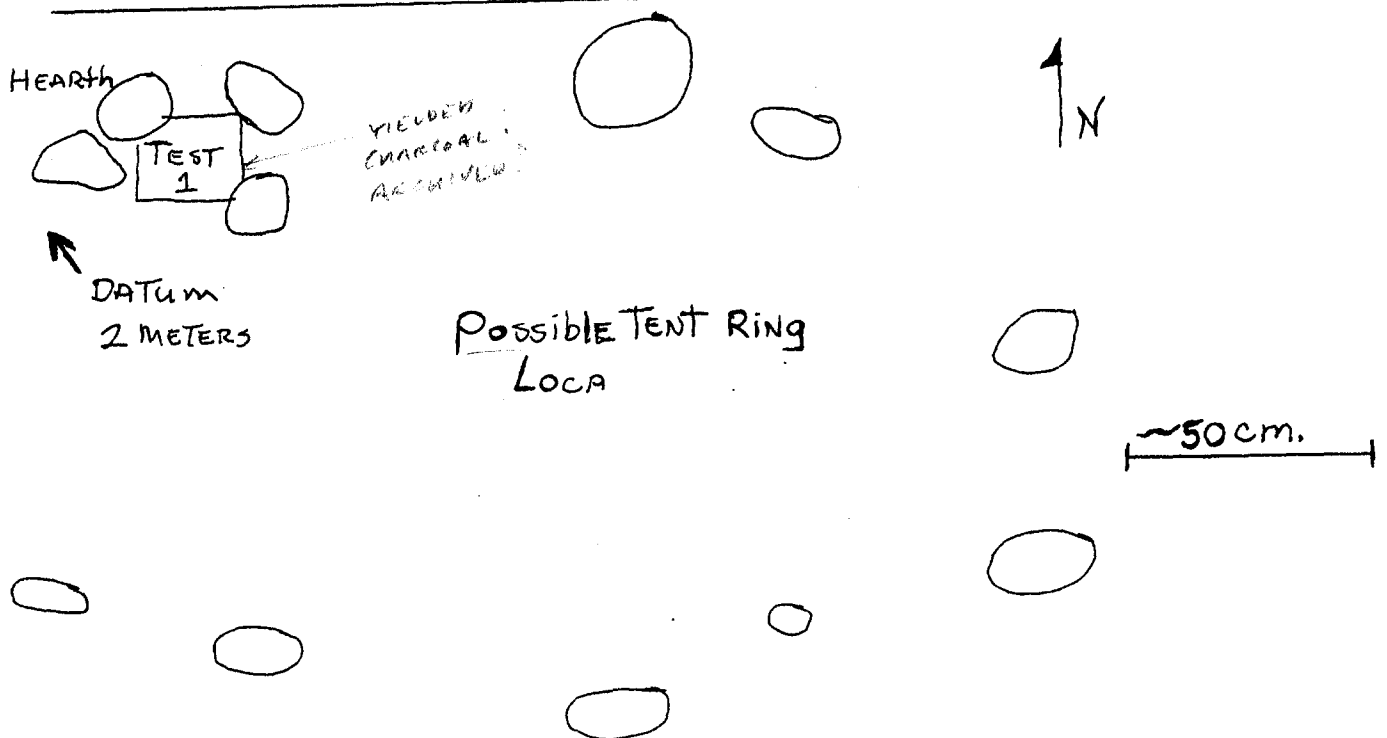
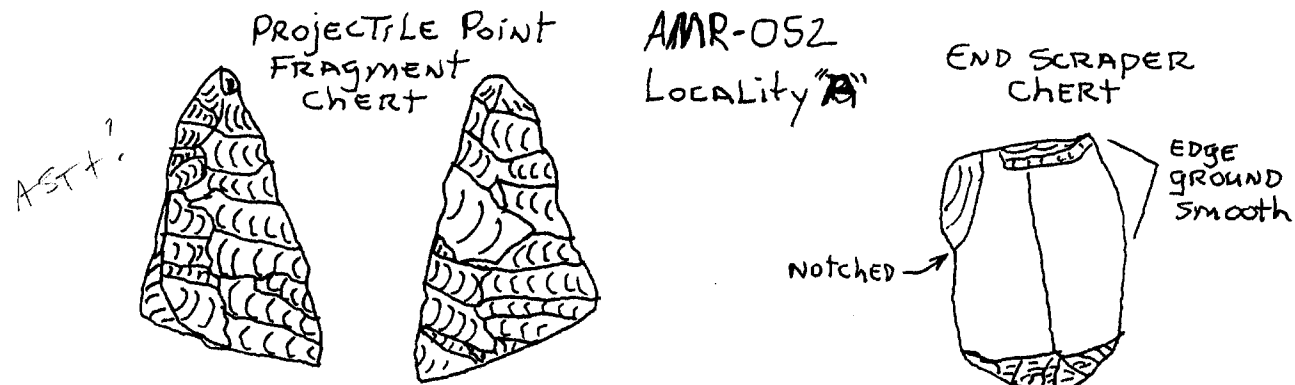
Ninety meters west of locality #1, on a slightly lower part of the fan, several more flakes of dark and light gray chert were found in association with what appears to be a V-shaped wind break or possibly a tent-ring of some other kind than the usual round variety. A large tool fragment of gray chert was found in the middle at the open-end of the feature. Five meters east of this a retouched flake of streaked brown chert was found. Eight to ten meters north of these artifacts a scatter of six gray chert flakes was noted.

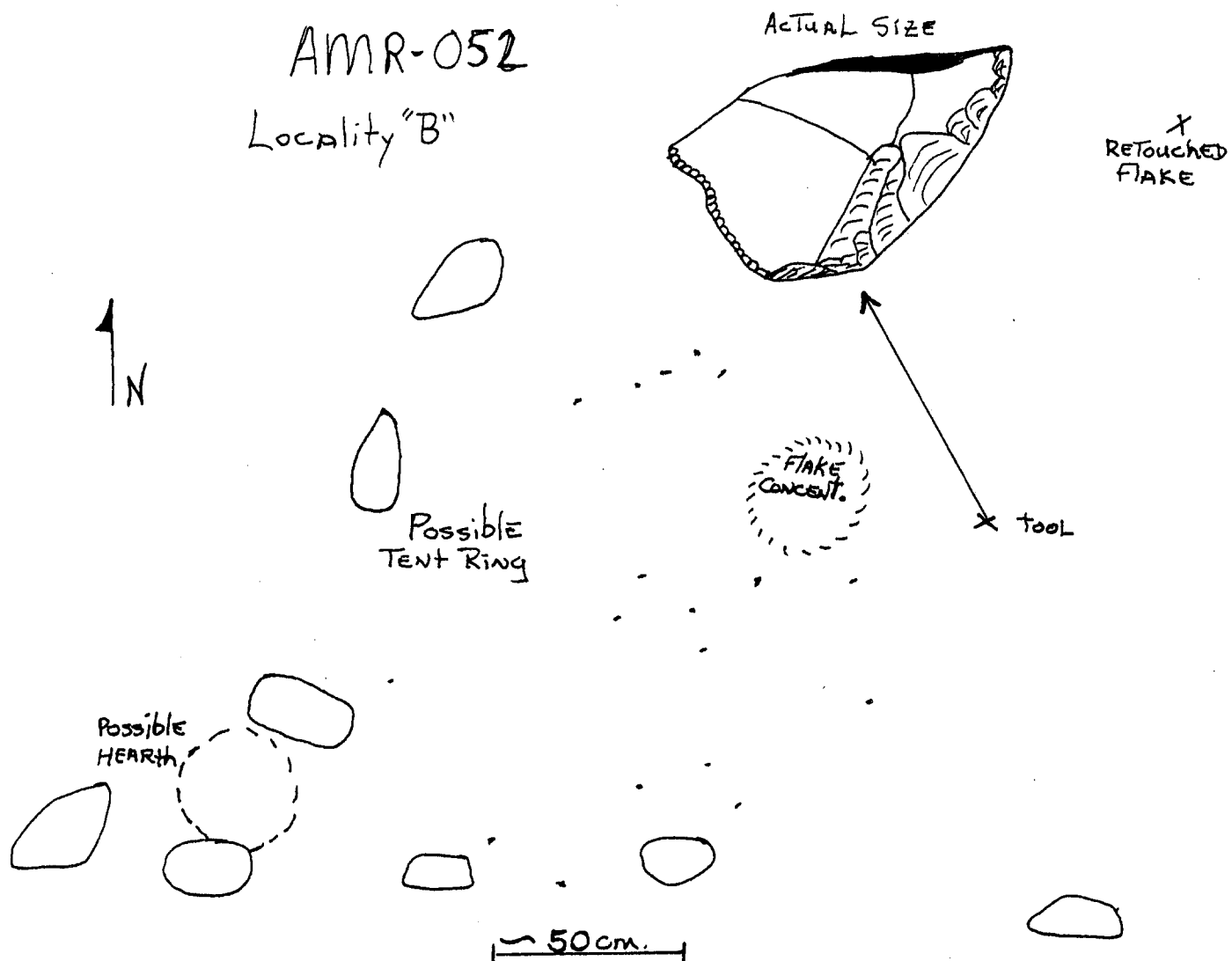
Also present at the site are what appear to be several lines of inuksuk which seem to be scattered over the site area in seemingly random directions. Whether or not the inuksuk are associated with the other cultural features at the site is a matter of conjecture.

The site appears to have served as a camp, possibly associated with hunting activities. Although, no diagnostic artifacts were noted, the cultural feature and presence burned bone in the hearth at locality #1 suggest a relatively recent age. Evidence suggests occupation of the site by late prehistoric or Nunamiut Eskimo.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

AMR-052 (continued)





MAP AREA #6

CHANDLER LAKE/LITTLE CHANDLER LAKE

Camp #1 and #2 May 27 - June 30

Between May 25 and 26 the gear the supplies were ferried from Bettles to Anaktuvuk Pass via fixed-wing aircraft. On the 27th the helicopter ferried the gear to the Camp #1 location on the southwestern shore of Agiak Lake. Five helicopter trips were required to get all gear, supplies and personnel to the camp location 24 miles west of Anaktuvuk Pass. When Camp #1 was set up there was still quite a bit of snow on the ground. As snow melt occurred during the first few days it became apparent that we might have erected our camp on a native allotment. The owners were notified and they indicated that they did not want our camp to remain on their property. Therefore, on June 1 we moved the camp to the northeast side of the lake just to the north of the inlet stream. This move to the Camp #2 location was accomplished through the use of a helicopter. Later examination of the Camp #1 location, after the snow had melted, proved that our camp had not been located on an allotment.

Archeological survey in Map Area #6 was conducted out of the Camp #1 location for a period of five days and out of the Camp #2 locale for a period of one day. All of this survey work was logistically supported by a helicopter. During this period an area of roughly four square miles was surveyed and 17 archeological sites were located.

The areas around Chandler Lake and Little Chandler Lake were not as intensively surveyed as they could have been. The reason for this was that Jack Campbell had worked around these lakes in the late 1950's and early 1960's and that Herb Alexander had also worked in the area in the early and mid 1960's. Armed with both Campbells and Alexander's dissertations while surveying we did our best not to duplicate any of the previous work. It soon became apparent that both Campbell and Alexander had investigated only the most likely looking areas. This is not surprising as their time and logistic resources were much more limited than were ours. At any rate, if we had been aware of this fact at the beginning of the survey we might have covered this area a little more intensely.

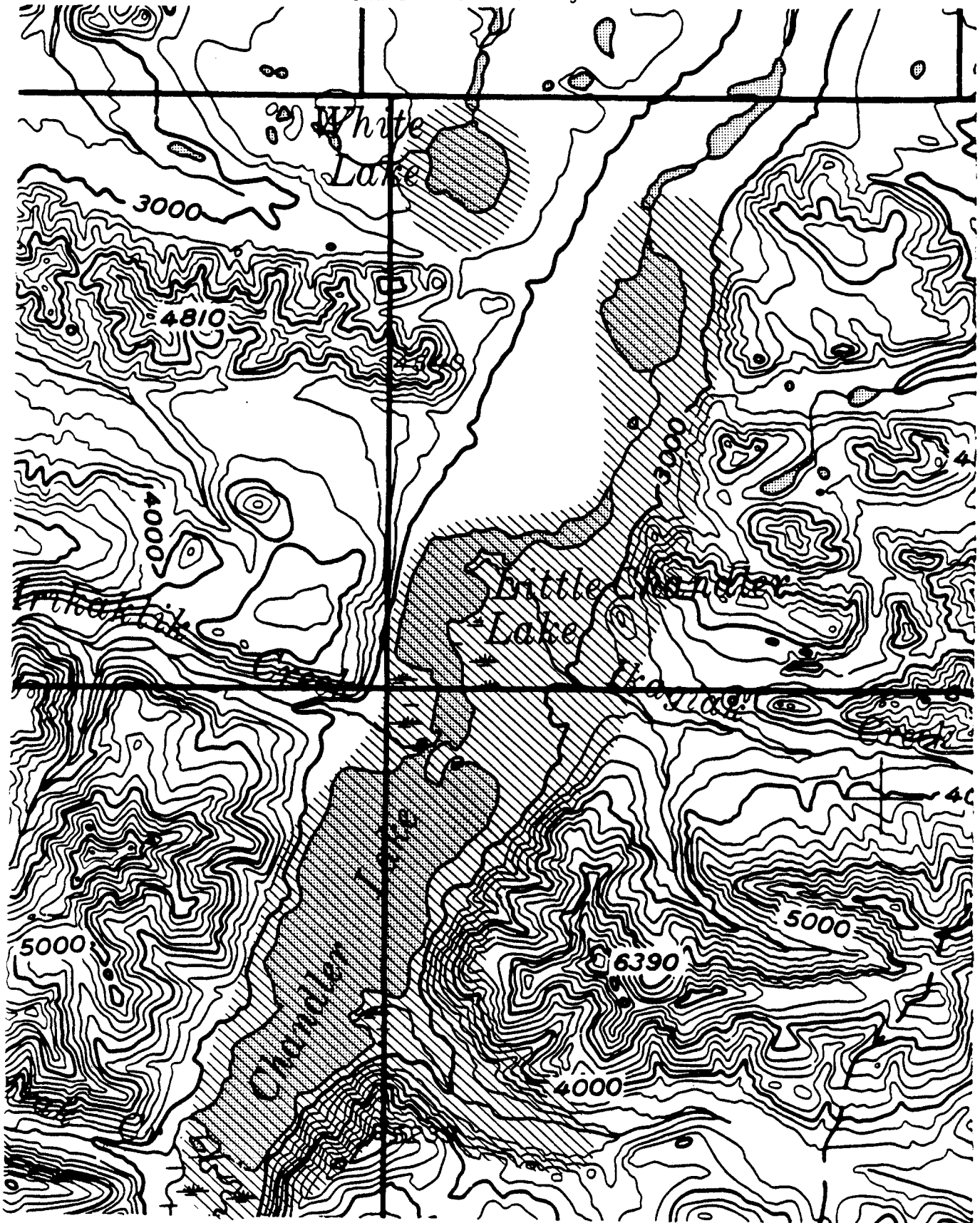
All of the culturally identifiable sites located in Map Area #6 appear to be representative of Eskimo Continuum cultures. Of the 17 sites located in this area during this phase of the survey 11 were attributed to the activities of Nunamiut Eskimo occurring within the last 100-200 years (later in the summer Dr. Campbell spent several days in the area relocating old sites and finding several new ones). The oldest identifiable sites noted in this area were occupations of the Denbigh Flint Complex people which date between 4000-2000 years ago. As a general observation the Chandler Lake basin appears to have seen much greater human use during the last 200 years than at any time in the past.

At the time this survey was conducted there was patchy snow cover present as all of the previous winter's accumulation had not yet melted. It is quite possible that some archeological sites were buried beneath snow drifts and were not located.) *

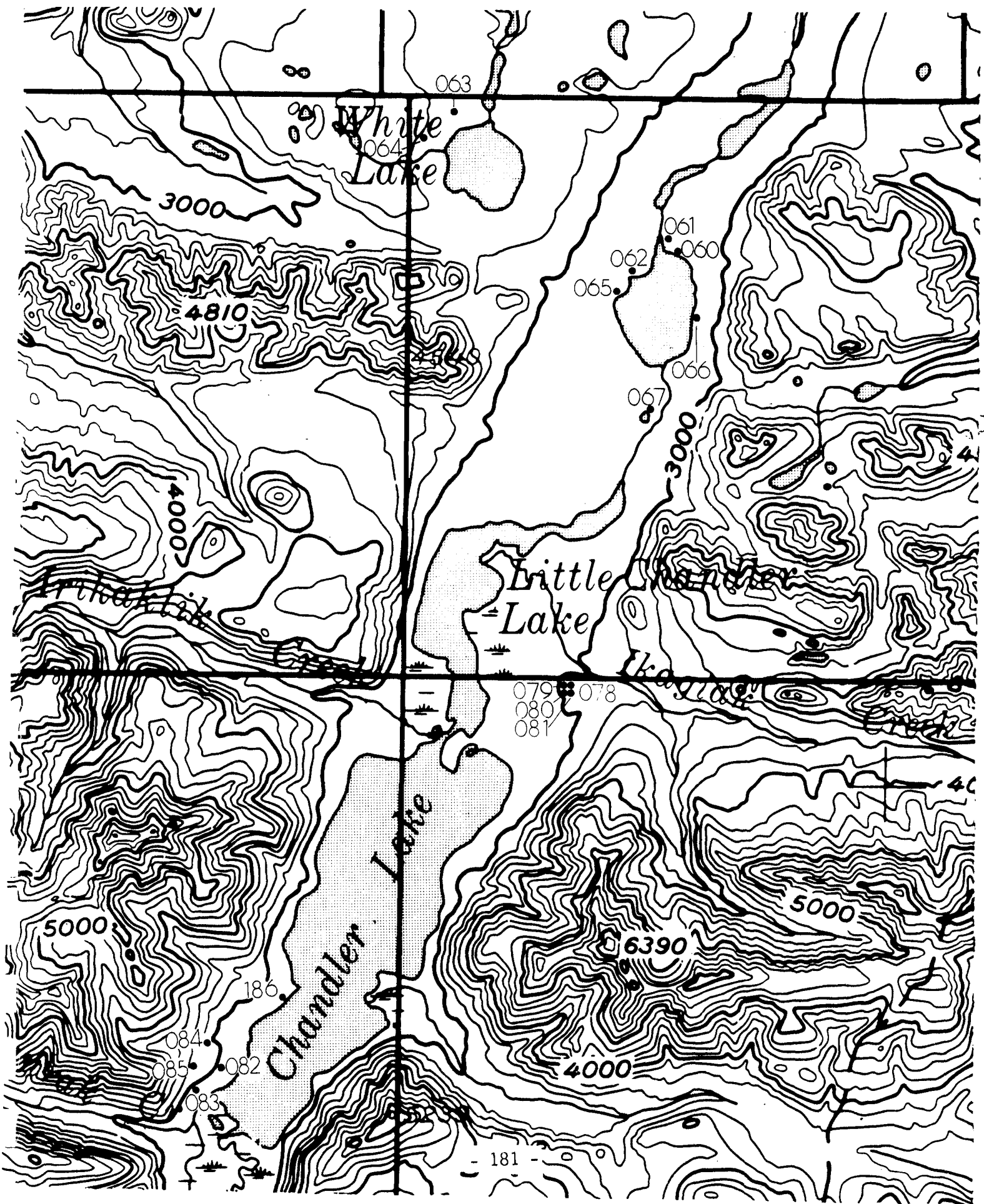
DRAFT

6 miles

Shaded Area = Surveyed Area



6 miles



XCL-060

Site Elevation:	NE1/4, SE1/4	Probable Site Type:
2975 ft.	Section 9	Camp/Flaking Station
	T13S, R3W	
Site Age:	Umiat Meridian	Probable Cultural
Unknown		Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on an old beach terrace on the east side of the outlet of Round Lake. XCL-062 lies 800 meters across the lake to the west-southwest. The terrace is roughly 100 meters long and 10 meters wide and stands several meters above lake level. Due to its relatively low stature the view from the site is relegated to the local area encompassing the lake basin and the surrounding slopes.

The surface of the site is thinly vegetated with lichen, moss, grass, and some low woody and herbaceous plants. The area between the site and the lake is covered with cotton grass tussocks.

The site was located as a result of visual inspection of the surface of the terrace. Numerous flakes of olive drab, gray, and greenish-gray chert were observed on, in, and beneath the surface in a 2 meter² area at the center of the terrace. No subsurface testing was undertaken and no additional cultural material was noted elsewhere on the terrace.

The site's location and cultural material suggest that it may have served as a short term camp/flaking station. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes temporal or cultural assessment of the site. However, the variety of lithic material suggests that more than one occupational event may have occurred.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-061

Site Elevation:	NE1/4, SE1/4	Probable Site Type:
2980 ft.	Section 9	Camp
	T13S, R3N	
Site Age:	Umiat Meridian	Probable Cultural
ca. 75 years B.P.		Affiliation: Nunamiut Eskimo

This site is located along southern margin of some well drained lobes of dead-ice glacial deposits at north end of Round Lake. The site is immediately behind an old beach terrace on which XCL-060 is located. Being somewhat low lying the view from the site is confined to the local area encompassing the lake basin and the nearby slopes.

Vegetation at the site consists of a thin, broken mat of lichen, grass, moss, and scattered low woody and herbaceous plants. Cotton grass tussocks are plentiful in the less well-drained areas around the site.

The site was located as the result of surface reconnaissance of the area and consists of two, perhaps three, nearly interlocking tent rings each roughly 3 meters in diameter. The tent rings are oriented on a line running northwest-southeast. Both the northern most and central rings appear to have old test excavations in them. Associated with the tent rings is what may be a roughly made, shallow, cobble lined cache pit.

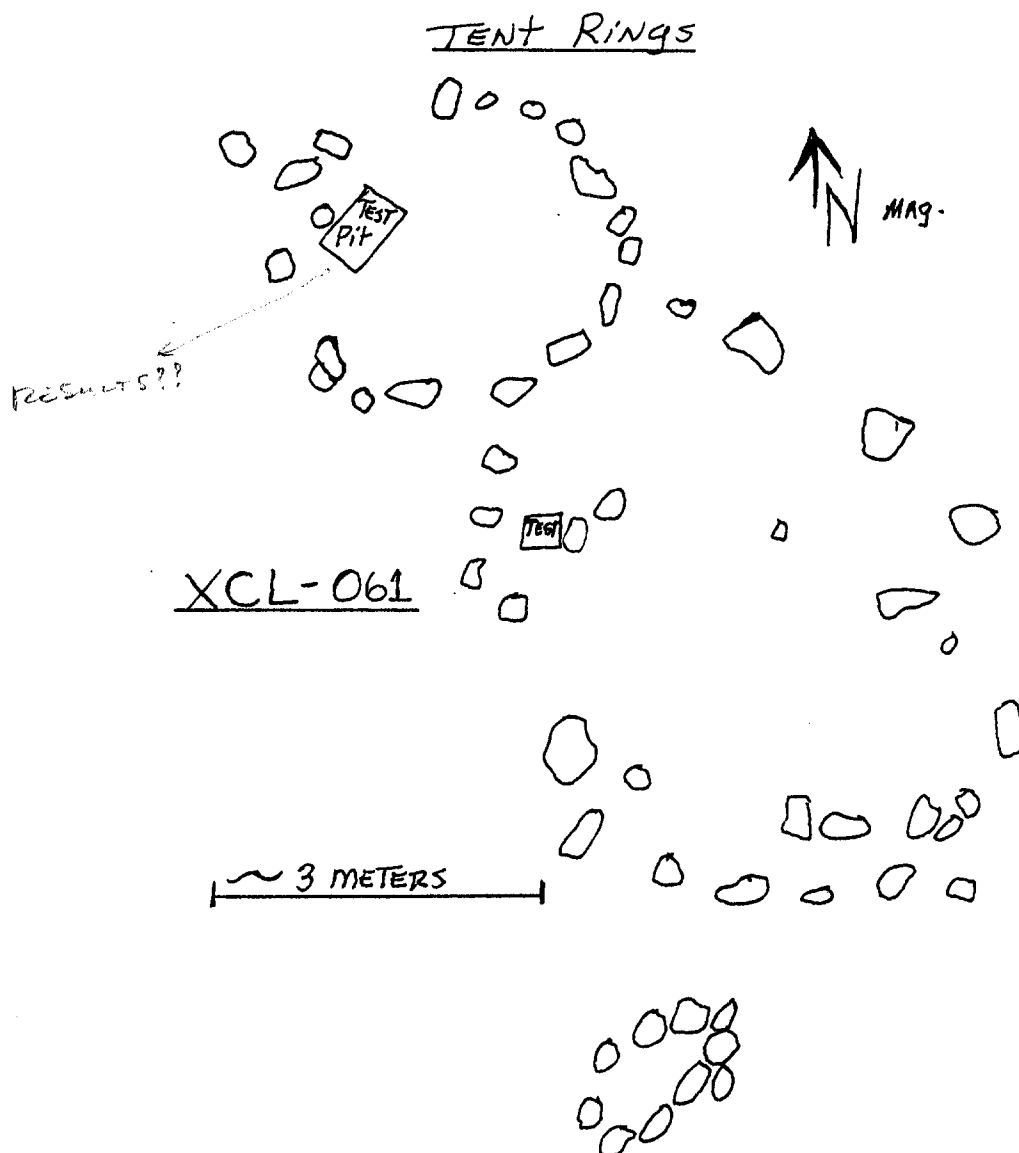
The stone work of all the cultural features are moderately well integrated into the vegetation mat. The only cultural material evident on surface apart from the stone work, was single small piece of cut willow which was also integrated into vegetation mat. No subsurface testing was done. ^{MAP INDICATES OTHERWISE ??}

The site probably represents a Nunamiut summer camp of moderate duration as suggested by the presence of the stone tent ring and presence of presumed stone lined cache pit. Evidence suggests the site may have been repeatedly occupied as indicated by the somewhat jumbled nature of the central and southern tent rings resulting from use and reuse of the same stones.

Age is difficult to estimate, but judging by degree to which the stones are integrated into the vegetation mat a date of ca. 75 years ago may reflect the most recent occupation.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-061 (continued)



XCL-062

Site Elevation:
2980 ft.

SW1/4, NE1/4, SE1/4
Section 9
T13S, R3W
Umiat Meridian

Probable Site Type:
Lookout/Cache

Site Age:
ca 150 years B.P.

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Nunamiut
Eskimo

This site is oriented north-south along a rocky hill on the northwest shore of Round Lake. Round Lake receives the outlet stream of Little Chandler Lake which lies 2.5 kilometers to the south-southwest. The hill

upon which the site is located is approximately 300 meters long (north-south) and 200 meters wide (east-west). The view from the site is limited to the east and west by rising terrain beyond a distance of several kilometers. To the north and south, up and down the Chandler Lake basin, the view is more extensive.

The surface of the site is sporadically covered by patches of moss, lichen, cotton grass tussocks, low woody and herbaceous plants, and dwarf birch. Much of the surface is exposed mineral soil, fractured bedrock, and scattered boulders.

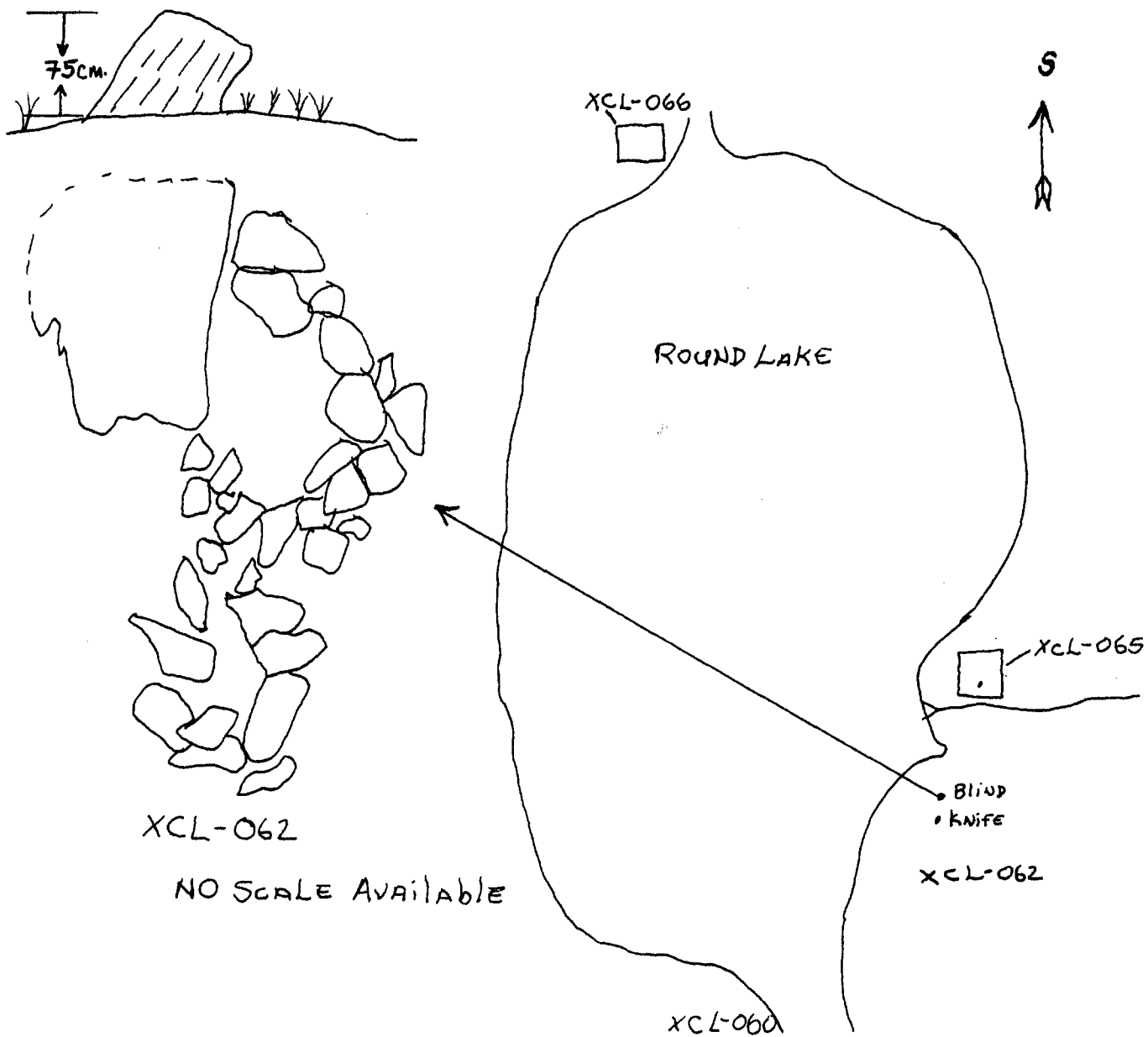
The site was located as a result of surface reconnaissance of the area. A stone cache or shooting blind was observed at the south end of the hill composed of rounded and flat, coarse textured rock. A large boulder was incorporated as the northern wall of the structure with the other rocks laid in a semicircle. The structure lies approximately 15 meters above the flow line of the lake. Pieces of unburned caribou bone are scattered about the area, however, it is impossible to determine if they are associated with the feature or if their origin is cultural.

Thirty meters south of the cache/blind, near the crest of the hill, a large retouched flake of gray chert was observed. The retouch appears purposeful and occurs unifacially on one margin only. The artifact may have served as a knife or scraper.

The site appears to have been used as a lookout and/or a cache location. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any definitive temporal or cultural assessment. However, the flavor of the site suggests it is Nunamiut Eskimo in origin and may have been occupied during the last 150 years.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears to be low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-062 (continued)



XCL-063

Site Elevation: 3140 ft.	NE1/4, NE1/4 Section 6 T13S, R3W	Probable Site Type: Unknown
Site Age: Unknown	Umiat Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

This site lies on a gravel ridge roughly 200 meters north of the northwest corner of White Lake. XCL-064 lies 600 meters to the southwest. The site is located on the western end of the ridge and although not elevated to any great degree, provides a good view of the local country.

Vegetation at the site consists of lichen, moss, grass, and low woody and herbaceous plants. Approximately, 50% of the surface of the site is unvegetated gravel and mineral soil.

The site was located as the result of visual reconnaissance of the area. A single chunk of black chert was observed on surface. No subsurface testing was undertaken.

There is insufficient data to even guess what function the site may have served. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any cultural or temporal assessment.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-064

Site Elevation: 3140 ft.	SE1/4, NW1/4 Section 6 T12S, R3W	Probable Site Type: Camp
Site Age: ca. 100 years B.P.	Umiat Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Nunamiut Eskimo

This site is located on a low, broad knoll/ridge slightly less than 100 meters west of the northwest shore of White Lake. A feeder stream entering the lake from the west lies less than 100 meters south of the site while XCL-063 lies 700 meters to the north-northwest. The view from the site is locally good encompassing the lake and surrounding country.

About 70% of the site is covered by a thin vegetation mat which includes moss, lichen, grass, and some low woody and herbaceous plants. Gravel and mineral soil exposures are common in the site area.

The site was located as the result of visual inspection of the surface and the site consists of three tent rings and two associated hearths.

Tent ring "A" is roughly square in outline and measures 3 meters². The shape of this ring suggests the use of a commercially manufactured wall tent. A blue-gray chert flake was found on surface at the northern edge of the ring. Two 20 cm² test pits were excavated to a depth of 10 cm. at the northeast edge of the ring. The westernmost test yielded some burned caribou bone fragments 7 cm. below surface.

Tent ring "B", which lies approximately 4 meters south of tent ring "A", is round in outline and slightly less than 3 meters in diameter. Four 20 cm² test pits were excavated to a depth of roughly 10 cm. near the north-northeast and south-southeast edges of the ring. One of the test pits excavated under a large, flat rock, yielded a whetstone. The other test pits were culturally sterile. A fire ring/hearth is located 2.5 meters south-southeast of tent ring "B".

Tent ring "C", is subrectangular in shape and lies 8 meters northeast of tent ring "B". In addition, to the stones a low, 10-20 cm., berm surrounds the ring perimeter. A single blue-gray chert flake was observed on surface just inside the southwest perimeter of the ring. Several fragments of caribou bone were scattered about the surface in the tent ring area. Five 20 cm² test pits were excavated to a depth of 10 cm., two inside the ring and three outside, and proved to be culturally sterile. A fire ring/hearth lies four meters to the west.

All of the tent rings were moderately well incorporated into the surface vegetation. There is little reason to suggest that all the tent rings are contemporaneous or that the chert flakes are associated with the tent rings. Additional tent rings may be present.

The site probably reflects a non-snow month camp of Nunamiut Eskimos occupied some time during the last 100 years.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-064 (continued)

1m N Mag.

TENT RING "A"

HEARTH

TENT RING "C"

TENT RING "B"

XCL-064
SITE MAP

X CHERT FLAKE

1 METER

TENT RING "A"

TEST PIT

TEST PIT

TENT RING "B"

X

1 METER

X=WHETSTONE (UNDER ROCK)

TEST PIT

TEST PIT

TENT RING "C"

HEARTH

TEST PIT

TEST PIT

1 METER

B=CARIBOU BONE
X=CHERT FLAKE

XCL-065

Site Elevation:
2965 ft.

SW1/4, NW1/4
Section 9
T13S, R3W

Probable Site Type:
Camp

Site Age:
100 years or less

Umiat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Nunamiut
Eskimo

This site is located on the western shore of Round Lake and lies on an Alluvial fan built by a small unnamed creek which lies 20 meters to the north. The site sits a scant 1 meter above present water level of Round Lake and approximately 6 meters from the water's edge. The site provides good views to the south and east, across the lake, while to the north and west the view is obstructed by rising terrain.

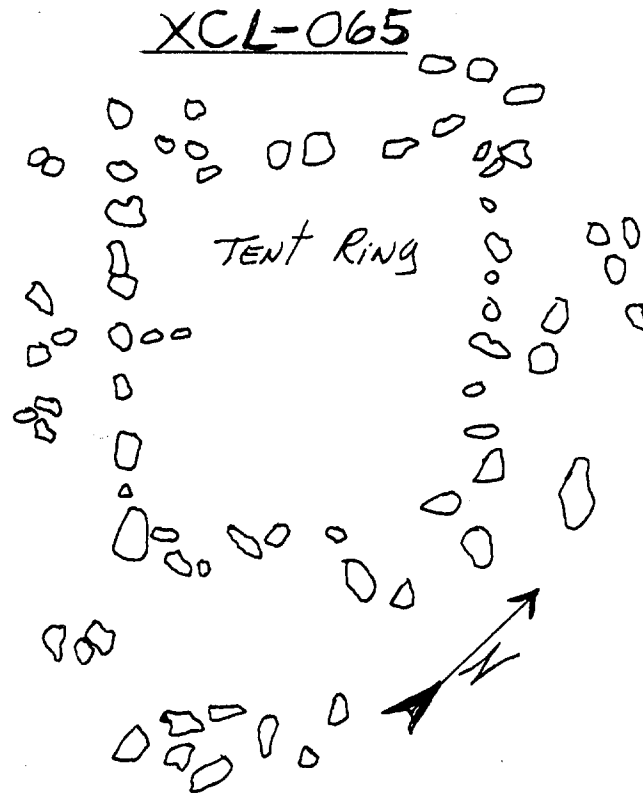
The site area is sparsely covered by lichen and moss. The creek supports a 2 meter border of alder and willow along its perimeter. In areas of greater soil depth, hardier vegetation is present but patchy. The site area is bordered by cotton grass tussocks. Less than 10% of the surface is vegetated. Most of the site's area consist of exposed mineral soil, gravel, boulders, cobbles, and fractured bedrock.

A square tent ring and possibly a hearth were located as a result of visual reconnaissance of the area. The tent ring is 2.5 meters on each side and is made of flat or slightly rounded rocks. Lying on a relatively flat, gravelly area, the tent would have commanded an excellent view of the lake. Around the outside of the ring were six smaller stacks of rocks, perhaps once used as anchors for guy lines on the tent. No charcoal or burnt wood was found in the possible hearth area, although caribou bone was scattered about. No lithics or more recent cultural material were observed in association with the tent ring.

The site probably represents a 20th century Nunamiut Eskimo encampment. The square shape of the tent ring implies use of a commercially manufactured wall tent. The site probably served as a caribou hunting camp.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-065 (continued)



XCL-066.

Site Elevation:
2965 ft.

SE1/4, NE1/4
Section 16
T13S, R3W
Umiat Meridian

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located at the south end of Round Lake, on the east side of the inlet stream. The inlet stream lies 150 meters to the west of the site while the lake shore is approximately 70 meters to the north.

The site is located at the north edge of a dead-ice glacial feature approximately 15 meters above the present waterline of Round Lake. The site area is quite level near its leading edge where a recent camp is located.

Vegetation at the site is primarily lichen, moss and scattered grass. At the mouth of the inlet stream there is a thicket of willows. Mineral soil exposures are common over the area. The view north of the lake is excellent affording a hunter a good vantage point for observing caribou traveling south. Views in other directions cover varying amounts of country due to rising terrain.

This site was first noticed because of a contemporary camp location. A coffee can and assorted other refuse were present on surface as well as a wall tent that had been rolled up and left.

A large gray chert flake and a large black chert flake were observed on surface in the vicinity of the recent camp. No other cultural material was observed.

The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any temporal or cultural assessment of the site. The site's location and paucity of cultural material suggest the location served as a lookout.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-067

Site Elevation: 2960 ft.	DRAFT	SW1/4, NE1/4 Section 21 T13S, R3W Uniat Meridian	Probable Site Type: Camp
Site Age: ca. 100 years B.P.		Probable Cultural Affiliation: Nunamiut Eskimo	

This site is located on the east side of a rise which lies on the west side of the Chandler River roughly 800 meters south of Round Lake. A small pond is located 30 meters west of the site while the Chandler River lies 100 meters to the east. Although, only slightly elevated the site provides a reasonably good view of the local area.

About 10% of the surface of the site is unvegetated and consists of exposed mineral soil and gravel. Vegetation consists of moss, lichen, scattered grass, and low woody and herbaceous plants. Some dwarf willow and birch are also present.

The site was located as the result of surface reconnaissance of the area and consists of two tent rings and three hearths. The site is divided into two localities.

Locality #1 consists of a hearth 1 meter in diameter. Along the edge of the hearth a large blue-gray chert flake and several bird bone fragments were noted. No subsurface testing was undertaken.

Locality #2 consists of two tent rings and two hearths, and is roughly 150 meters south of locality #1. The tent rings are roughly circular and about 2.5 meters in diameter. Both tent rings received subsurface testing which produced no cultural material. However, testing the southernmost hearth produced subsurface charcoal.

Thirty-two meters south-southwest of the southernmost tent ring a hole 45 cm² was noted. The hole appears to be an old archeological test pit.

Cultural evidence at the site suggests a non-snow month camp occupied by Nunamiut Eskimo some time during the last 100 years.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-078

Site Elevation:
3020 ft.

NE1/4, NE1/4
Section 5
T14S, R3W

Probable Site Type:
Inuksuk

Site Age:
ca. 100 years B.P.

Uniat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Nunamiut
Eskimo

The site is located along the crest of the southernmost knoll, on the south side of Ikagiak Creek which enters Little Chandler Lake from the east. The creek lies 400 meters to the north of the site while Little Chandler Lake is located roughly 1 kilometer to the west. The view from this site encompasses both Chandler Lake to the south, and Little Chandler Lake to the immediate west. Visibility north and east is limited by rising terrain and the valley's eastern wall.

Vegetation at the site is relatively sparse consisting of scattered patches of lichen, moss, grass and low woody and herbaceous plants. Much of the surface is exposed mineral soil, glacial till, and fractured bedrock. There are no surface disturbances beyond an occasional ground squirrel burrow

The site was located as the result of visual inspection of the surface and consists of a series of five, low, stone inuksuk which run in a line along the crest of the knoll on a northwest/southeast axis. The inuksuk which are spaced 15-20 meters apart, where not tumbled down and consist of rocks piled on one another. None of the inuksuk are over 70 cm. high. In addition, a collapsed hunting blind was observed on the flat western margin of the knoll near its north end about 25 meters west of the northernmost inuksuk.

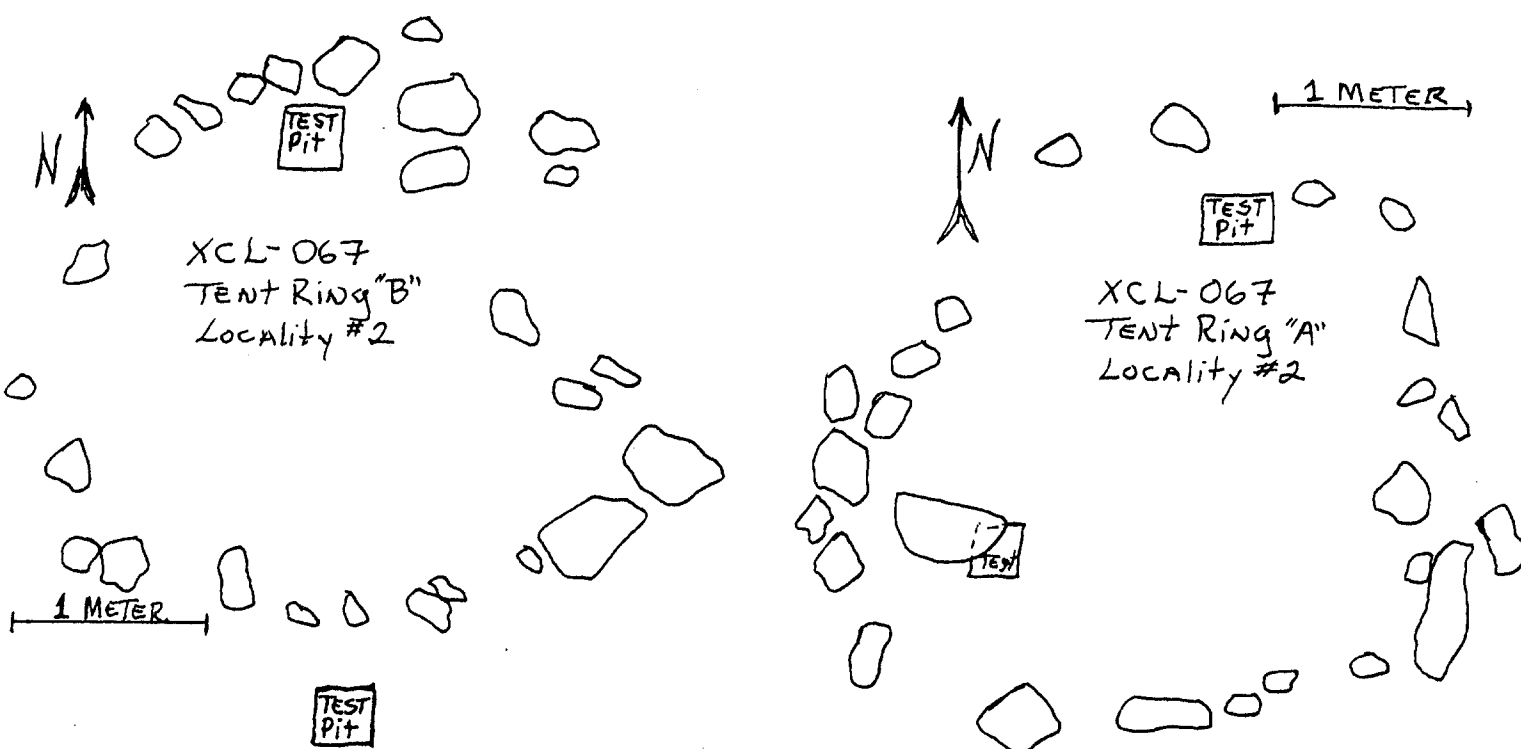
The blind was built around two boulders, is semicircular in form, and oriented to the south. Nearby are the remains of two small fire hearths. Both hearths contain some charcoal and are partially covered/obscured by flat slabs of rock.

Other materials in the immediate site area include a piece of cut and worked willow projecting between the tumbled rocks of the blind wall. Several pieces of broken and extremely weathered caribou bone are scattered about the area. No subsurface testing was undertaken.

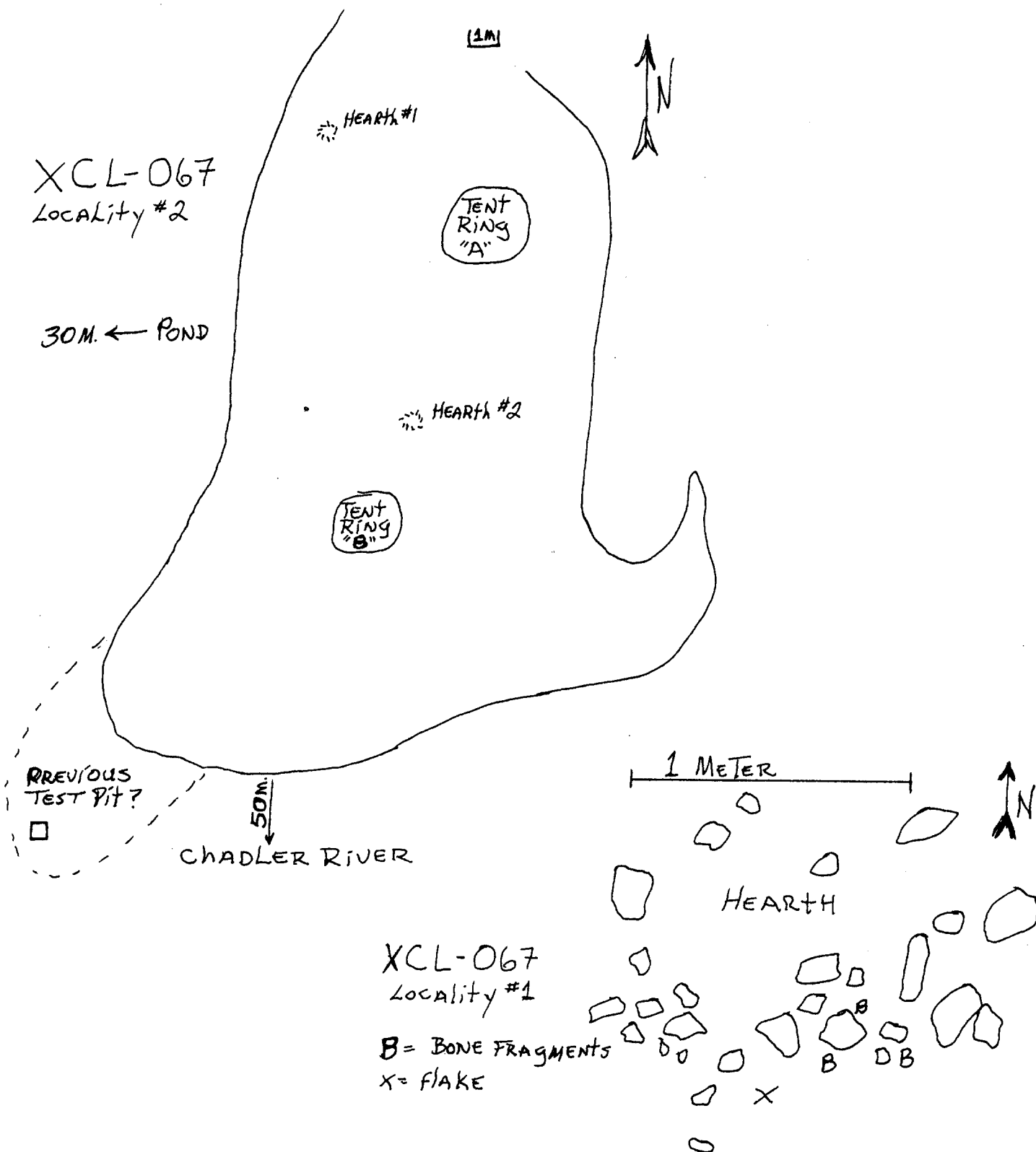
This combination of inuksuk and hunting blind could be remnants from a 1945 caribou drive in which the animals were driven into Little Chandler Lake and then speared from kayaks. Ethnographic accounts place an individual in the site area during the drive.

On the other hand, the tumbled down nature of the blind and some of the inuksuk and the severe state of weathering of bone, suggest the site is older than 40 years. Whatever the case, the site is quite probably Nunamiut Eskimo occupation of the last 100 years.

Site significance, if not part of the 1945 caribou drive, is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impact.



XCL-067 (continued)



XCL-078

Site Elevation:
3020 ft.

NE1/4, NE1/4
Section 5
T14S, R3W

Probable Site Type:
Inuksuk

Site Age:
ca. 100 years B.P.

Umiat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Nunamiut
Eskimo

The site is located along the crest of the southernmost knoll, on the south side of Ikagiak Creek which enters Little Chandler Lake from the east. The creek lies 400 meters to the north of the site while Little Chandler Lake is located roughly 1 kilometer to the west. The view from this site encompasses both Chandler Lake to the south, and Little Chandler Lake to the immediate west. Visibility north and east is limited by rising terrain and the valley's eastern wall.

Vegetation at the site is relatively sparse consisting of scattered patches of lichen, moss, grass and low woody and herbaceous plants. Much of the surface is exposed mineral soil, glacial till, and fractured bedrock. There are no surface disturbances beyond an occasional ground squirrel burrow.

The site was located as the result of visual inspection of the surface and consists of a series of five, low, stone inuksuk which run in a line along the crest of the knoll on a northwest/southeast axis. The inuksuk which are spaced 15-20 meters apart, where not tumbled down and consist of rocks piled on one another. None of the inuksuk are over 70 cm. high. In addition, a collapsed hunting blind was observed on the flat western margin of the knoll near its north end about 25 meters west of the northernmost inuksuk.

The blind was built around two boulders, is semicircular in form, and oriented to the south. Nearby are the remains of two small fire hearths. Both hearths contain some charcoal and are partially covered/obscured by flat slabs of rock.

Other materials in the immediate site area include a piece of cut and worked willow projecting between the tumbled rocks of the blind wall. Several pieces of broken and extremely weathered caribou bone are scattered about the area. No subsurface testing was undertaken.

This combination of inuksuk and hunting blind could be remnants from a 1945 caribou drive in which the animals were driven into Little Chandler Lake and then speared from kayaks. Ethnographic accounts place an individual in the site area during the drive.

On the other hand, the tumbled down nature of the blind and some of the inuksuk and the severe state of weathering of bone, suggest the site is older than 40 years. Whatever the case, the site is quite probably Nunamiut Eskimo occupation of the last 100 years.

Site significance, if not part of the 1945 caribou drive, is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impact.

XCL-079

Site Elevation: 3020 ft.	NE1/4, NE1/4 Section 5 T14S, R3W	Probable Site Type: Lookout
Site Age: 4000-2000 years B.P.	Umat Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Denbigh Flint Complex

This site is located near the southern end of the largest of several knolls on the south side of Ikagiak Creek about 1.5 kilometers east of Little Chandler Lake. XCL-078 lies approximately 200 meters to the south. The view potential from this site is a little better than that of nearby XCL-078, having a broader view to the northern approach of the Chandler Valley

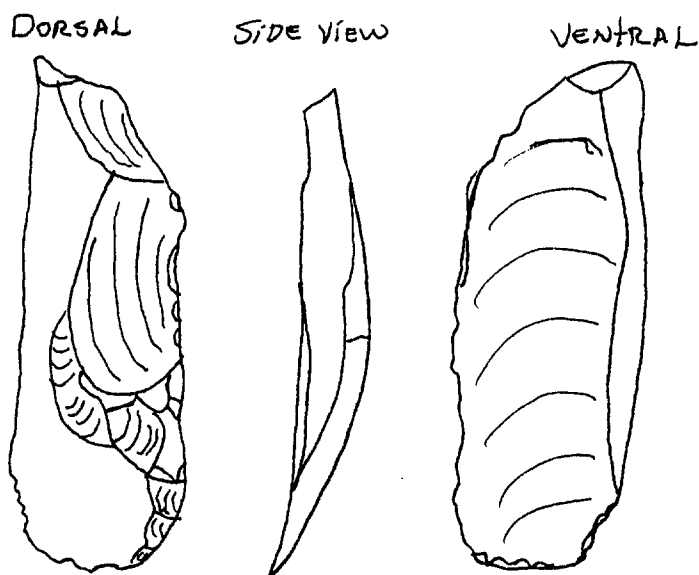
The surface of the site area is rather flat, rocky, and very well drained. Vegetation is patchy and discontinuous, consisting of grasses, moss, lichen and low woody and herbaceous plants.

The site was located as the result of surface reconnaissance of the area. Cultural material, on surface, consisted of a flake knife, the upper portion of an end blade, possibly the distal end of a burin spall and a fragment of a microblade core tablet, all of gray chert. This cultural material was located within a 50 cm² area. No subsurface testing was undertaken. The site area is estimated to be about 3 meters².

The site's location suggests it served as a lookout while the cultural material indicates the occupants may have been Denbigh Flint Complex people. If the cultural assessment is correct then the site was probably occupied between 4000-2000 years ago.

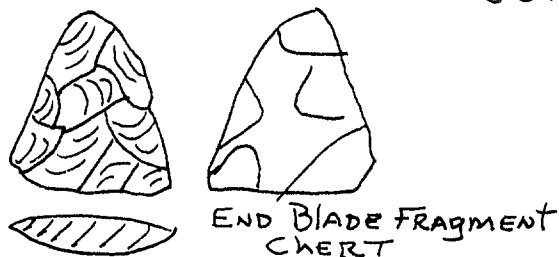
Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-079 (continued)



FLAKE KNIFE - CHERT

XCL-079
ARTIFACTS ACTUAL SIZE



END BLADE FRAGMENT
CHERT

XCL-080

Site Elevation:
3020 ft.

NE1/4, NE1/4
Section 5
T14S, R3W

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Umiat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site occurs about halfway way along the eastern margin of the most sinuous of the several glacial knolls bordering the south side of Ikagiak Creek. Little Chandler Lake lies about 1/5 kilometer to the west while XCL-079 is located about 200 meters to the east.

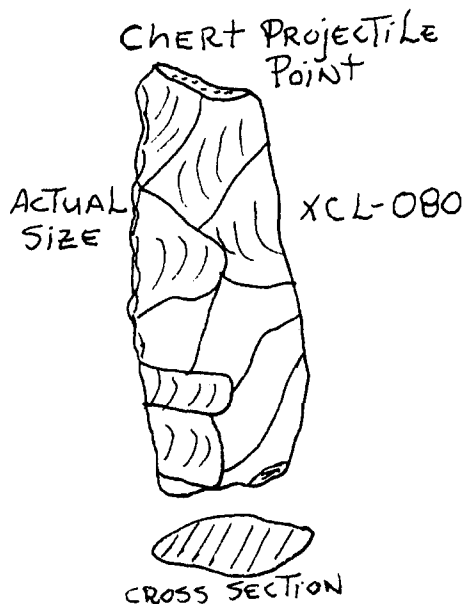
The view from the site is very good encompassing the Chandler Lake basin from the southern end of Chandler Lake north to the southern end of Round Lake. The view also includes much of the nearby creek from its confluence with Little Chandler Lake, eastward up its valley.

The surface of the site area is fairly flat and level and not nearly so boulder strewn as the knolls to the east. The vegetation is primarily lichen, moss, and some low woody and herbaceous plants. There are numerous unvegetated areas many of which appear to be the result of seasonal freezing and thawing.

The site was first noted by the presence on surface of the medial section of a gray chert projectile point. The artifact was lenticular in cross section and appeared to have been broken during manufacture. Other materials on and in surface consisted mostly of small pressure flakes of gray chert. The area of the site was estimated at 3 x 4 meters. Cultural materials were thinly scattered about the site area and no particular concentration of flakes was in evidence. No subsurface testing was undertaken.

The site appears to have been a briefly occupied observation stand and chipping station. Because the projectile point was unfinished it cannot be considered diagnostic and no cultural or temporal assessment of the site can be made.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.



XCL-081

Site Elevation: 3030 ft.	SE1/4, SE1/4 Section 32 T13S, R3W	Probable Site Type: Lookout
Site Age: Unknown	Umiat Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on the northwest end of a narrow and sinuous knoll that lies on the south side of Ikagiak Creek roughly 1.3 kilometers east of Little Chandler Lake. This site is one of four, XCL-078,079,090, which comprise a suite of sites amid the glacially formed knolls where the creek enters the Chandler Lake basin. The knoll terminates in a two lobed prominence separated by a shallow draw. The site lies on the northernmost lobe. The view from the site is panoramic encompassing the valley from its northern approaches south beyond Chandler Lake.

The surface of the site is flat, well drained, and somewhat rocky. Vegetation is patchy and consists of lichen, moss, grass, and a few low woody and herbaceous plants. Most unvegetated areas appear to be the result of seasonal freezing and thawing.

The site was discovered as a result of surface reconnaissance of the area. A scattering of gray chert flakes were noted on and protruding from the surface in an unvegetated area. No subsurface testing was undertaken.

The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any temporal or cultural assessment. The site's location suggest it served as a lookout as apparently did other nearby sites.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-082

Site Elevation: 2975 ft.	NW1/4, NW1/4 Section 26 T14S, R4W	Probable Site Type: Lookout/Butchering
Site Age: Recent/4000-2000 years B.P.	Umiat Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Nunamiut Eskimo Denbigh Flint Complex

This site is located on the most prominent knoll on the south side of the western-most inlet steam feeding Chandler Lake. XCL-085 lies 200 meters to the west. The knoll commands the narrow corridor along the west side of Chandler Lake between the steeper slopes and the lake shore. The view from the site is excellent both north and south along the valley.

Vegetation at the site is consists of low woody and herbaceous plants accompanied by lichen, sedge, moss and dwarf willow in areas of poorer drainage. About 25% of the surface of the site is unvegetated and consists of gravel and mineral soil exposures as well as small boulders and glacial erratics.

The site was located as the result of surface inspection and appears to consist of at least two components. A hunting blind of rocks is located on the highest part of the knoll. The blind is orientated to provide cover either from north or south i.e. perpendicular to the axis of the corridor defined by the slopes of the mountains and the lake. A hearth containing charcoal and fragments of burnt bone is present and may be associated with the blind.

It is essential to point out that while Alexander did investigate this site in 1960's he made no mention of the blind. If this site is Alexander's #C8, as seems almost certain, then the blind must be recent.

A much earlier cultural component is represented by ten microblades and microblade fragments. Three of these artifacts were found on the surface, and the other seven were excavated from a 30 cm² test pit near the surface finds.

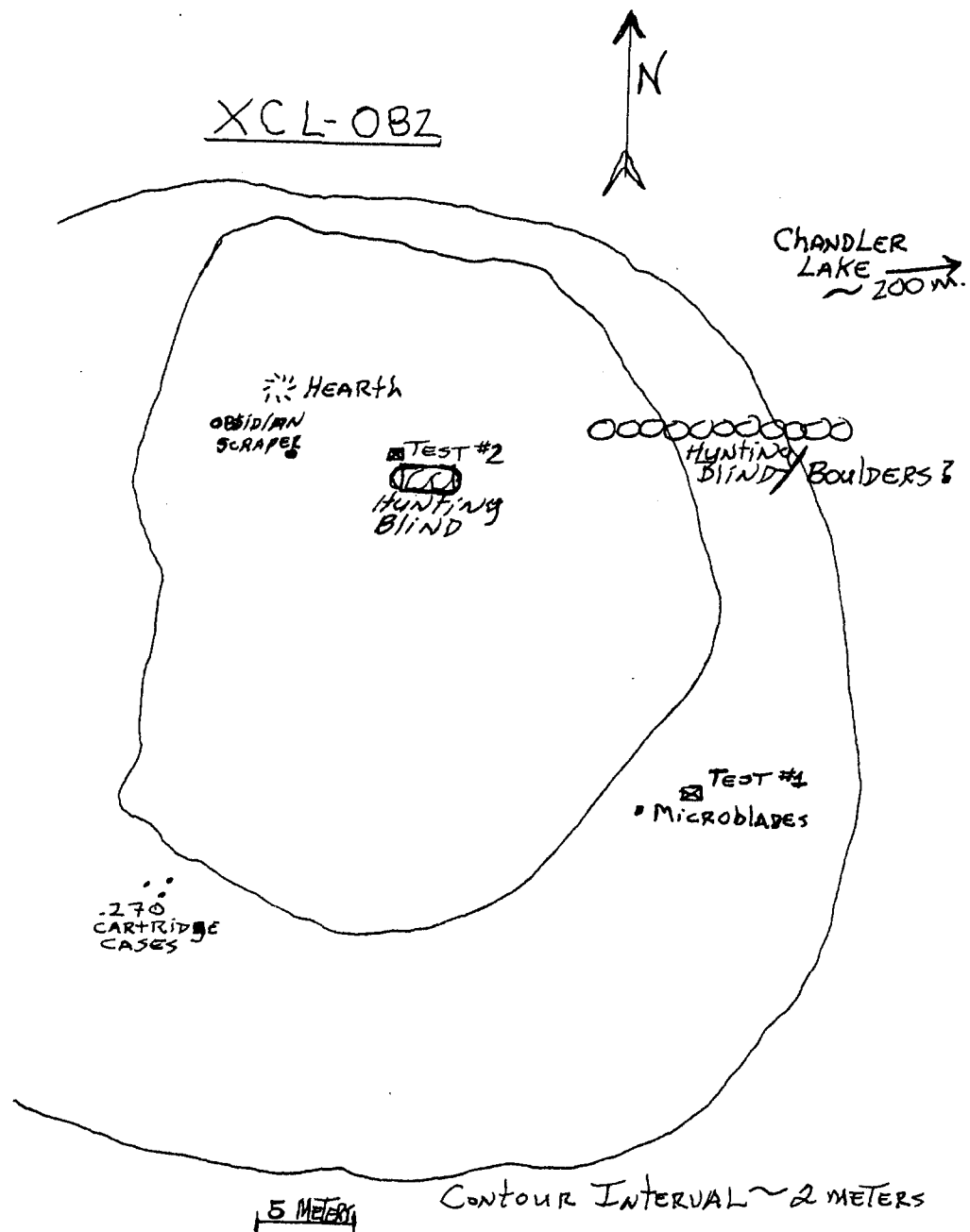
Over most of the knoll, but especially on the southeast facing slopes, there is a scatter of lithic material. This includes the medial section of a well made end or side blade of gray chert and an end scraper of obsidian. A variety of lithic material is present and includes black, light gray, blue/gray, green, red and gray chert, and black banded red and black obsidian. A few caribou bones and fragments as well as antler sections are scattered about the site, particularly near the blind and around the northern part of the knoll. Five .270 cartridge cases were also noted.

Two subsurface tests were made. Test #1 is less than 50 cm. from the original microblade find. Lithics were abundant in the test unit, and include seven microblades, four possible microblades, several large blades, some core fragments, and 20 flakes.

The second subsurface test was placed 1 meter north of the hunting blind in thick moss, sedge, and dwarf willows and yielded two caribou bone fragments.

Evidence at the site suggests that there were at least two, widely divergent temporally, occupational events at the site. The wide variety of lithic material further suggests that a number of occupational events may have taken place during prehistoric times. Although no diagnostic artifacts are present the style of the end/side blade accompanied by the presence of microblades suggests an occupation by Denbigh Flint Complex people some time between 4000-2000 years ago. The much more recent hunting blind, the modern rifle cartridge cases, and scattered caribou bone as well as the prehistoric cultural material combine to indicate site use as a lookout/hunting/processing local.

The possibility of subsurface material at this site raises site significance a bit above low. Research potential while not great can also be considered a bit above low. At the present time the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.



XCL-083

Site Elevation:
2960 ft.

NW1/4, NW1/4
Section 26
T14S, R4W
Umiat Meridian

Probable Site Type:
Camp

Site Age:
ca. 100 years B.P.

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Nunamiut
Eskimo

This site is located on the first knoll adjacent the southwest corner of Chandler Lake 200 meters south-southwest of XCL-082. The view from the site is excellent to the southern end of Chandler Lake, but the XCL-082 knoll obscures all views of the lake and valley to the north.

About 90% of the surface of the site is vegetated to some degree. Vegetation consists of lichen, moss, grass, and some low woody and herbaceous plants. The unvegetated portion of the site consists of mineral soil and gravel exposures accompanied by scattered small boulders.

The site consists of a single tent ring and lies on one of the few flat, clear, boulder free areas, at the edge of the knoll. The tent ring is circular in shape and roughly 2.5 meters in diameter.

Evidence at the site suggests it was a short duration spring/summer/fall camp occupied by Nunamiut Eskimo sometime in the last 100 years.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.



XCL-084

Site Elevation: 2900 ft.	SW1/4, SW1/4 Section 23 T14S, R4W	Probable Site Type: Camp
Site Age: ca. 100 years B.P.	Umiat Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Nunamiut Eskimo

This site is located on a low gravel bench along the south side of a feeder stream which enters the southwest quadrant of Chandler Lake. The shore of the lake lies 500 meters east of the site while XCL-083 lies slightly less than 400 meters to the south. The view from the site is restricted to the local area to the north but is extensive to the east and south.

Vegetation at the site consists of moss, lichen, grass, and low woody and herbaceous plants which grow patchily about the site surface. There are many small areas of exposed mineral soil and gravel. The site was located through surface inspection of the area. The site consists of a single feature which appears to be a rock lined/walled depression which is about the size of the standard tent ring. Descriptively it is best called a tent house pit.

In the early 1960's H.L. Alexander reported a similar, cultural feature in this area. However, close inspection suggest this is not Alexander's site, rather it is similar and nearby the original discovery. This may be an example of winter tent use.

Although no diagnostic artifacts were observed and the nature of the cultural feature is uncommon, the site has the flavor of a Nunamiut Eskimo occupation.

By virtue of its somewhat unique character the site is interesting although its significance remains local in nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-085

Site Elevation: 2985 ft.	NE1/4, NE1/4 Section 27 T14S, R4W	Probable Site Type: Blind/Inuksuk
Site Age: ca. 100 years B.P.	Umiat Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Nunamiut Eskimo

This site is not well documented but the following information can be determined from the field notes. This site is part of a suite of sites located in the ridges and knolls at the southwest corner of Chandler

Lake. The site is located midway between XCL-083 and XCL-084 which lie, respectively, 200 meters north and south. The site lies on a low ridge and offers a reasonably good view of the local area.

Vegetation at the site consists of a thin broken mat of lichen, moss, grass, and low woody and herbaceous plants. Numerous areas of exposed mineral soil and gravel are scattered about the area.

The site was discovered as the result of surface reconnaissance of the area and consists of a large number of scattered inuksuk and what appears to be a collapsed hunting blind. The area covered by this site appears to be fairly large.

Little else can be said about this site except that it was a hunting oriented and probably utilized by Nunamiut Eskimos some time during the past 100 years.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

~~DRAFT~~

XCL-086

Site Elevation:
2910 ft.

SW1/4, NE1/4
Section 23
T14S, R4W

Probable Site Type:
Hunting Camp/Lookout

Site Age:
ca. 100 years B.P.

Umiat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Nunamiut
Eskimo

This site is located 50 meters south of an unnamed creek which enters the southwestern shore of Chandler Lake just south of Hourglass Point. The site is located on an alluvial fan approximately 300 meters west of the lakeshore. The suite of sites, XCL-082 through XCL-085 at the southwest corner of the lake lies 1.5 kilometers to the south. The view from the site is excellent to the south and eastward across Chandler Lake, however, the alluvial fan to the north partially blocks the north end of Chandler Lake and all of Little Chandler Lake.

Vegetation at the site is a thin, patchy mat of lichen, moss, grass, and scattered low woody and herbaceous plants. About 50% of the surface of the site is exposed mineral soil, gravel, rocks, and small boulders.

The site was located through visual inspection of the surface and consists of a stone hunting blind, a large rectangular tent ring, two hearths or small caches and the base of a constricting stem/lanceolate projectile point. The projectile point is crudely made and is not diagnostic of any culture.

A large number old caribou bone fragments are scattered about the site area. A small subsurface test in each of the hearths produced small amounts of charcoal while similar sized tests inside the tent ring produced no cultural material.

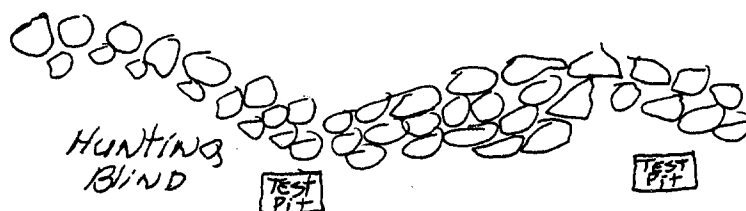
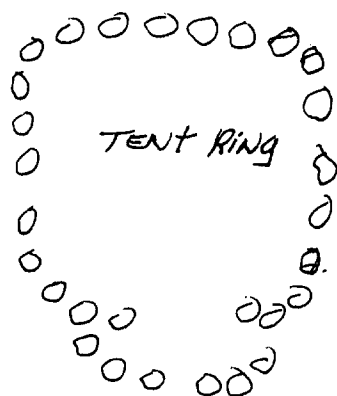
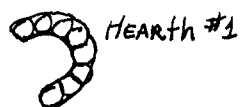
In their reconnaissance of the area during the late 1950's and early 1960's neither Campbell or Alexander mention this site. This suggests they either missed the site or it was occupied some time during the last 25 years.

The date of use probably occurred within the last 100 years and the site appears to have served as a hunting camp/lookout occupied by Nunamiut Eskimos. The rectangular shape of the tent ring suggests the use of a commercially manufactured wall tent. The projectile point and the cultural features of the site are not necessarily related.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

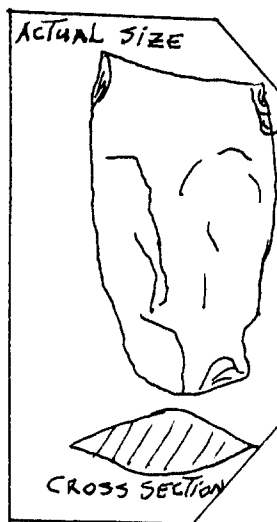
DRAFT

XCL-086 (continued)

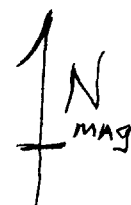


2 METERS

XCL-086



X PROJECTILE
POINT BASE



MAP AREA #7

AGIAK LAKE/AMILOYAK LAKE

Camp #1 and #2 June 2-30

Map Area #7 lies immediately south of Map Area #6. Archeological survey was conducted out of these camps for a period of 28 days during which time roughly 10 square miles was surveyed and 61 archeological sites were located. A small portion of the work in the Agiak Lake area was logistically supported by helicopter. The great majority of the work was conducted through foot surveys.

Once again we had been preceded into the area by other archeologists. In the early 1960's Herb Alexander conducted some limited archeological survey and excavation in the area. Alexander reported finding two sites on the eastern shore of Amiloyak Lake straddling the inlet stream and two sites on the eastern shore of Agiak Lake again straddling the inlet stream. The small number of sites located by Alexander suggested that perhaps the area was somewhat impoverished culturally. Obviously this was not the case.

Trying to relocate previously discovered archeological sites so that we would not duplicate earlier work, proved to be a problem. The following is taken from one of the field note books:

"In the afternoon I spent some time trying to relocate Alexander's sites C-6 and C-6a. C-6 is supposed to be a large 10 x 12 foot tent ring, most of which was evidently excavated. C-6a is a line of cairns 450 yards long which starts 25 yards north of C-6. However, C-6 is supposed to be 140 yards from the lake and C-6a starts 30 yards from the lake. We have found nothing in the vicinity that looks like an excavated 10 x 12 foot tent ring. Alexander places the site just north of the inlet stream in his written location description, but places it south of the stream on his map. I think we would need to have the original field notes to accurately locate the site."

The area around Agiak Lake was the only one studied this summer which exhibited any evidence of unauthorized excavation. The following is quoted from one of the field notebooks:

"....some recent pothunting in the vicinity of Alexander's site C-6 on a flat gravel platform just north of the ridge running along the north side of the inlet stream. About 100 meters (estimated) north of the stream, is an archeological site that has been heavily disturbed. At first I thought it might have been the work of Alexander's crew. Upon closer inspection this could not be possible; a number of artifacts lay in exposed excavation areas, estimated to be about 40 square meters. There are thousands of black chert flakes and numerous microblades on the surface of the excavated area."

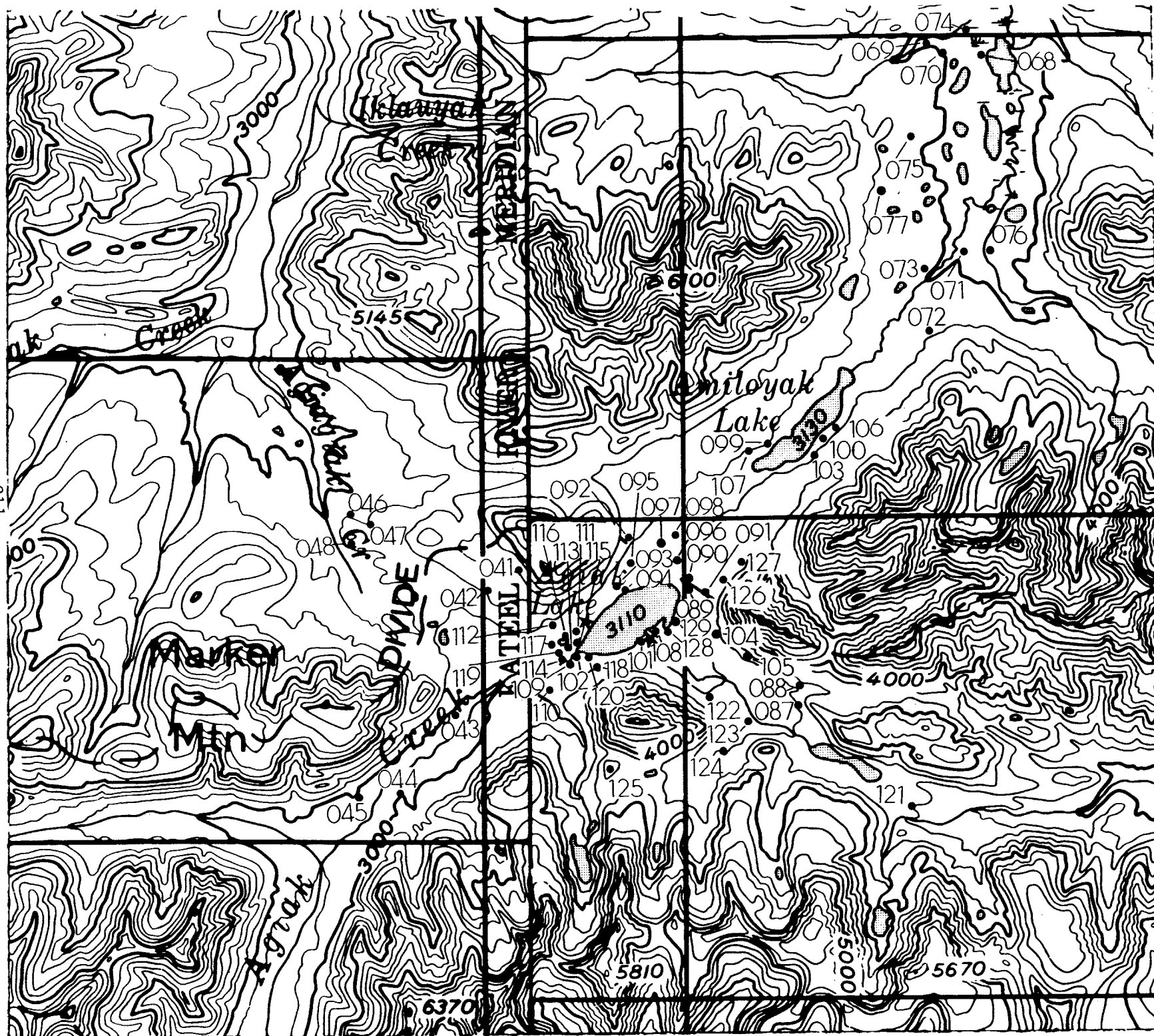
I believe the same persons responsible for the disturbance of this site have also disturbed the ridge top just to the south. Evidently a number

of cairns have been disrupted and a number of potholes are present. While examining the backdirt from the disturbance I found a Wrigley's gum wrapper with the uniform product code on it, a code which was first used in the mid 1970's - much to late for Alexander's time."

Of the 61 archeological sites located in this area 34 appear to be the result of Nunamiut Eskimo activities occurring over the last 200 years. Twenty-five archeological sites are unknown in terms of cultural affiliation. Some of these sites, however, posses elements that suggest occupation occurred six or more millennia ago. Two sites represent occupations by Denbigh Flint Complex peoples.

The density of archeological sites around Agiak Lake is impressive. While the majority of the sites suggest recent occupation and use of the area the evidence from the remaining sites indicates that the area has been rather steadily utilized over at least the last 6000 years. This suggests that the subsistence resources of this area have remained relatively stable and reliable over an extended period of time.

DRAFT



XCL-068

Site Elevation: 2985 ft.	NE1/4, SW1/4 Section 3 T5S, R4W	Probable Site Type: Camp
Site Age: ca. 100 years B.P.	Umiat Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Nunamiut Eskimo

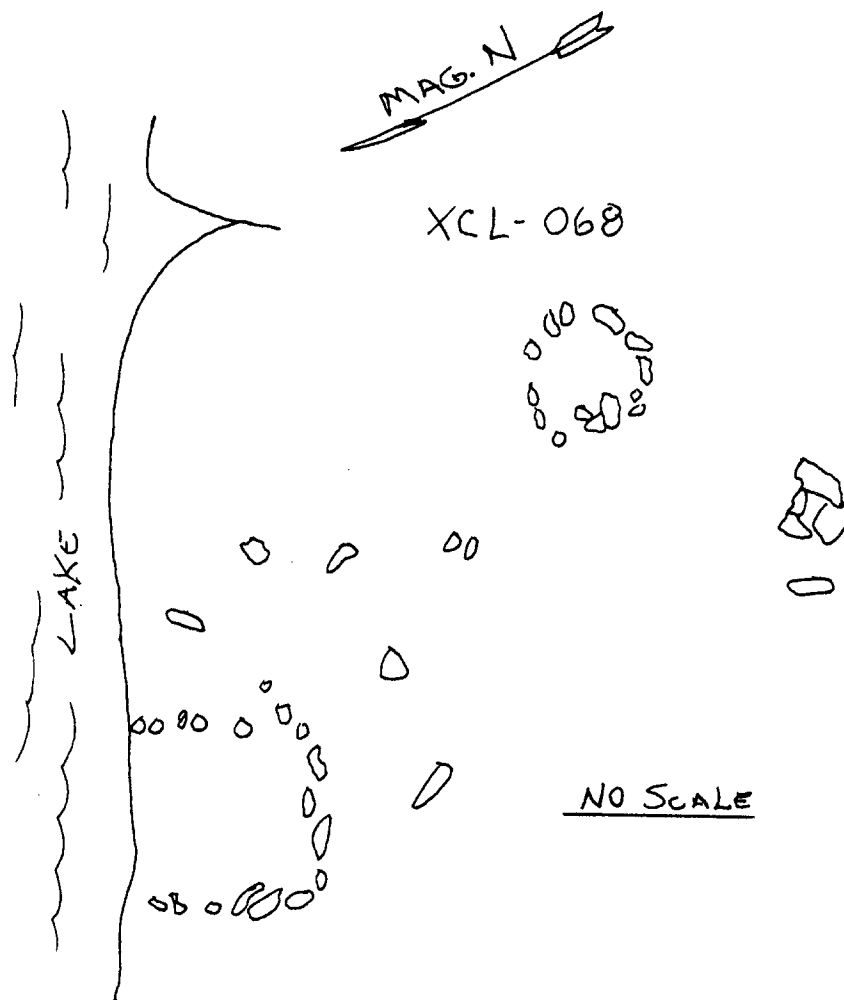
This site is located on the western shore of an unnamed lake 2.5 kilometers south of Chandler Lake. The site lies on what appears to be an old beach terrace approximately 1.5 meters above the present lake level. Although relatively low-lying, the site provides excellent views to the north and south in excess of several kilometers. To the east and west the view is less extensive due to the mountainous terrain.

Vegetation at the site consists of a thin, broken cover of moss and lichen with a few clumps of grass and some low herbaceous plants scattered here and there. There are some mineral soil and gravel exposures about the site area, the major one being a cut-face at the lake shore edge of the terrace. Wave action appears to keep the terrace-face erosion active.

The site was discovered as a result of surface reconnaissance. The site consists of two rectangular tent rings which appear to have hearth features associated with them. The northernmost tent ring is approximately 2.5 x 3.0 meters in size, while the southern ring is about 2 meters². In the northernmost tent ring a flake of gray chert was observed. The southern tent ring is perched precariously on the edge of the terrace cut-face. In fact erosion has caused the northern margin to fall down the cut-face. A visual inspection was made of the cut-face but no cultural material was observed.

The rectangular/square shape of the tent rings suggest that they represent the use of commercially manufactured wall tents. This suggests that the period of site occupation represented by the tent rings occurred during the last 100 years. The gray chert flake found on surface inside the northern tent ring, probably indicates an earlier occupation of the site area. The site's location suggests that it served as a hunting camp.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the southern tent ring is being threatened by erosion of the terrace. The rate at which the erosion is occurring is not known. Mitigative action need not be a pressing management concern.



XCL-069

Site Elevation:
2990 ft.

NE1/4, NE1/4
Section 4
T15S, R4W

Probable Site Type:
Butchering/Processing

Site Age:
ca. 100 years B.P.

Umiat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Nunamiut
Eskimo

This site is located on an old stream terrace on the south side of the first unnamed creek that enters the southern Chandler Lake basin from the west. XCL-068 lies slightly more than 1 kilometer to the east-southeast. The view potential is not remarkable and is limited to the southern approaches to Chandler Lake and southwest up the creek which has traditionally been used by the Nunamiut as a short cut/dog pack route west to the Okokmilaga drainage.

The surface of the terrace is relatively flat, and is well drained. The surface is a 50/50 mixture of rocks and vegetation. Vegetation is primarily lichen, moss, grass, and low woody and herbaceous plants.

Site was first noted by presence of widely scattered, heavily weathered caribou bone, covering an area of roughly 20 meters². The major concentration of bone and fire cracked rock was located in a natural swale, roughly 1 x 2 meters in area, which is more robustly vegetated than the surrounding area.

A descreet peeling back of the swale's thick vegetation mat revealed a dense concentration of cut chopped and broken bone fragments, which is consistant with the practice of processing and boiling bones to extract marrow and render bone grease. No charcoal or burned wood was observed and no wood, stone, or metal artifacts were noted.

Site appears to be an animal processing station, probably Nunamiut Eskimo and post contact in age judging by the type of cut marks on the bone. The site may be associated with dwellings which may lie among the willows along the stream's edge.

The physical state of the bone on surface and the amount of vegetation covering the bone in the swale suggests site occupation occurred around the turn of the century.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low unless the site is found to be associated with a large camp or winter village. At present the site does not seem to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-070

Site Elevation:	NE1/4, NE1/4	Probable Site Type:
2990 ft.	Section 4	Lookout
	T15S, R4W	
Site Age:	Umiat Meridian	Probable Cultural
4000-2000 years B.P.		Affiliation: Denbigh
		Flint Complex

This site is located 200 meters east of XCL-069 on the same terrace system. The site area is set apart from the rest of the terrace system by small intervening areas of tussock tundra and dwarf willow. The unnamed creek lies about 8 meters below terrace level and 20 meters to the north of the site. The southern end of Chandler Lake lies about 2.5 kilometers to the north.

View potential from this site is restricted to about 200 meters in all directions due to rising terrain, except to the north where the south end of Chandler Lake and much of its eastern shore is visible.

Surface of site consists of exposed mineral soil and glacial till with scattered patches of vegetation. Vegetation includes lichen, moss, grass and low woody and herbaceous plants. The promontory of the site area is more heavily vegetated due to ground squirrel activity.

The site was initially noted by the observation of a large gray chert waste flake on surface. Further examination of the area yielded the upper portion of a chert end blade/projectile point and 3-4 small blade like fragments all of gray chert. Cultural materials were observed on/in surface over an area of 2 x 2 meters.

Based on its location and the limited materials at hand this site may have been a game lookout/chipping station. Based on end blade morphology, (parallel oblique flaking), size and degree of skill used in manufacture of the tool, the site is tentatively assigned to the Denbigh Flint Complex. Site occupation probably occurred 4000-2000 years ago.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears to be low. At the present time the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

DRAFT

XCL-070

END BLADE FRAGMENT

GRAY CHERT

ACTUAL
SIZE



CROSS SECTION

XCL-071

Site Elevation:
2960 ft.

NW1/4, SE1/4
Section 15
T15S, R4W

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Umat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on a prominent knoll on the north side of a small lake in the hummocky terrain about 5 km south of Chandler Lake. The knoll provides a perfect 360° view of the valley. Chandler Lake is visible to the north, and the high ground north of Amiloyak Lake can be seen to the south.

The top of the knoll is covered with a thick sod mat and grass, as is typical of knolls in this area. Erosion by frost action and wind deflation is occurring at the modest rate. The knoll rises about 20 meters above the surrounding terrain.

Gray and black chert flakes and several obsidian flakes were found on and in the surface near the top of the knoll. One black obsidian flake was recovered from a small test pit excavated to a depth of 3 cm. in the flake concentration.

Five meters to the north another similar sized test pit produced two chert flakes. The area of concentration of surface material is about 2 x 3 meters. There are some shallowly buried caribou bones on the site, but their origin is not necessarily cultural.

This site appears to be a hunting lookout which provides an excellent view of this portion of the Chandler River Valley. The site's age and cultural affiliation are unknown, however, obsidian hydration dating may provide an approximate age for the site. The concentration of flakes suggests a single occupation, while the several kinds of raw materials suggest more than just a single flaking event. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes cultural assessment of the site.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

DRAFT

XCL-072

Site Elevation:
3200 ft.

NW1/4, SW1/4
Section 22
T15S, R4W

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Umat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

The site lies on the eastern side of the easternmost of the group of knolls on the east side of the Chandler Valley slightly less than 2 kilometers north-northeast of Amiloyak Lake. The knoll provides an excellent 360° view of the area including Chandler Lake to the north and Amiloyak Lake to the south.

Vegetation at the site is sparse, and includes grass, moss, lichen, and low woody and herbaceous plants. Some minor erosion is occurring at the site as a result of frost and wind action.

A concentration of nine gray chert flakes, one of which may be a microblade core rejuvenation flake, lies 7 meters east-southeast of the knoll's promontory. Three white chert flakes were noted 19 meters east of the knoll top. No subsurface testing was undertaken.

Cultural evidence and location suggest the site served as a lookout. The spatial separation of the groups of flakes suggests multiple occupational events occurred at the site. The age and cultural affiliation of the site is unknown due to the lack of diagnostic artifacts.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-073

Site Elevation:	SE1/4, SE1/4	Probable Site Type:
2980 ft.	Section 16	Lookout
	T15S, R4W	
Site Age:	Umiat Meridian	Probable Cultural
Unknown		Affiliation: Unknown

The site is located on a high knob in the Chandler Valley 6.5 kilometers south of Chandler Lake and 3 kilometers north of Amiloyak Lake. The top of the knob is formed by two peaks or prominences. The knob commands an excellent view of the Chandler River Valley from Chandler Lake south to the high ground north of Amiloyak Lake.

The surface of the site is sparsely vegetated with lichen, moss, grass, and low woody and herbaceous plants.

The site was located as a result of surface reconnaissance. A single white chert flake was noted on surface on the northern promontory. A single black chert flake was noted on the southern peak. Two gray chert flakes lie on surface roughly 100 meters south of the peaks on a lower terrace and a green chert flake lies on surface 70 meters to the northeast. No subsurface testing was undertaken.

The site's location suggests it served as a lookout while the lithics suggest that several occupations or flaking events occurred at the site. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any temporal or cultural assessment of the site.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-074

Site Elevation:	NW1/4, NW1/4	Probable Site Type:
2975 ft.	Section 3	Camp
	T15S, R4W	
Site Age:	Umiat Meridian	Probable Cultural
ca. 100 years B.P.		Affiliation: Nunamiut Eskimo

This site lies at the base of a creek-side bluff slightly less than 2.5 kilometers south-southwest of Chandler Lake. Situated on the southeast

side of the creek the site lies 500 meters northeast of XCL-070. The site is little higher than creek level and offers only a restricted view of the local area.

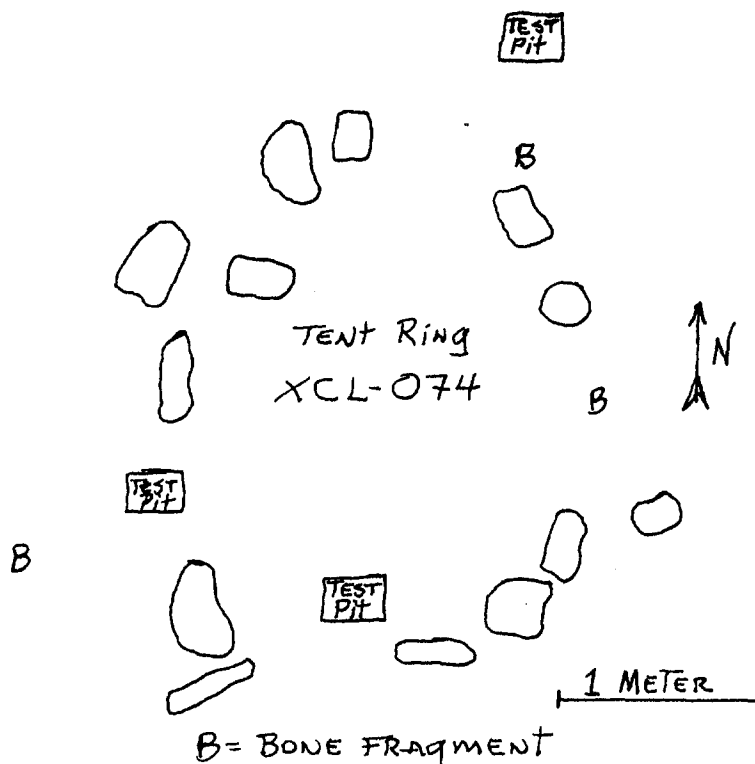
Approximately 95% of the surface of the site is vegetated by a healthy mat of lichen, moss, grass, and low woody and herbaceous plants. Small patches of dwarf birch are scattered about the area.

The site was located as a result of surface inspection and consists of a single tent ring which is circular in shape and is roughly 2 meters in diameter. Three 20 cm² test pits were excavated to a depth of 10 cm. within the ring and all proved to be culturally sterile. Several bone fragments are scattered around the perimeter of the tent ring.

Cultural evidence at the site suggests a non-snow month camp occupied by Nunamiut Eskimo some time during the last 100 years.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

DRAFT



XCL-075

Site Elevation: 3140 ft.	SW1/4, NW1/4 Section 3 T15S, R4W	Probable Site Type: Lookout
Site Age: Unknown	Umiat Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on top of one of the many knolls and ridges along the west side of the valley approximately 4.5 kilometers south of Chandler Lake. There are basically two versions of these ridges and knolls in this area; those on the valley floor and those on the slope between the 3000' contours. This site provides a fine panoramic view of the entire area. The site surface is about 50% vegetated by patchy growths of lichen, moss, grass, and low woody and herbaceous plants. Mineral soil and gravel exposures are common.

The site was located through visual inspection of the surface and consists of one chert flake and one relatively fresh and two older caribou long bone fragments. However, these bones are probably not associated with the flake.

The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any temporal or cultural assessment of the site. However, the site's location suggests that it served as a lookout.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-076

Site Elevation: 2990 ft.	NE1/4, SE1/4 Section 15 T15S, R4W	Probable Site Type: Camp
Site Age: Last 200 years	Umiat Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Nunamiut Eskimo

This site lies 650 meters east-northeast of XCL-073 on the flat portion of a terrace elevated 5 meters above the Chandler Lake inlet creek. Chandler Lake lies approximately 7 kilometers to the north while Amiloyak Lake lies 3 kilometers to the south. The view from the site is good but limited to the local area.

Vegetation at the site consists of grass, lichen, moss, and some low woody and herbaceous plants. Willows are present in the creek bottom.

The site was located as the result of surface reconnaissance and consists of a single tent ring located just back from the edge of the terrace about 20 meters west of the creek. Inside the tent ring a flake of

obsidian was observed lying on the surface vegetation. The excavation of a small test pit produced no additional cultural material. Several meters northwest of the tent ring some weathered willow sticks, one of which was cut, were found lying on the surface. The tent ring is roughly circular and measures approximately 2 x 3 meters.

Evidence at the site suggests that two occupational events may have occurred here. The tent ring probably represents an occupation occurring during the last 200 years while the obsidian may represent an earlier occupation.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

DRAFT



XCL-077

Site Elevation: 3100 ft.	SW1/4, SE1/4 Section 9 T15S, R4W	Probable Site Type: Lookout
Site Age: ca. 2000 years B.P.	Umiat Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on the western side of the Chandler Lake basin about 6 kilometers south-southwest of Chandler Lake. The site is perched atop a knoll on the south side of a narrow draw through which a small unnamed creek flows. Elevated some 10 meters above the creek the site offers a reasonably good view toward the northeast and southwest along the line of the draw. The view in other directions is blocked after a kilometer or so by rising terrain.

Vegetation at the site is scant and much of the surface is exposed mineral soil, gravel, cobbles, boulders, and fractured bedrock. What vegetation is present is dominated by lichen and moss with a narrow strip of dwarf birch growing along either side of the creek.

The site was located as the result of surface reconnaissance. A small scatter of cultural material, approximately 2 meters in width, extended downslope from the knoll's promontory for a distance of 3 meters. Cultural material included 3 black chert microblade fragments and a variety of flakes and chunks of black and gray chert. At least one of the flakes appeared to have been utilized as a tool. No subsurface testing was undertaken.

The presence of microblades suggests a minimum age for the site of ca. 2000 years B.P. The variety of lithic material may indicate that the site experienced more than a single occupational event. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any cultural assessment. The site's location suggests that it may have served as a lookout.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-087

Site Elevation: 3400 ft.	SE1/4, NW1/4 Section 17 T16S, R4W	Probable Site Type: Shooting Blind
Site Age: ca. 100 years B.P.	Umiat Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Nunamiut Eskimo

This site lies on the south side of the high rocky plateau/ridge which splits the Agiak/Ekokpuk valley. There are two levels to this plateau/ridge before it ascends the rocky slope to the east-northeast. A large gray

boulder sits on the west end of the first level, and XCL-086 is on the south side of the second level. Agiak Lake lies slightly more than 3 kilometers to the west. The view is excellent over entire valley from southeast and south to west encompassing most of Agiak Lake. Views in other directions are blocked by higher terrain.

There is little vegetation at the site as the majority of the surface is exposed bedrock gravel, cobbles, and boulders. What vegetation is present consists mainly of lichen.

The site consists of a single shooting pit which measures 1.5 meters in width and .70 meters in depth. It is made of rocks and small boulders which range from .30 - .70 meters in diameter. There do not appear to be any inuksuk nearby.

The age of this feature is unknown although it is probably no older than 100 years.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

DRAFT

XCL-088

Site Elevation:
3400 ft.

NW1/4, NW1/4
Section 17
T16S, R4W

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Umiat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on the north edge of the Agiak/Ekokpuk valley near the point where the north fork of the Agiak inlet creek enters a narrow chute. Site XCL-087 is located 150 meters to the south. This site sits on the southern edge of a small rocky knoll 50 meters north of the creek and 45 meters south of the steeper rock slopes to the north. The site offers an excellent view to the west encompassing the valley and most of Agiak Lake.

Vegetation at the site is sparse, covering only about 50% of the surface area, and consists of lichen, moss, grass, and low woody and herbaceous plants. Unvegetated areas consist of exposed bedrock, gravel, boulders, and mineral soil.

The site was located as the result of surface inspection of the area. Numerous black chert flakes and some caribou bone fragments are present on the surface. Two 35 cm² test pits were excavated to a depth of 6 cm. and proved to be culturally sterile.

The location of the site suggests it served as a lookout. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any temporal or cultural assessment of the site.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-089

Site Elevation:
3190 ft.

NW1/4, NW1/4
Section 7
T16S, R4W
Umiat Meridian

Probable Site Type:
Camp/Lookout

Site Age:
ca. 200 years B.P.

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Nunamiut
Eskimo ??

This site is poised on the southwest side of a large plateau/terrace which trends west-northwest and east-southeast of the 5000' peak immediately east of the north end of Agiak Lake. The lake lies approximately 500 meters south of the site and 25 meters lower in elevation. The view from the site is excellent to the south and west which includes all of Agiak Lake and the surrounding local country.

The terrace is broad and somewhat hummocky with unvegetated areas totaling more than 30% of the site area. Vegetation consists of a thin patchy mat of sedge, lichen, moss, and low woody and herbaceous plants.

The site was located as the result of surface observation and consists of three tent rings and three local distributions of lithics. Large numbers of black chert flakes were observed scattered about portions of the site area especially below rocks of the side walls of tent rings. Lithic area #3 was the densest locus of chert flakes, however, each tent ring also had chert waste flakes within it and not outside it, so far as could be told by surface observation. This suggests that the lithic detritus is associated with the tent rings which is not a common occurrence.

Lithic area #1 consists of a single large utilized/retouched flake of black chert.

Lithic area #2 consists of two black chert waste flakes.

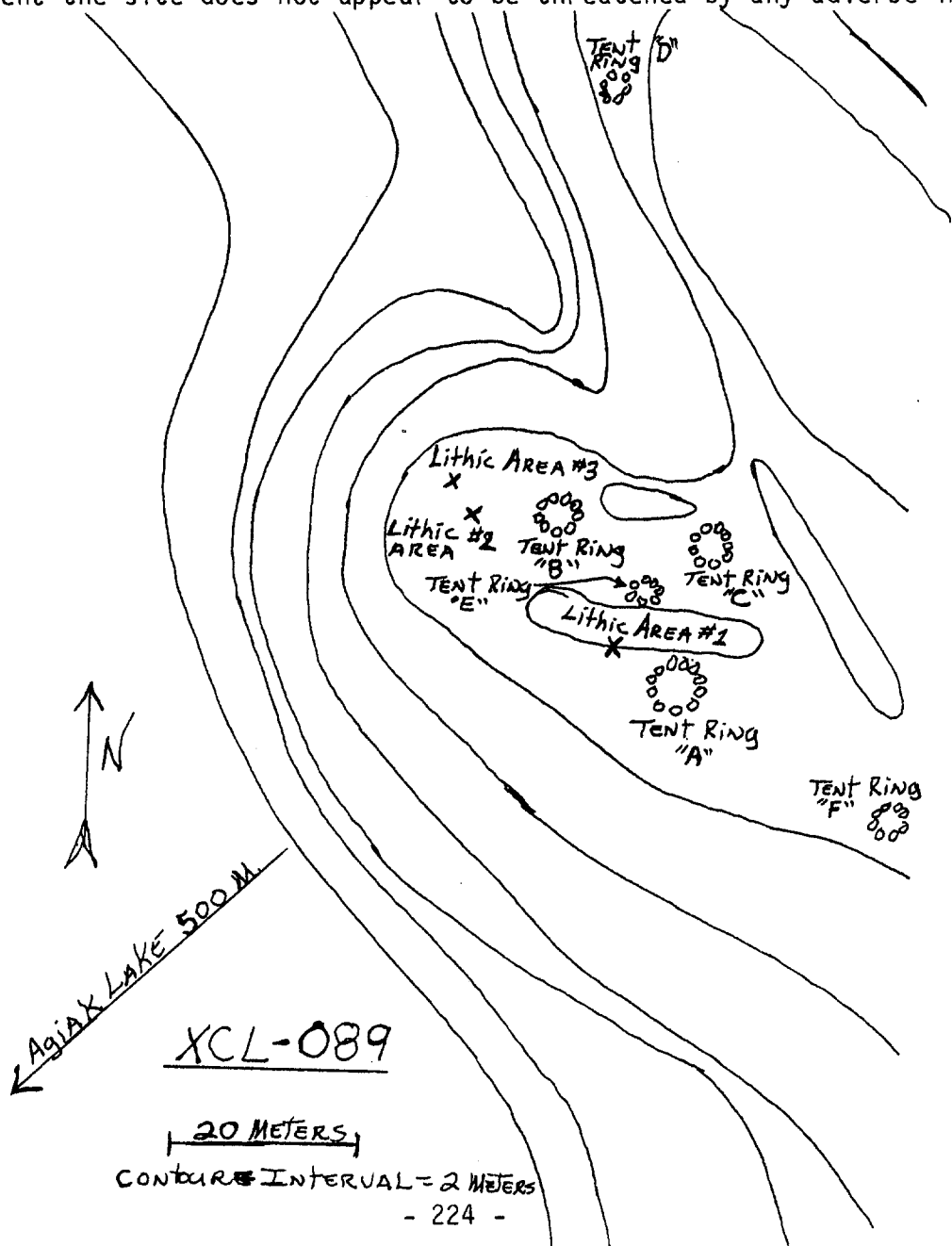
Lithic area #3 includes one large black chert artifact which is not dissimilar to that at lithic area #1, and more than 200 additional black chert flakes ranging in size from secondary retouch to core thinning flakes. Many of the flakes were incorporated in the surface of the site and several appeared to have been utilized.

Tent ring "C" is extraordinary for the amount of lithic material in and within three meters around it. Under any of the portable rocks there are several flakes of black chert. Of the ca. 150 flakes seen, all but two were black chert. A flake scraper found just outside tent ring "C" is made of blue/gray banded chert and is the only formal artifact from the site. Since 99% of the lithic material at the site is black chert, the scraper may represent a separate occupational event.

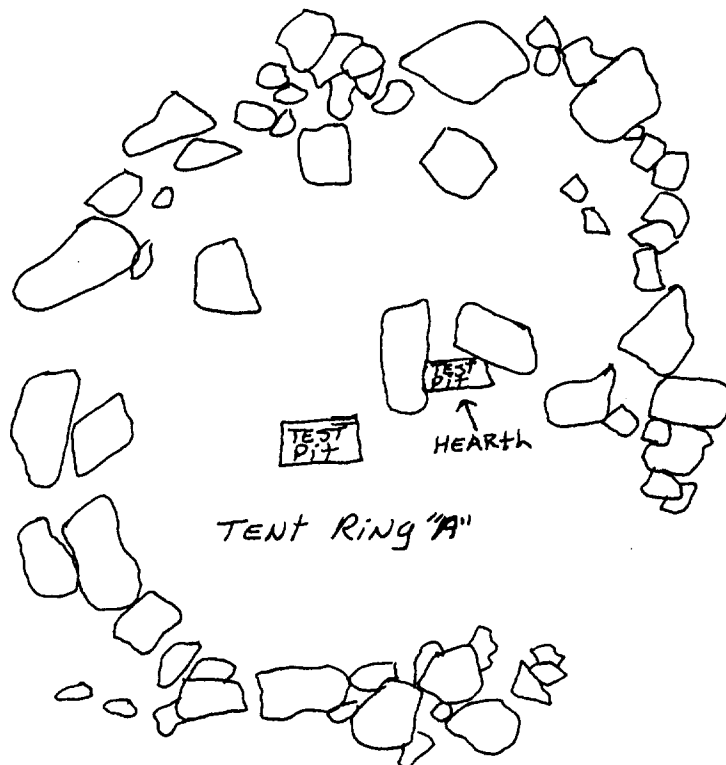
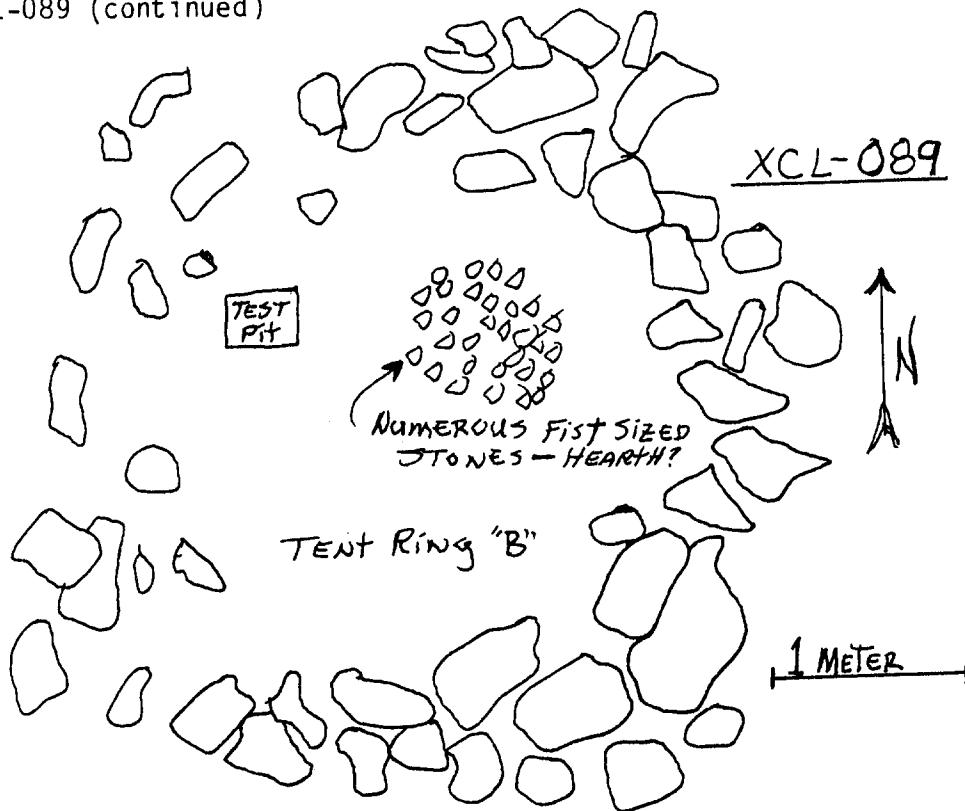
The site is in the most prominent spot north and east of Agiak Lake that is near the Amiloyak/Agiak Valley and the long line(s) of inuksuk which run up Agiak Creek. It appears that the site may have functioned as both a camp and a lookout. The tent ring occupation of the site is probably no older than 200 years B.P.

Although site significance is of a local nature. The site is interesting in that it is rare to find lithic detritus so obviously associated with tent rings. The fact that these tent rings are made of numerous rocks and most of the lithic detritus appears to be inside the rings suggests the site was occupied during the less mild part of the year or perhaps during especially inclement weather. Despite this, research potential is less than moderate.

At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.



XCL-089 (continued)

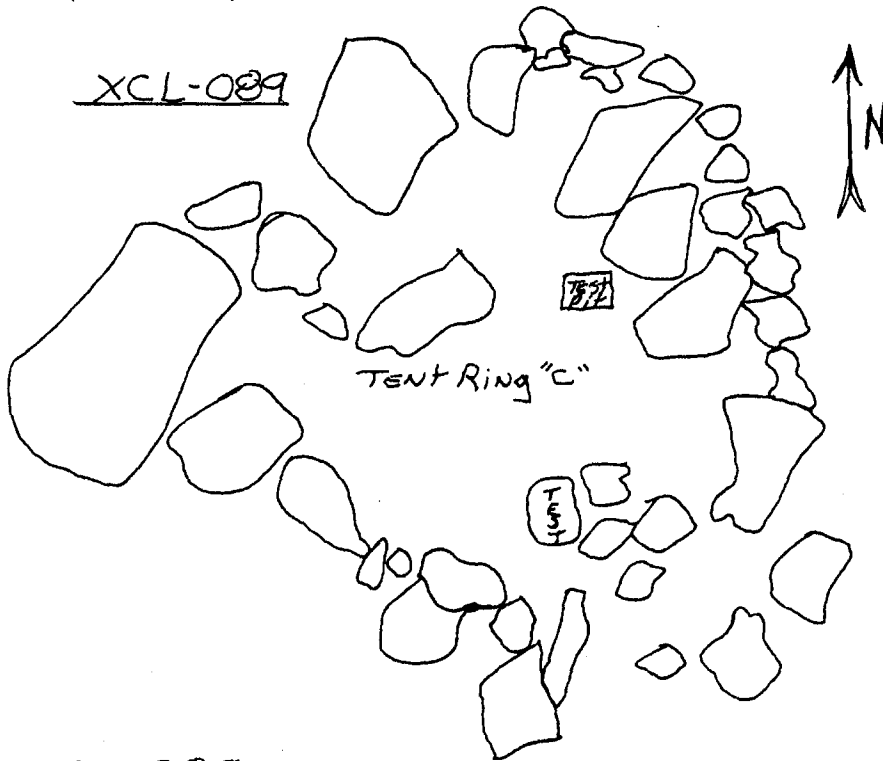


XCL-089

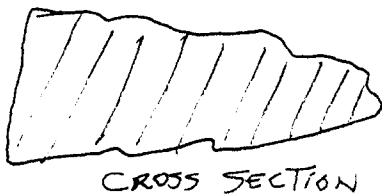
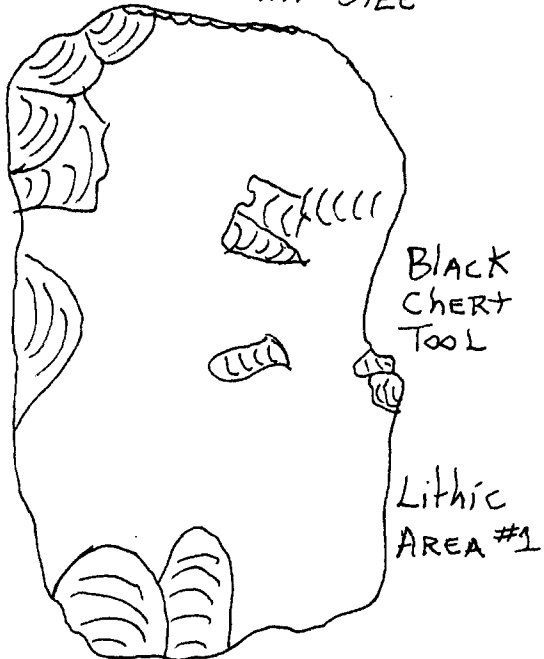
1 METER

XCL-089 (continued)

XCL-089

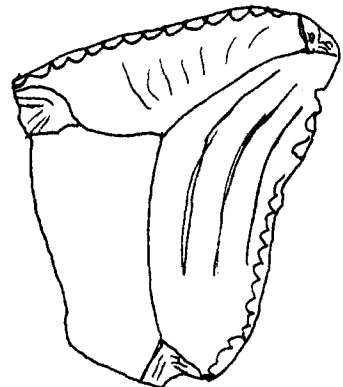


XCL-089
ARTIFACT ACTUAL SIZE

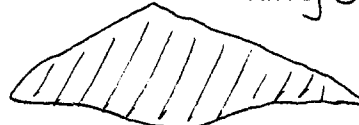


CROSS SECTION

SCRAPER
BLUE/GRAY CHERT
ACTUAL SIZE



FROM TENT RING "C"



CROSS SECTION

BLACK CHERT
FLA) E
TOOL



Lithic AREA #



CROSS SECTION

XCL-090

Site Elevation:
3195 ft.

NW1/4, NW1/4
Section 7
T16S, R4W

Probable Site Type:
Camp/Lookout

Site Age:
ca. 200 years B.P.

Umiat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Nunamiut
Eskimo

This site lies on the northern portion of the terrace upon which XCL-089 is located. XCL-090 is located 150 meters north of XCL-089 and 800 meters north of Agiak Lake. The view from this site is very good especially to the west across the Agiak/Amiloyak Valley. To the north and south the view is somewhat restricted by rising terrain.

Roughly 50% of the site surface is vegetated. Vegetation consists of a thin, broken mat of grass, lichen, moss, and a few scattered low woody and herbaceous plants. Patches of exposed mineral soil and gravel are common, accompanied by an occasional lag deposit.

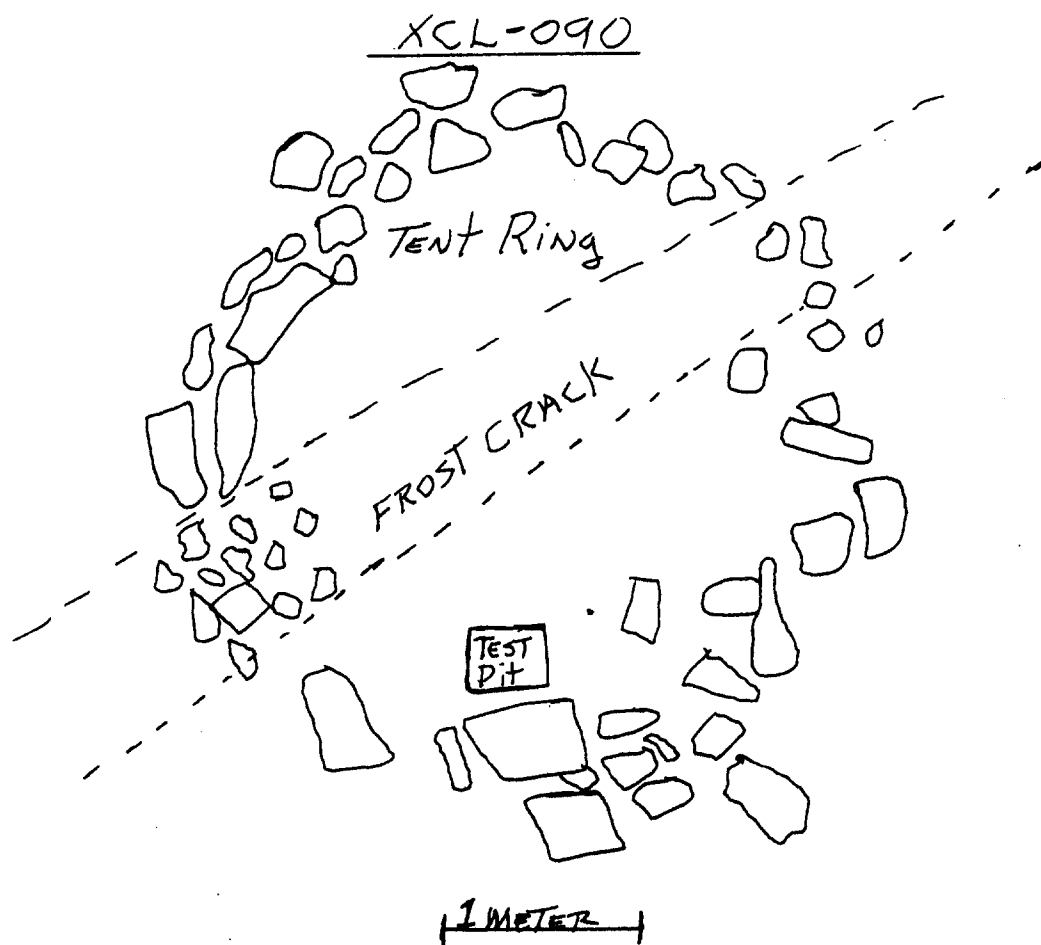
The site was located as the result of surface reconnaissance of the area and consists of a single, circular tent ring roughly 3 meters in diameter. A single 25 cm² test pit was excavated to a depth of 6 cm. and yielded one brown, one blue and two black chert flakes. An additional black chert flake was noted beneath one of the ring stones. A large frost crack bisects the tent ring.

The fact that all the lithic detritus appears to be subsurface or under tent ring stones suggests that the ring was constructed on top of an older site. The variety of lithic material suggests several occupational events occurred at the site.

The site's location suggests it may have served as a lookout as well as a camping locale. The camp was probably occupied during the warmer months by Nunamiut Eskimo sometime during the last 200 years.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-090 (continued)



XCL-091

Site Elevation:
3210 ft.

NE1/4, NW1/4
Section 7
T16S, R4W

Probable Site Type:
Lookout/Camp

Site Age:
Multiple Occupations

Umiat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Nunamiut
Eskimo and Older

This site is located about 175 meters southeast of XCL-089 on a slightly more elevated portion of the same terrace that XCL-090 and XCL-089 lie on. The view from the site is quite good encompassing all of Agiak Lake and the surrounding local country to the south and east. The view to the north is somewhat obstructed by higher terrain.

Vegetation in the site area consists of a thin mat of lichen, moss, grass, and low woody and herbaceous plants. Fractured bedrock exposures are common while mineral soil exposures are few in number.

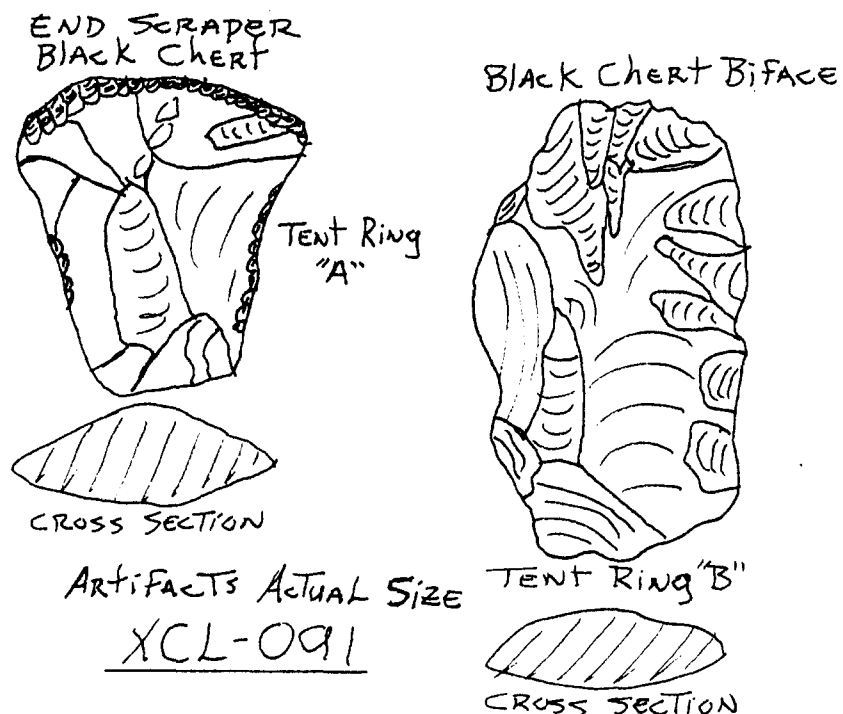
The site was located as the result of surface observation and consists of four circular tent rings and what appears to be a half tent ring. All of the tent rings are roughly 3 meters in diameter and have some lithics associated with them. The rings are scattered over an area of roughly 2500 meters². Lithic detritus consists of a variety of chert and a single obsidian flake.

Two formal artifacts were noted at the site. Beneath one of the rocks in ring "A" a fan shaped, black chert end scraper was observed. Under another nearby rock numerous black chert flakes were present. A crude black chert biface was noted, on surface, in the middle of tent ring "B".

Roughly 50 meters east of tent ring "B" lies the half tent ring. It is roughly elliptical in shape and measures 1.00 meter x .80 meter (inside diameter) and 2.50 meters x 2.00 meters (outside diameter). The stones are piled nearly 45 cm. high. This feature may represent some type of blind or wind break as it appears somewhat smaller than standard tent ring size.

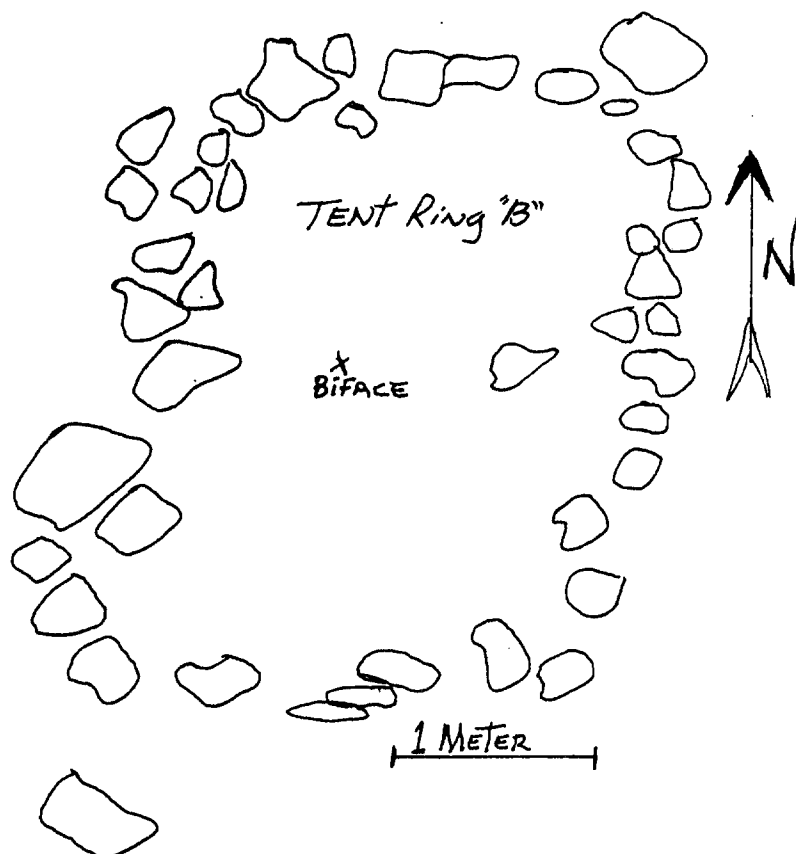
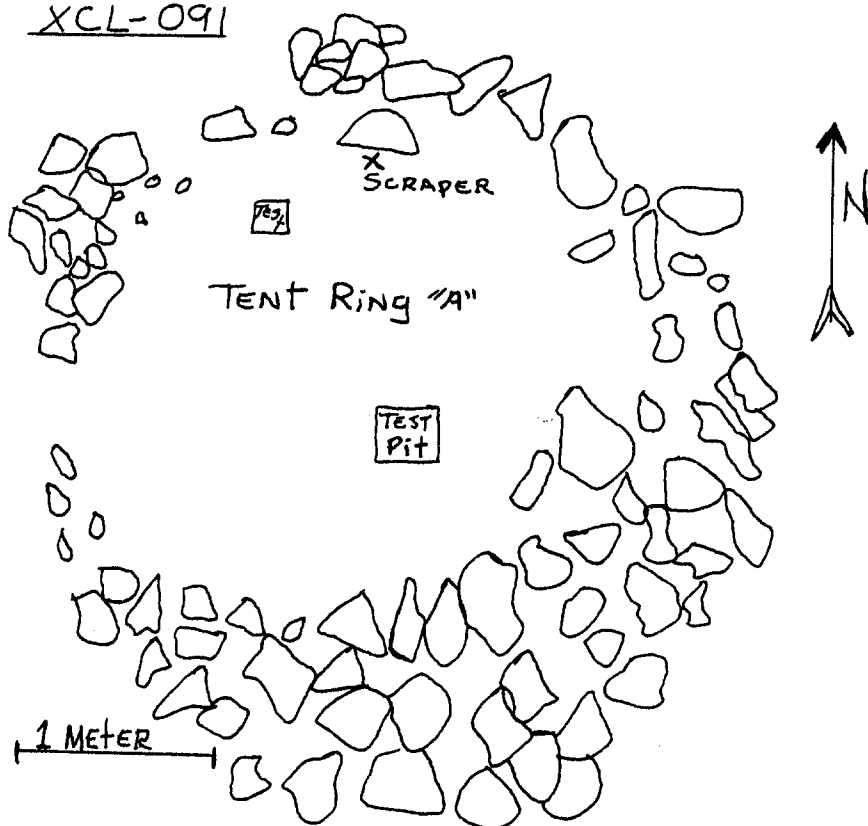
This site may represent multiple occupations. The occupational event represented by the tent rings probably occurred during the last 250 years. There is no way to determine if the lithic material is associated with the tent rings. The fact that the tent ring stones often appear to be on top of the lithic detritus suggests that the tent rings were erected on top of an older site. At various times the site area appears to have been used as a camp and a lookout.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is a bit above low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

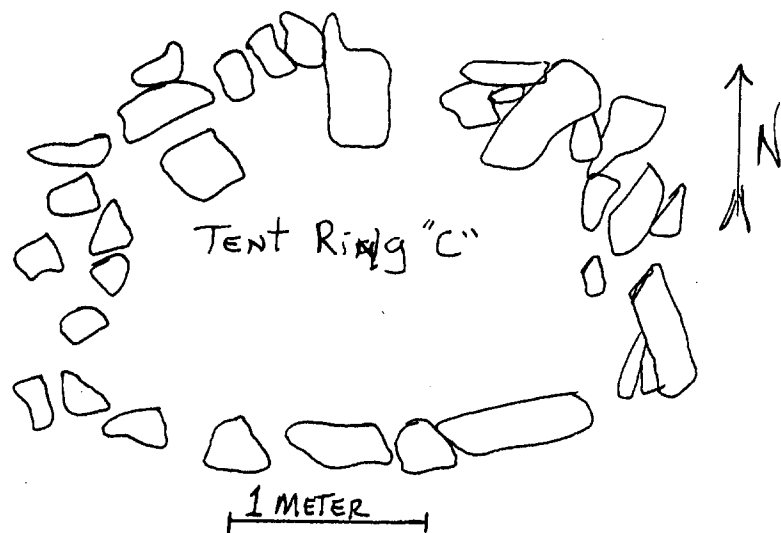


XCL-091 (continued)

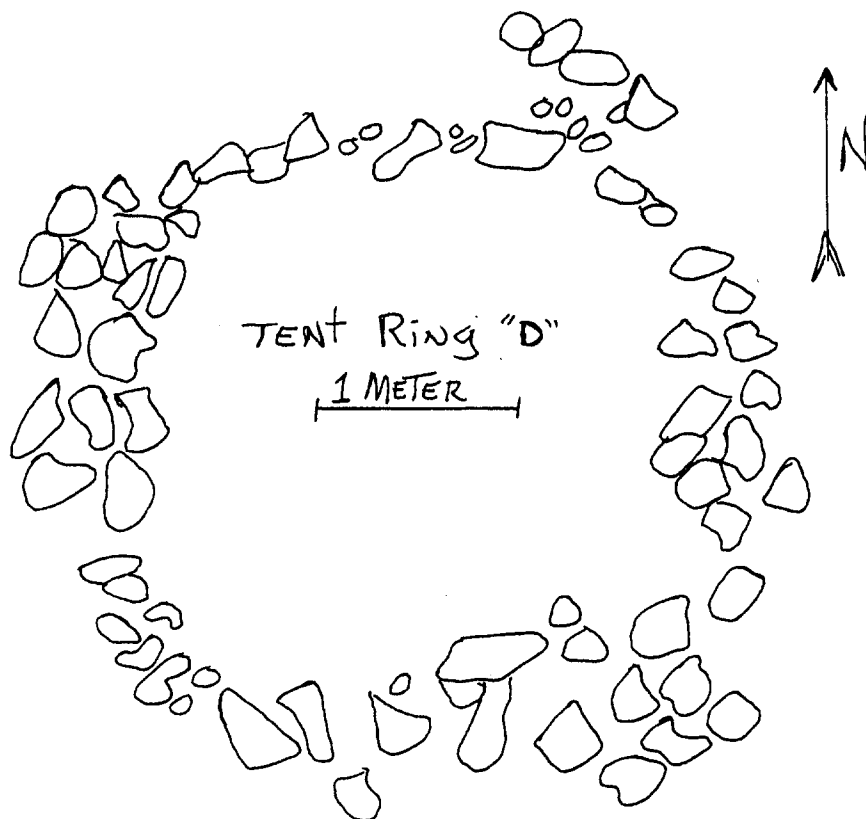
XCL-091



XCL-091 (continued)



XCL-091



XCL-092

Site Elevation:
3250 ft.

NW1/4, NW1/4
Section 1
T16S, R5W

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Umat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

The site is located on a knob that projects as a low spur off the north end of mountain that borders Agiak Lake on the west. An unnamed tributary of the lake flows eastward 150 meters north of the site. The site lies approximately 1.5 kilometers west-northwest of the lake's north end. The view from of the site is moderately good and includes the southern portion of Amiloyak Lake, eastward through the Ekokpuk Valley and most of the Agiak Lake area.

The site surface is robustly vegetated mosses, grasses, lichen, and some low woody and herbaceous plants. The crest of the knob is densely covered with grasses and a thick carpet of mosses as the result soil aeration and enrichment by burrowing ground squirrels.

Over much of the knob there are exposures and surface deposits of fragmented bedrock. Site was first noted by the observation of black chert in the surface 4 meters northwest of the knob crest. This material turned out to be a large incomplected biface. Fifty cm. to the west another biface was noted. The second biface was quite crude and could be considered a preform. A 20 cm² test was eas excavated to a depth of 8 cm. near the preform yielded a total of 8 black chert flakes. Several additional test pits excavated nearby proved to be culturally sterile.

The site's location suggests that it served as a lookout. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes cultural or temporal assessment of the site.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.



BLACK CHERT BIFACE #1



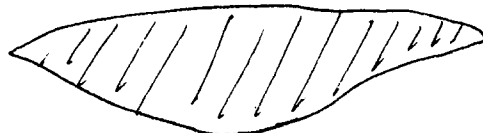
CROSS SECTION

XCL-092

ARTIFACTS
ACTUAL
SIZE



BLACK CHERT BIFACE #2



CROSS SECTION

XCL-093

Site Elevation:
3130 ft.

SW1/4, SW1/4
Section 1
T16S, R5W

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Umiat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on a small kame 1.5 meters high, roughly 20 meters long, and 5 meters across at its crest. The kame is situated in the midst of wet tussock tundra between the valley wall and Agiak Lake's western shore. The lake edge lies less than 100 meters to the east of the site. The view potential is good and includes of Agiak Lake eastwards up the Ekokpuk Valley and north 2 kilometers to the higher ground that separates Amiloyak and Agiak Lakes.

The surface of the kame is relatively flat and well drained. The vegetation cover is robust, consisting primarily of thick dry mosses, grasses, and some low woody and herbaceous plants. Some erosion is taking place on the southern face of the kame.

The site was located through visual inspection of the surface when chert and fire-cracked rock were observed in the southern erosional area.

Lithic materials on surface include flaking debitage and formal artifacts in a variety of colors of chert including black, gray, and reddish-brown and one artifact of greenish mud or siltstone.

No complete formal artifacts were in evidence but present on surface were:

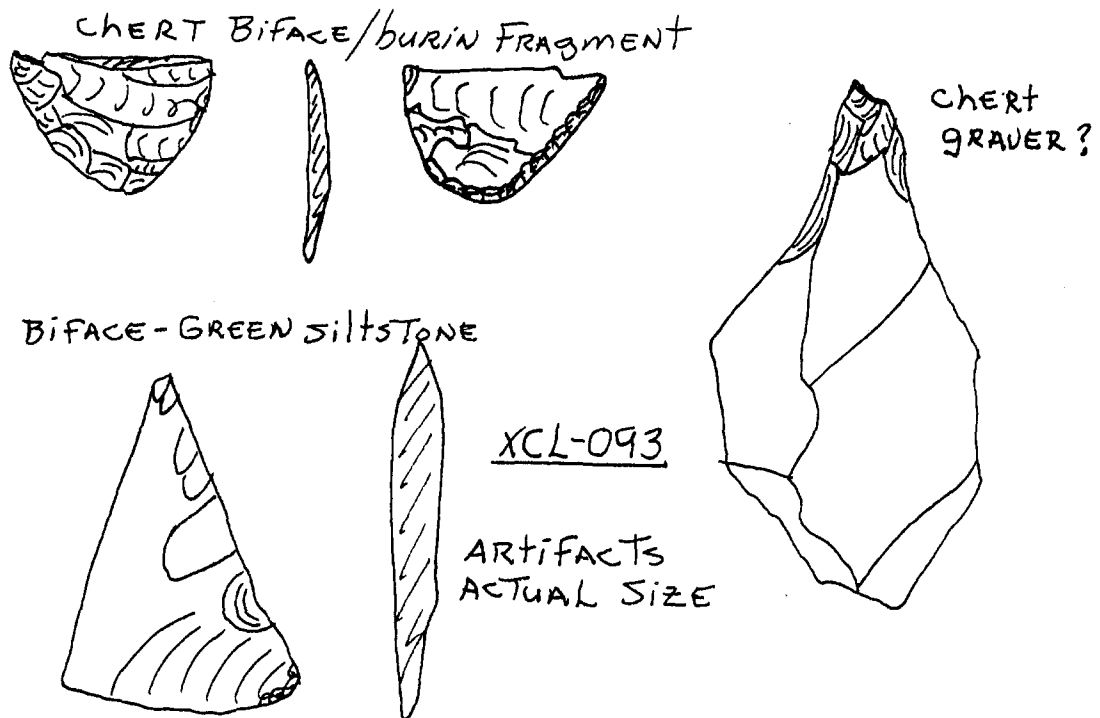
1. A small biface fragment of reddish brown chert, steeply retouched along the edges of the ventral surface exhibiting a possible burin blow struck along the fracture edge.
2. A large flake of cream/gray chert which appears to have been worked into a graver.
3. A bifacially worked fragment of a gritty textured greenish-gray mudstone.

Three 20 cm² test pits were excavated to a depth of 10 cm. from 30 to 100 cm. back from the eroding edge of the kame. Cultural materials appear limited to the eroding edge of feature as all the test pits were sterile. No hearth or charcoal was found although fire-cracked rock was plentiful. Cultural materials were observed along a 3 meter section of the kame's erosional face.

An additional concentration of fire-cracked rock was found approximately 8 meters east of the main lithic scatter also on south face of the kame.

Due to the lack of diagnostic artifacts no cultural or temporal assessment of the site can be made. The location of this site between the lake shore and the valley wall makes it an excellent location for a hunting blind/intercept/lookout station for migrating caribou. Hunting could have been done cooperatively with men stationed behind the lakeshore embankment and at base of valley wall in nearby willows. The height and east-west orientation of the kame makes it an ideal location for cover as well as a wind break.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. Much of the site may have already eroded away. At present the site does not appear threatened by any adverse impact except the active erosion occurring along the southern margin of the kame.



XCL-094

Site Elevation: 3115 ft.	SW1/4, SW1/4 Section 1 T16S, R5W	Probable Site Type: Camp
Site Age: ca. 200-100 years B.P.	Umiat Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Nunamiut Eskimo

The site is located on an old beach terrace that rises 0.5 meters above Agiak Lake. The terrace runs some 85 meters along the lake's western edge and is 10 meters wide for most of its length. The site lies on the edge of the lake and is roughly 100 meters south of XCL-093. The view from the site encompasses all of Agiak Lake and the surrounding local country including the Ekokpuk Valley.

The surface of the site is flat and level. Occasional scattered patches of exposed shaley gravel are interspersed in a rich vegetation mat of moss, lichen, grass, and low woody and herbaceous plants. Some dwarf willow is scattered along the margins of the site. The terrace is gradually being eroded by wave and ice action, creating a small cut-bank on the eastern edge of the terrace. No cultural materials are in any apparent danger of disturbance.

This site was first noted by the presence of a single black chert waste flake on surface some 10 meters from the south end of the terrace. An intensive visual inspection and three 20 cm² test pits excavated through the root mat to beach shingle yielded no additional cultural material. There is little soil at the site as the rooty vegetation mat directly overlies the old beach shingle.

Forty meters from the south end of the terrace are two tent rings. Their age is indeterminate. The stones are well integrated into the vegetation mat. However, the weathered remains of an old cotton sock was also observed in the vicinity suggesting a recent and probably unassociated occupation of the site area. The tent rings and the chert flake may not be associated, suggesting multiple occupations of the site area.

The southernmost tent ring is roughly 3 meters in diameter, while its neighbor, 5 meters to the north, appears to be slightly smaller. When one of the tent stones on the southern tent ring was lifted chunks of charcoal were observed beneath.

The site appears to be a camp occupied by Nunamiut Eskimo some time during the last 200 years. The presence of charcoal at the site may provide a more specific date.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-095

Site Elevation:
3120 ft.

NE1/4, SW1/4
Section 1
T16S, R5W

Probable Site Type:
Lookout/Camp

Site Age:
Unknown

Umiat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on an esker which is roughly 80 meters in length and up to 4 meters wide at its crest. The esker is aligned east-west for most of its length before turning northward near its eastern end. The esker rises from less than 1 meter to 3-4 meters in height at its crest near north/eastern terminus. The view from the site is good and includes all of Agiak Lake and the surrounding local country as well as several kilometers east toward Ekokpuk Pass.

The surface of the site is relatively flat and well drained. The vegetation mat is relatively sparse on the crest where much exposed gravel and till is interspersed with patches of moss, lichen, grass, and some low woody and herbaceous plants. Vegetation on the esker's flanks are of similar composition but much more robust.

The site was located as the result of visual inspection of the surface. Cultural material consisting of black, gray, and banded gray chert flakes were widely but thinly scattered over nearly the entire length of the esker. Most of the cultural material occurred on the higher eastern part of the site.

Near the site's southern end there is a smaller parallel esker on which a concentration of fire-cracked rock and chert flakes was noted near the southern edge of the crest. A small test pit was excavated amongst the fire-cracked rock concentration and yielded no bone, charcoal, or other cultural material.

Although no cultural affiliation can be assigned to this site it appears to have been used as a game lookout where people took shelter in the lee of the feature perhaps keeping warm with a fire.

The site's location suggests it served as a lookout. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes temporal or cultural assessment of the site. The variety of cultural material suggests that more than one occupational event occurred at this location.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears to be low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-096

Site Elevation: 3115 ft.	NE1/4, SE1/4 Section 1 T16S, R5W	Probable Site Type: Camp/Lookout
Site Age: Unknown	Umiat Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on a low, hummocky, glacially formed knob at the northwest corner of Agiak Lake. The site is roughly 50 meters west of the shore and somewhat less than 100 meters northeast of the most prominent knob in the area. XCL-093 lies 400 meters to the southwest. The view from this site differs little from the other sites in the area; XCL-093 094 and 095. All of Agiak Lake is visible including the surrounding local country.

The surface of the knob is uneven and hummocky with numerous swales and dips. It is also quite rocky with occasional patches of exposed mineral soil and frost boils. The vegetation consisting of moss, lichen, grass, and low woody and herbaceous plants, is clumpy and relatively sparse but the overall appearance is one of a vegetated surface rather than a barren one.

The promontory of the knob is near its southern end and is distinguished by a more robust vegetation due to soil enrichment courtesy of burrowing ground squirrels.

Three black chert waste flakes were noted immediately adjacent to a concentration of fire-cracked rock which was well integrated into the vegetation mat. This concentration of cultural material was located about 2 meters north of the grassy crest of the knob. A 20 cm² test pit excavated to a depth of 10 cm. in the midst of the fire-cracked rock revealed miniscule flakes of charcoal and a large black chert flake.

Some 8 meters north of the first test pit another concentration of fire-cracked rock was noted. A close visual inspection in the area yielded no lithics, however, a 20 cm² test pit excavated to a depth of 7 cm. in the middle of the hearth produced copious charcoal, burned and calcined bone, fish vertebra and ribs, and a caribou bone fragment. Other hearths may be present but were not identifiable from surface indication.

The site's location as well as the cultural material suggest that it served as a camp and possibly a lookout. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes temporal or cultural assessment, however, the charcoal may provide a C-14 date.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. At present the site does not seem to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-097

Site Elevation:
3120 ft.

NE1/4, NE1/4
Section 1
T16S, R5W

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Umiat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site lies on a low 40 x 50 meter kame that is located between the forks of the stream which flows from the western mountains then turns south and flows into the north end of Agiak Lake. The north channel of the stream is only 25 meters from the site, the southern one perhaps 100 meters. The north end of Agiak Lake lies slightly less than a kilometer south of the site. The view from the site is good but covers only the local area.

The surface of the site is level, flat, and well drained with a few scattered shallow depressions and scattered rocks none of which look to be cultural in origin. The vegetation is thin and about a 50/50 mix with exposed pebbly soil. Vegetation includes moss, lichen, grass, and low woody and herbaceous plants. There are a couple of small areas with heavy dry moss growths probably reflecting soil enrichment by nesting birds and rodent burrowing.

The site was located as the result of visual reconnaissance of the area. The medial section of a fine grained black chert blade was noted on surface near the southwest corner of the kame. This artifact fragment was found alone, on surface in an area of exposed gravelly soil. Use retouch is evident on both edges of the blade's dorsal surface, and the three arrises terminate in hinge fractures.

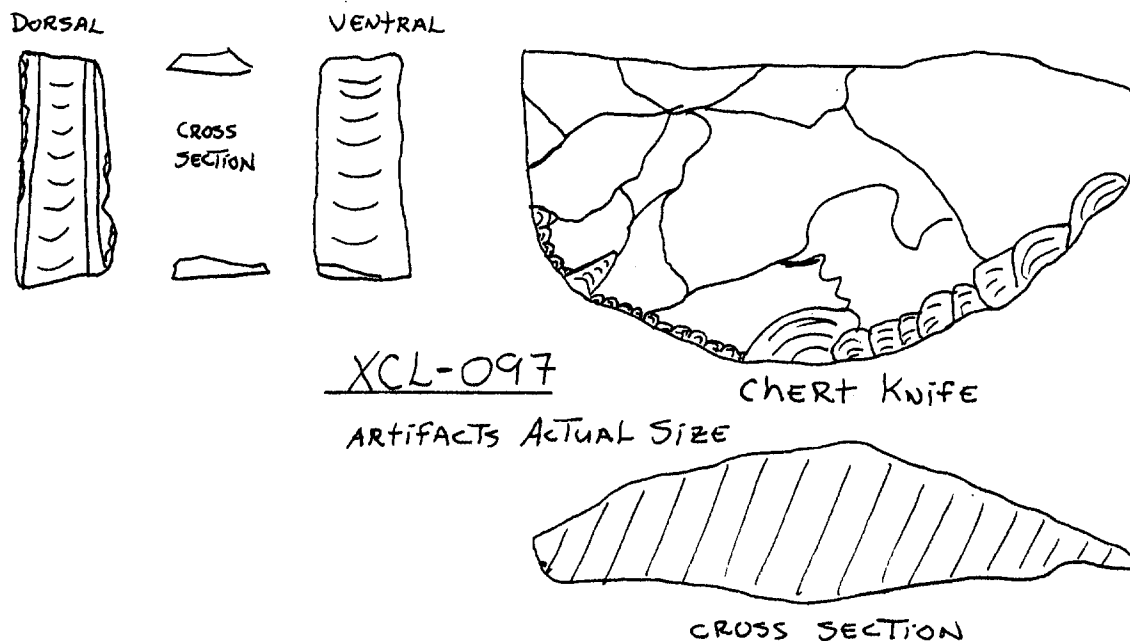
Intensive visual inspection of the site area produced only one other artifact, a unifacial flake knife. The knife was found on the southern sloping face of the site 12 meters east of datum and the blade fragment. Subsurface testing revealed no additional cultural material.

It is interesting to note that the cultural materials were on the south slope of the knoll which provides a very comfortable lee site out of the north wind or sight of approaching caribou during the southern fall migration.

The site's location suggests it served as a lookout. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any temporal or cultural assessment.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-097 (continued)



XCL-098

Site Elevation:
3120 ft.

SW1/4, NW1/4
Section 6
T16S, R4W

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Umiat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on the lowest and westernmost slope of a kame. The site is located about 250 meters northeast of XCL-098 and is separated from the Chandler Valley's eastern wall by an alluvial fan and an intervening area of low willow. The view potential of the site is comparable with other sites in the vicinity providing a view of the entirety of Agiak Lake, southeast into the Ekokpuk Pass area and north to the high ground which blocks the view of Amiloyak Lake.

The surface of the site rises about 1.5 meters above the surrounding tussock tundra. The immediate site area is uneven and hummocky. Vegetation is a combination of lichen, small amounts of grasses, low woody and herbaceous plants and moss. Small areas are disturbed by rodent burrows.

Close visual inspection and several test pits on the crests and faces of the kame yielded no cultural material. However, in a hummocky area to the west a basal fragment of what probably was a stemmed, parallel obliquely flaked, projectile point was found on surface. The artifact was fashioned from a fine grained, semi-translucent, brownish gray chert,

appears to be basially thinned, and has a relatively thin, lenticular cross section. The only other artifactual material present was 4-5 black chert waste flakes on surface some 50 meters to the east at the base of north face of the kame.

The site's location suggests it served as a lookout. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any cultural or temporal assessment of the site, although the flaking technique used on the projectile point is suggestive of the Denbigh Flint Complex.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

Site Elevation: 3152 ft.	DRAFT	XCL-099	Probable Site Type: Camp
Site Age: Recent		NW1/4, NW1/4 Section 32 T15S, R4W Umiamt Meridian	

This site lies just south of a low ridge on a flat elevated terrace some 7 meters above the southwest corner of Amiloyak Lake and 50 meters west of the shore. The site offers an excellent view to the west, south, and east, while the view to the north is blocked by a nearby ridge.

Approximately 90% of the surface of the site is vegetated by a thin mat of grass, moss, lichen, some low woody and herbaceous plants and scattered dwarf willow. A few scattered gravel and mineral soil exposures are present.

The site was located through surface reconnaissance and consists of a single tent ring. A feature which may be a hearth (?) is located some 5 meters to the south. Subsurface testing inside the hearth revealed no evidence of fire.

The tent ring is subrectangular in shape and measures 3 meters x 2.50 meters. Some of the tent ring rocks were half buried while others lay only partially within the soil and vegetation. A 20 cm² test was excavated to a depth of 20 cm. in the center of the floor area and proved to be culturally sterile.

The only artifact associated with this site is a wood shingle/board (spruce?) 10 cm. x 35 cm. x 1 cm. found on the site near the ring. About 50 cut marks were presented on the surface of the board. These cut marks were thin, suggesting a knife had made them, and with only a few exceptions were oriented perpendicular to the long axis of the board.

The wood and the rectangular tent ring suggest the site is a recent camp, and is probably related to the various historic materials on the peninsula nearer the lake.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential, except in the sense of subsistence activities in the last 50 years, is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-100

Site Elevation:
3145 ft.

NW1/4, NE1/4
Section 32
T15S, R4W

Probable Site Type:
Unknown

Site Age:
Unknown

Umat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on the edge of the second terrace above the southeast shore of Amiloyak Lake, some 30 meters east of the waters edge. XCL-103 lies 400 meters to the south. The view from the site is excellent and encompasses the entire lake and the surrounding local country.

Vegetation at the site consists of sedge, grass, moss, lichen, and a few low woody and herbaceous plants. Unvegetated gravelly areas comprise less than 30% of the site area.

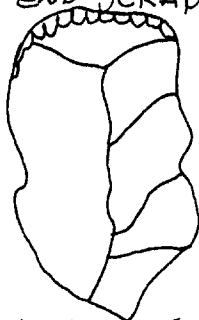
The site was located through visual reconnaissance of the area. A single black chert end scraper was found on surface. No other cultural material was noted and no subsurface testing was undertaken.

The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any temporal or cultural assessment of the site. The site can be termed little more than an isolated find.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-100

BLACK CHERT
END SCRAPER



ACTUAL SIZE



CROSS SECTION

XCL-101

Site Elevation:
3400 ft.

NE1/4, SW1/4
Section 12
T16S, R5W

Probable Site Type:
Inuksuk/Hunting

Site Age:
Last 200 years

Umiat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Nunamiut
Eskimo

This site is located along the northwest facing slope of the isolated mountain which lies adjacent to the southeast shore of Agiak Lake.

The site is a line of inuksuk that runs along the base of the mountain and curve westerly to the shore of the lake.

This well-preserved inuksuk line runs along the base of the mountain in a general east-west direction for a distance of about 1 kilometer. The cairns are in good condition, many are standing upright and are not lichen-covered. Others, however are low and completely covered by black lichens. At least two of the cairns had knife or ax cut willow fragments in them.

The cairns are generally 3-6 meters apart, and seem to be quite linear in their alignments. In some places, especially where the cairns cross a low vegetated area, there are "extra" cairns not forming part of the linear arrangement. Some of the cairns are quite old and lichen covered, while others seem recently erected, or renovated, suggesting many re-uses of this structure.

The orientation of the line is such that it seems to have focused animals moving southward down toward the lake shore at a point about 0.5 km south of the inlet stream. There is a good place to hide kayaks just south of that location behind a ridge.

The site demonstrates use of the Agiak Lake area for caribou drives, the orientation suggests drives into the lake, and kayak hunting. The site is of relatively high significance in terms of Nunamiut history and prehistory and research potential in terms of caribou/subsistence activities during the last 200-50 years is moderate.

At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

- NOTCHED PTS
- CHARCOAL
- MICROBLADES
- MANY FORMED ARTIFACTS
- UNAUTHORIZED EXCAVATION XCL-102

Site Elevation:
3130 ft.

NW1/4, SE1/4
Section 11
T16S, R4W

Probable Site Type:
Camp

Site Age:
6000 years - present

Uniat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Various

This site is located on some low knolls, and terraces on the east side of the mouth of the Agiak Lake outlet stream, Agiak Creek. The site is large, perhaps 100 meters² in area, and may lie entirely on native allotment FF017884 belonging to Doris Hugo. The site area provides a have fine view of the lake, and the rolling glacial topography to the south. The terrace is protected from north winds and has an ample willow supply. Vegetation on the upland areas is largely lichen, sedge, moss, low woody and herbaceous plants, and grass.

The top of the knoll contains a large number of test pits which are the result of unauthorized excavation. In the test pits were found flakes of chert, microblades of chert and obsidian, bifacially and unifacially flaked tools, and at least one hearth with an associated obsidian microblade. To the west of the highest knoll, 9.25 meters above the lake, is a modern rectangular stone enclosure that is probably a tent platform of some kind. Within the enclosure is much evidence of modern camping; tin cans, broken glass bottles, and freeze dried food wrappers.

On the lower terrace there is also much evidence of modern camping. Several test pits had been previously excavated here, and an end scraper and biface were observed in two of the excavations. By far the most common prehistoric cultural material is black chert; waste flakes of this material are nearly everywhere.

This site is a complex one. The knolls probably functioned as lookout/flaking stations, with the terrace providing a good habitation location. The site has been repeatedly re-used through time; microblades suggest some antiquity, and the site has obviously been used by Nunamiut Eskimo. Perhaps the charcoal sample will provide a date for part of the occupation.

The site has been disturbed by unauthorized excavation, but as the site appears to be on a native allotment, little can be done to prevent further excavation.

The test pits referred to below are those previously excavated by persons unknown. No excavation was undertaken by NPS archeologists. Cultural material was noted in the old test pits and mapped in.

Test Pit 1: Three black chert microblade fragments, more than 50 black chert flakes, 1 red chert flake, 6 gray chert flakes, 54 obsidian flakes.

Test Pit 2: Two black chert flakes, one gray chert flake, five obsidian flakes.

Test Pit 3: One obsidian microblade - associated with hearth, two obsidian flakes numerous black chert flakes.

Test Pit 4: Flake tool, unifacially flaked with transverse burination flake removal on base, corner notched.

Test Pit 5: Flake tool, unifacially flaked with possible transverse burination flakes removed from base. Corner notched.

Test Pit 6: Five obsidian flakes, one retouched, two possible burin spalls, three microblade fragments, numerous black chert flakes.

Test Pit 7: Two projectile points, found 10 cm. below surface under a rock.

Test Pit 8: One black chert projectile point, several black chert flakes.

Test Pit 9: Projectile point, biface fragment, also contains numerous black chert flakes and a small amounts of charcoal.

Test Pit 10: Biface and associated fragments.

Test Pit 13: Gray chert end scraper.

Test pits 10 and 12 contained chert flakes, and test pit 14 contained very recent highly fragmented caribou bone and charcoal probably the remains of a bone grease extracting operation.

Cultural evidence suggests that the site has been periodically occupied over at least the last 6 millennia.

Site significance is relatively high as is research potential. The site lies on private land and appears threatened by human impact.



XCL-102

0 10 20
meters
(approximate)

AGIAK LAKE

2 Cairns

2 modern tent ring

BLM corner marker
NA F17884

Possible allotment boundary

- 246 -

AGIAK CREEK

Rock

Rock

X

TP14

TP13

X

Rock

X

TP12

X

TP11

X

TP10

TEST PIT 9

TEST PIT 7

Rock

Rock

+ 9.25m

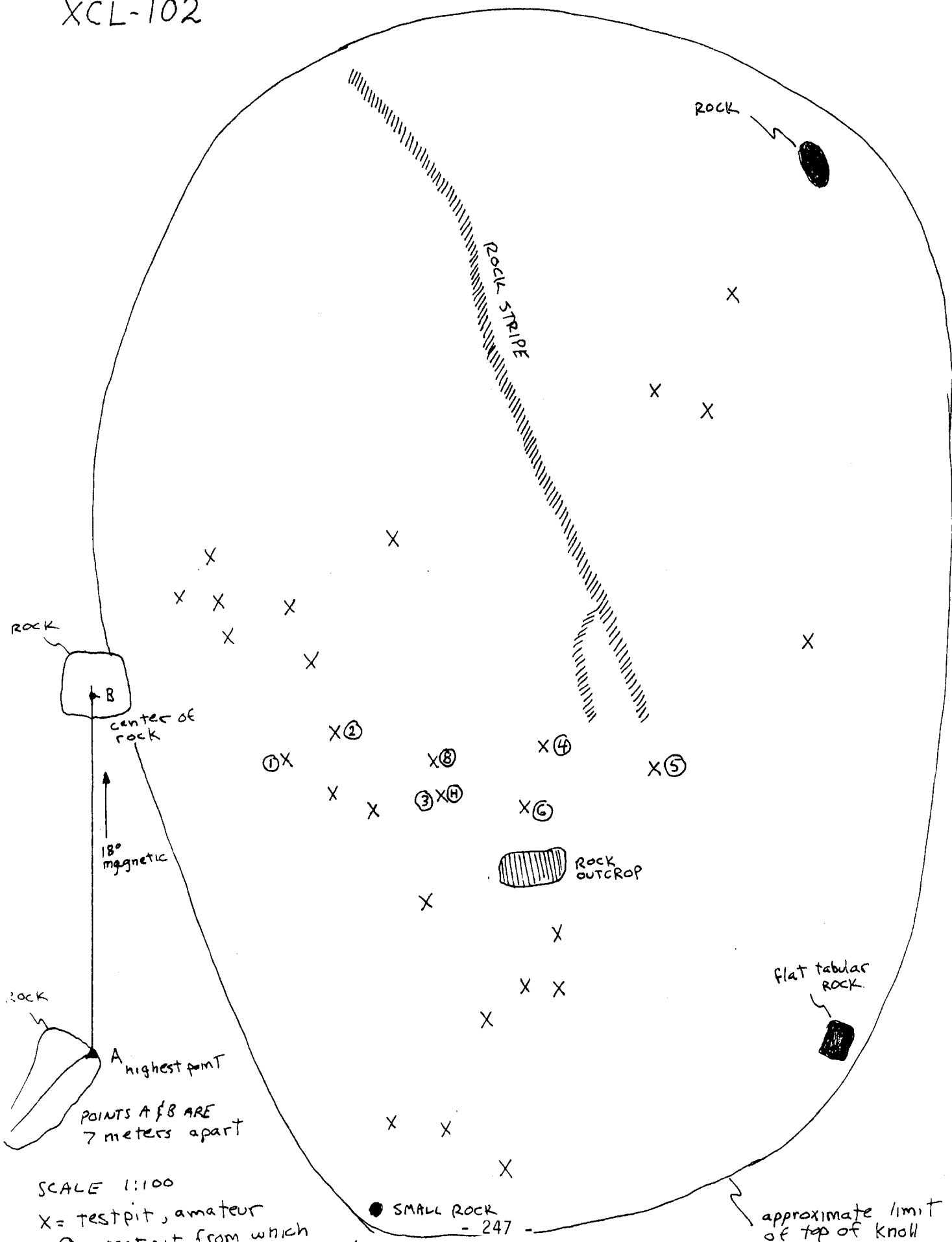
see detailed map

WILLOWS

WILLOWS

XCL 109

XCL-102



SCALE 1:100

X = test pit, amateur

X(N) = test pit from which material was collected

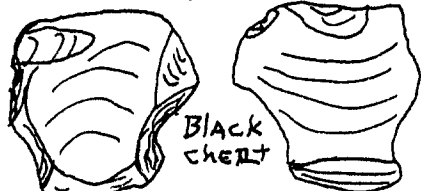
(H) = HEARTH

SEE FIELD NOTES FOR TEST PIT MEASURED LOCATIONS

XCL-102

ALL ARTIFACTS
ACTUAL SIZE

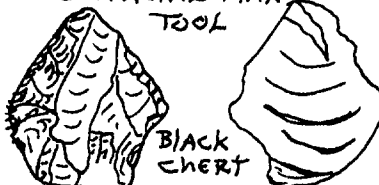
UNIFACIAL FLAKE TOOL



Black
chert

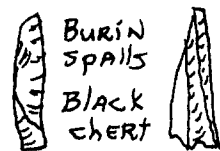
TEST Pit #4

UNIFACIAL FLAKE
TOOL



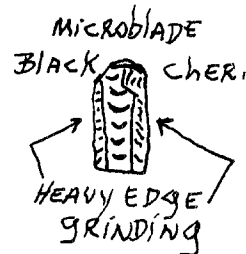
Black
chert

TEST Pit #5



BURIN
SPALLS
Black
chert

TEST Pit #6

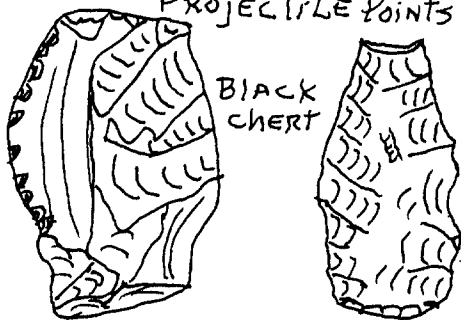


MICROBLADE

Black
chert

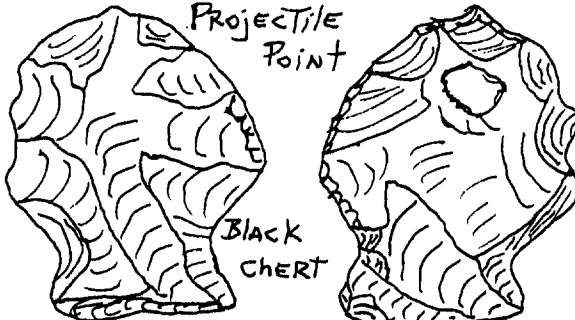
HEAVY EDGE
GRINDING

TEST Pit #7
PROJECTILE POINTS



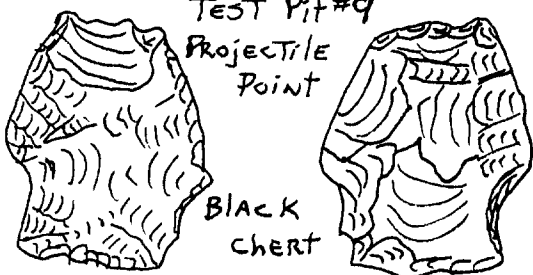
Black
chert

TEST Pit #8
PROJECTILE
POINT



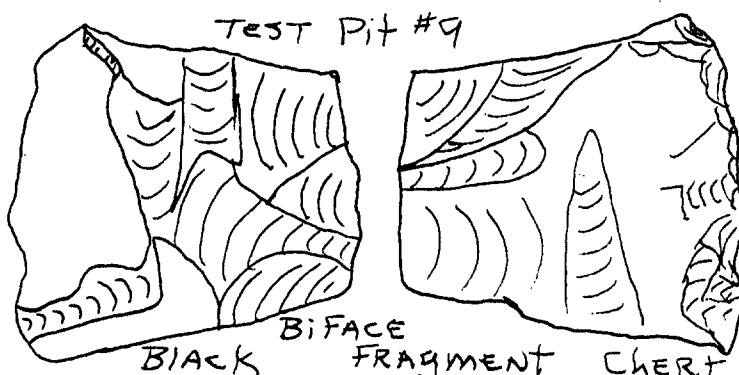
Black
chert

TEST Pit #9
PROJECTILE
POINT



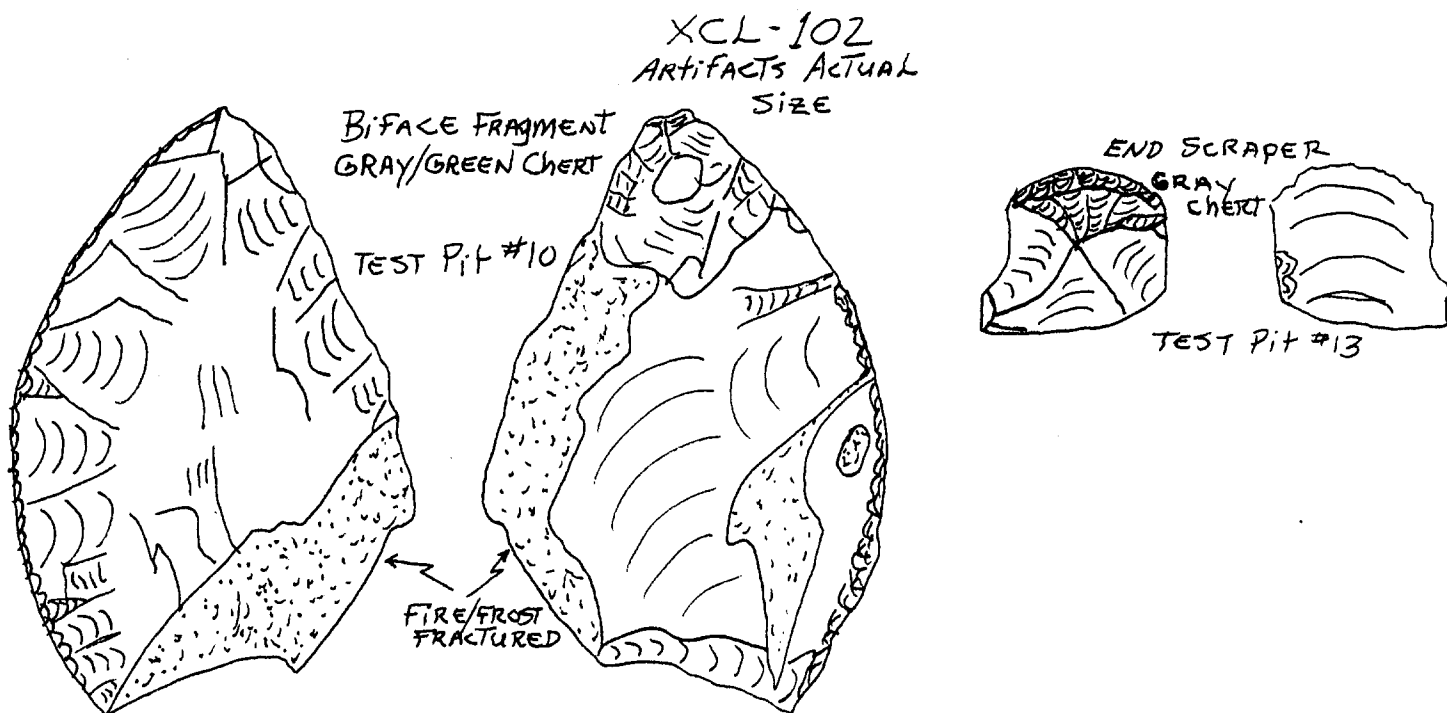
Black
chert

TEST Pit #9



BLACK BIFACE
FRAGMENT CHERT

XCL-102 (continued)



XCL-103

Site Elevation:
3240 ft.

SW1/4, NE1/4
Section 32
T15S, R4W
Umiat Meridian

Probable Site Type:
Cache

Site Age:
Last 100 years

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Nunamiut
Eskimo

This site is poised on a ridge roughly 500 meters east of the southeast quadrant of Amiloyak Lake. The site is bordered on the north by a westward flowing stream which feeds the lake. The site is located half way along the length of the ridge, and has excellent views to north, west, and east.

Vegetation at the site consists of a thin cover of lichen, moss, grass, and some low woody and herbaceous plants. Only 30% of the surface of the site is vegetated, the majority is exposed limestone bedrock and mineral soil.

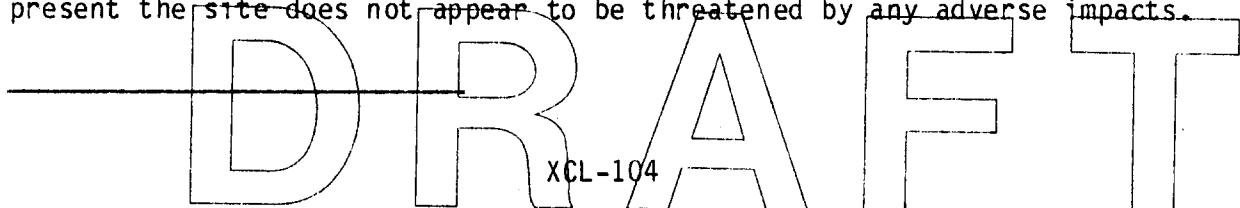
The site was located as the result of surface reconnaissance of the area and appears to be a stone cache. The cache is made of large, flat limestone slabs piled up over a central box of stone which measures roughly 40 cm. on a side. Total dimensions of the cache are ca. 1.00 meters in height and 1.50 meters in diameter. Three artifacts were found in association with the cache. Inside the cache and partially wedged between the stones

was a 1.70 meters long willow branch 4 cm. in diameter and one willow stake about 25 cm. long, and 3 cm. in diameter which was worked to a blunt taper. The third object is a more poorly preserved handle of willow that was found 4 meters downslope. This piece is curved and has two lashing grooves cut into the wood at one end. It is otherwise similar in appearance to the blunt stake found inside the cache.

The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any cultural or temporal assessment. However the site is probably recent given the rather good preservation of all three wood artifacts.

This site appears to be a cache for gear and probably small parcels of meat. Its height above the game trails by the lake shore suggest it may have been utilized in sheep hunting.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.


XCL-104

Site Elevation: 3310 ft.	NE1/4, SE1/4 Section 7 T16S, R4W	Probable Site Type: Lookout
Site Age: Unknown	Umiat Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on a prominent east-west trending ridge one kilometer east of Agiak Lake. XCL-091 lies 1200 meters to the north-northwest and XCL-087 lies slightly more than a kilometer to the east. The site is located in a saddle along the ridge. The view from the site is excellent to the east and west while higher terrain blocks long range views to the north and south.

Vegetation at the site consists of moss, lichen, grass, dwarf willow, and some low woody and herbaceous plants. Roughly 20% of the site area is unvegetated the surface being comprised of shattered bedrock and some mineral soil exposures.

The site was located as the result of visual reconnaissance of the locale and consists of a 2 meter² area littered with black chert waste flakes. A single 20 cm² test pit was excavated to a depth of 6 cm. and proved to be culturally sterile. Some of the flakes appear to exhibit retouch which may or may not be cultural in origin.

The site's location and cultural material suggest it served as a lookout. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes temporal or cultural assessment of the site.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-105

Site Elevation: 3320 ft.	NW1/4 SE1/4 Section 7 T16S, R4W	Probable Site Type: Shooting pits
Site Age: Last 100 years	Umiat Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Nunamiut Eskimo

This site lies on the west end of the narrow ridge roughly 200 meters west of XCL-104. The view from the site is excellent and includes all of Agiak Lake and the surrounding country.

The site area supports very little vegetation; perhaps 10% of the surface is covered with lichen, the rest being fractured bedrock. The site consists of three shooting pits averaging 1 meter in depth and up to 2 meters across. No other cultural material was observed. All the shooting pits face out over the Agiak Lake inlet valley.

The row(s) of inuksuk on this side of the Agiak/Ekokpuk valley come up the west end of the ridge immediately north of the pits. It seems highly probable that these pits were used to take caribou from above, and that they are, therefore, associated with the inuksuk.

The location and arrangement of the shooting pits in relation to the nearby inuksuk suggests the shooting pits date from a period after firearms became common in the area. The site was probably utilized by Nunamiut Eskimo caribou hunters.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-106

Site Elevation: 3145 ft.	SW1/4, SE1/4 Section 29 T15S, R4W	Probable Site Type: Unknown
Site Age: Unknown	Umiat Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located 150 meters northeast of XCL-100. The site lies on a low terrace on the central eastern shore of Amiloyak Lake, 30 meters east of the water's edge. The site offers an excellent view of the lake and the surrounding local country.

Vegetation consists of sedge, moss, and lichen. Rocky ground accounts for 40% of the site's surface.

This site, like XCL-100 to the south, appears to be an isolated find. A single black chert flake was noted on surface near the center of a small,

hummocky terrace ca. 40 meters east of the lake. No other cultural material was observed and inspection under and around half a dozen rocks and bare spots nearby revealed no additional cultural evidence.

The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any temporal or cultural assessment of the site. Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears to be very, very, low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by and adverse impacts.

XCL-107

Site Elevation:
3145 ft.

NW1/4, NW1/4
Section 32
T15S, R4W

Probable Site Type:
Camp

Site Age:
ca. 100 years B.P.

Umiat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Nunamiut
Eskimo

This site lies 200 meters southwest of XCL-099, and in terms of geomorphology, is very similar to that site's location. XCL-107 sits on the first true terrace above Amiloyak Lake and is protected from the north by the brow of a ridge. The view from the site is excellent to south, west, and east while to the north the ridge blocks the view.

Vegetation at the site consists of grass, lichen, moss, low woody and herbaceous plants and some scattered dwarf birch. Almost the entire surface of the site is vegetated.

The site was located through a surface reconnaissance of the area and consists of a single tent ring ca. 3.5 meters in diameter. The ring rocks are spaced at 40 cm. intervals and most are more than half-buried in soil and vegetation. No surface cultural material was noted and a small subsurface test, excavated to a depth of 10 cm. in the middle of the tent ring, proved to be culturally sterile.

The cultural evidence and location of the site suggests it served as a camp, probably for hunting and or fishing. The circular shape of the ring suggests occupation occurred roughly 100 or more years ago by Nunamiut Eskimo.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impact.

XCL-108

Site Elevation:
3120 ft.

SW1/4, NE1/4
Section 12
T16S, R5W

Probable Site Type:
Camp

Site Age:
4000-2000 years B.P.

Umiat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Denbigh
Flint Complex

The site is located about 200 meters south-southeast of the shore of Agiak Lake, and about 100 meters east of the inlet stream. An elongated ridge, which is covered with excavated pits, lies between the site and the stream. The site is centered on a flat gravelly surface that rises above the low sedge tundra to the north, and gives way to higher ground to the south and east. The site is vegetated with a thin cover of sedges, mosses and lichens over the gravels. Fine grained soils are thin and discontinuous over the area. The site locale commands an excellent view north to the lake, and is adjacent the ridge which has a superb view of the surrounding terrain.

This site was discovered while trying to relocate sites C-6 and C-6a found during Alexander's 1962 survey of the lake. While examining the area where these sites are reported to be located, a large area, about 8 meters² was discovered which had been thoroughly disturbed. Within the disturbed area, where the vegetation had been removed, were large numbers of black chert flakes indicating an archeological site. Among these flakes were several tools, including end scrapers and flake knives. The first conclusion was that this was the result of Alexander's work. However, the site did not match the description given for site C-6, a large tent ring, or site C-6a, a line of stone cairns. Additionally the site was not in the right location to be either of these sites.

Several days later the site was reexamined and two bifaces, two end scrapers, and a flake knife, and over 100 microblades, all of chert, were found. In addition, buried in the back dirt from the excavations, a Wrigley's chewing gum wrapper with the uniform product bare code printed on it was found. This evidence suggests the excavation activity is much too recent to have been the work of Alexander.

It was decided to map the disturbed area, collect the exposed tools, and undertake a testing program to determine the limits of the site. In addition, two 1 meter² test squares were excavated.

The initial work at the site consisted of closely examining the disturbed area for artifacts, and mapping its extent. The disturbed area encompasses an irregularly shaped plot of some 40 square meters, and numerous pit holes are found outside the perimeter. Vegetation has been removed, and is sometimes found dumped in piles within the disturbed area. In addition to the mapped material, the site is literally covered with coarse black chert debitage.

A testing program was undertaken to determine the extent of the cultural material. Small test pits were spaced 7 meters apart across the site in a square grid. Those test pits which yielded any cultural material were marked. The site extends well beyond the limits of the disturbed area; however it seems equally clear that the unauthorized excavations have disturbed the majority of the site.

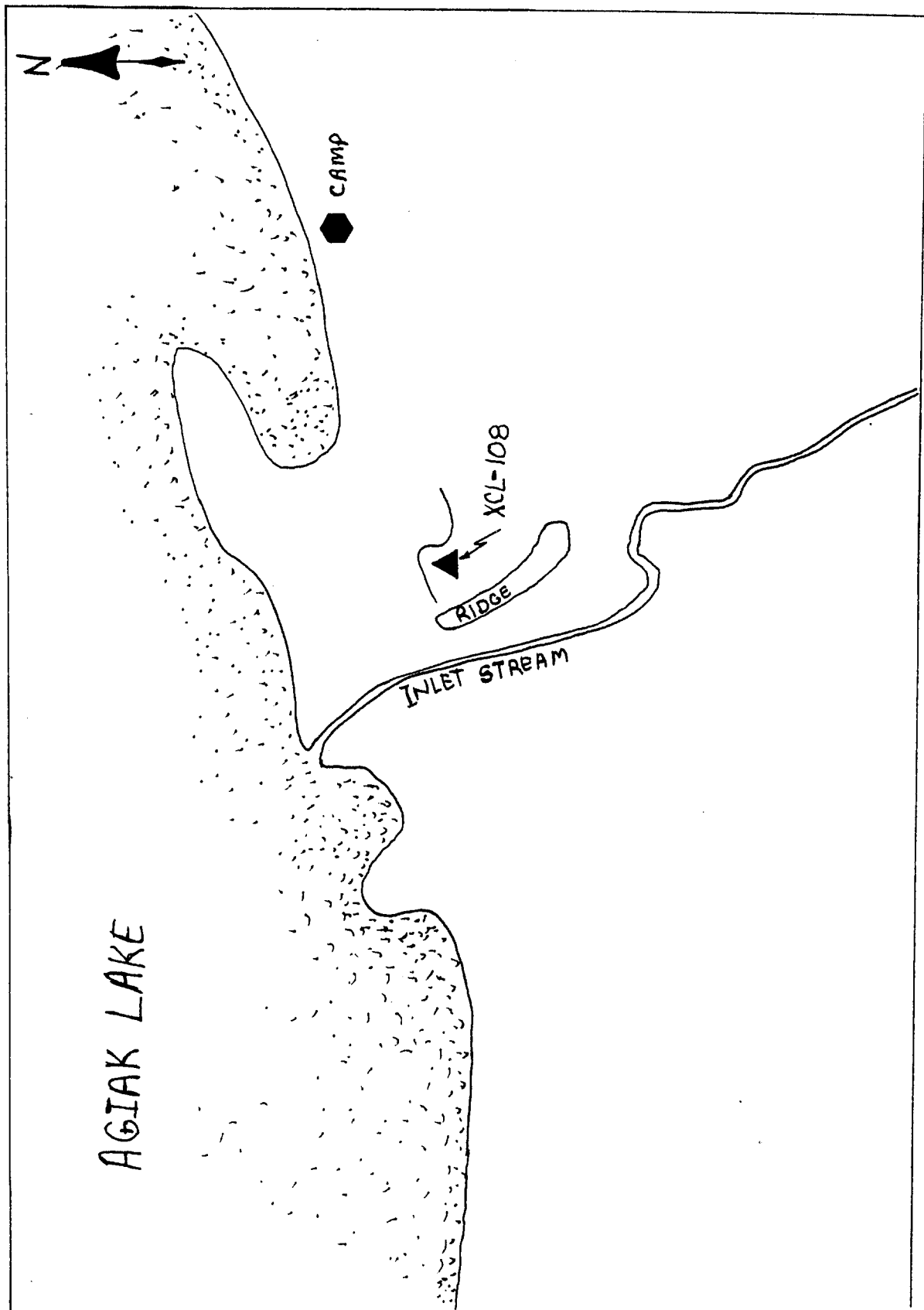
Two 1 meter² test squares on the southern boundary of the disturbed area, near where large numbers of microblades had been seen in the pits, were excavated. One obsidian flake was recovered from square 1-2 W, 14-15 S. A total of 24 tools, mostly microblade fragments, were given point provenience in this square, and 26 were located in square 0-1 W, 15-16 S.

Based on the above testing, it has been concluded that most of the important parts of the site have been disturbed, and little is to be gained by any additional work at this locality. The materials collected by this project will serve to characterize the site adequately. Unfortunately, no charcoal was recovered from the site, and the only chronometric determinations must come from obsidian hydration alone.

Several odd shaped transverse spalls were located during collection of exposed materials in the disturbed area. They are similar to primary spalls from mitten-shaped burins, but differ in having steep, step fracture flaking that looks like platform preparation along one side. They are possibly platform rejuvenation flakes from microblade cores. It is noteworthy that nearly all of the microblades, and these spalls are of white or tan chert, while the flakes and end scrapers are of black chert. Possibly two unrelated occupations are superimposed at XCL-108.

Evidence suggests that at least one occupation at the site may have been by Denbigh Flint Complex People.

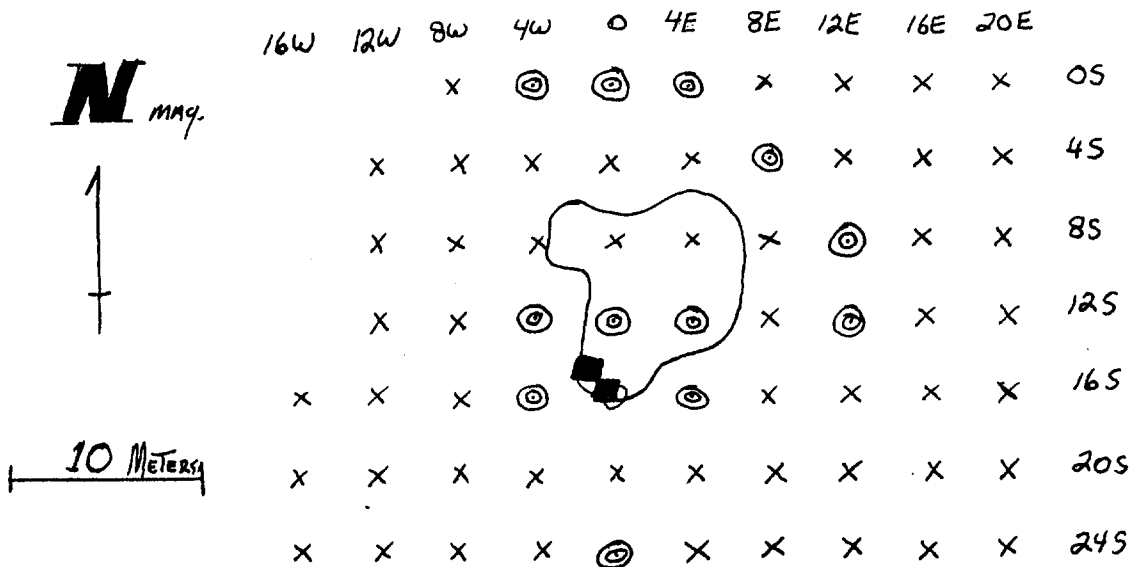
This is one of the few examples of apparent unauthorized excavation of an archeological resource within the park.



XCL-108 (continued)

XCL-108

Subsurface Testing - Site Limits and Boundary of Disturbed Area

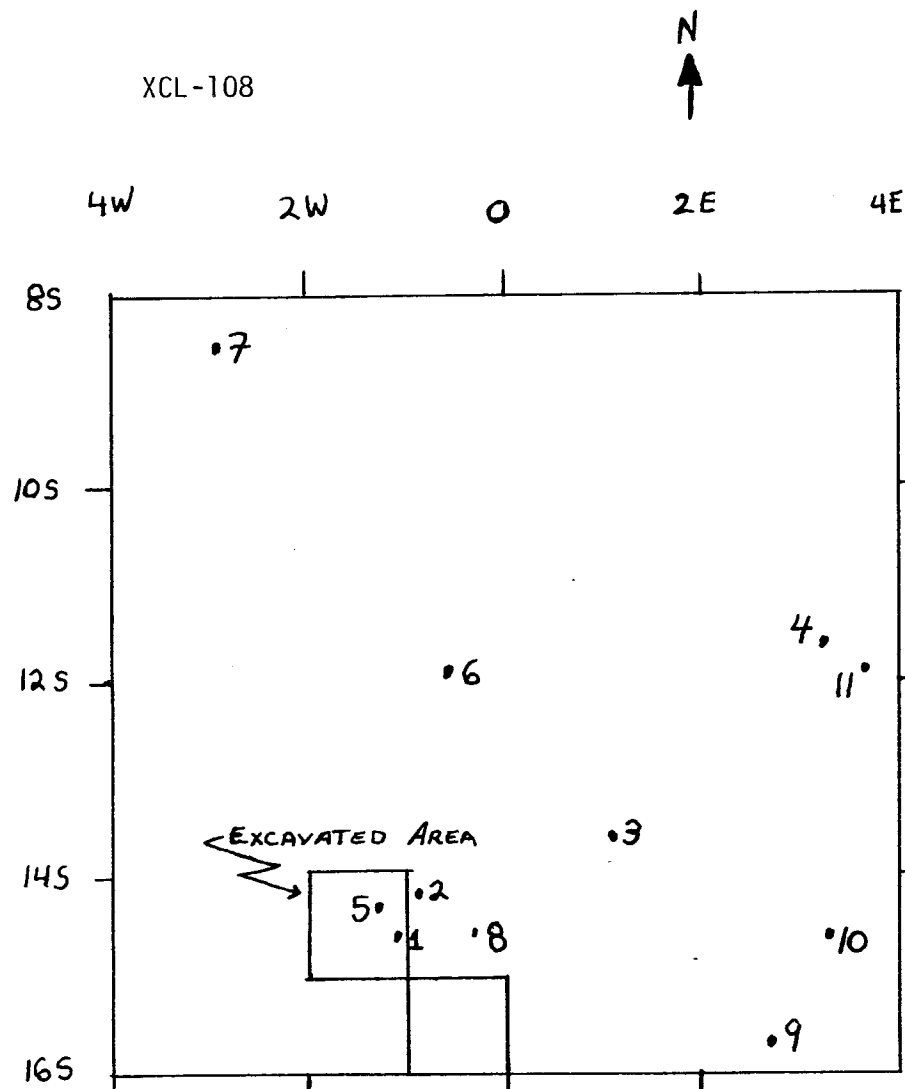


⊙ Lithic material found in 20 cm. x 20 cm. subsurface test or lithics on surface.

x No lithic material.

■ Excavated squares 1m x 1m (6/16/85)

Boundary of disturbed area.
N.B. - other potholes exist outside this line.



DESCRIPTION

1. 9 microblades, 13 microblade fragments, 7 flakes
2. 19 microblades, 2 blade-like flakes (1 retouched), 20 flakes
3. 2 black chert flake knives
4. 1 black chert end scraper
5. 1 large tan biface, 2 large retouched blades, 2 core thinning flakes, 2 microblade fragments, 2 blocky chert flakes
6. 1 crude flake knife, black chert, 3 flakes, unifacially retouched
7. 1 large biface/scrapper, black chert
8. 32 microblades and fragments, 5 unifacially retouched transverse spalls, 13 flakes
9. 1 black chert endscraper
10. 1 black chert endscraper
11. 1 biface fragment, dark gray chert

Location and Description of materials salvaged from disturbed area.

XCL-108

Excavated Squares - Contents by Quad - Flakes

14-15S/1-2W.....24 tools and 1 obsidian flake w/point proveniences.

15-16S/0-1W.....26 tools w/point proveniences.

2W

1W

14S

168 black flakes 2 white/gray fl. 4 gray/blue fl. 3 brown/red fl. n = 177	149 black fl. (3 retouched) 2 white/gray fl. 12 lt. gray fl. 1 gray fl. n = 164
47 black fl. (4 retouched) 2 lt. gray fl. n = 49	36 black fl. 5 lt. gray fl. 1 red/brown fl. n = 42

N_{mag.}



1W

15S

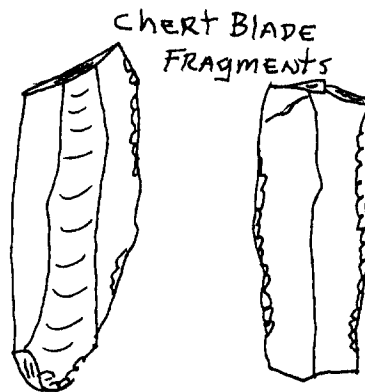
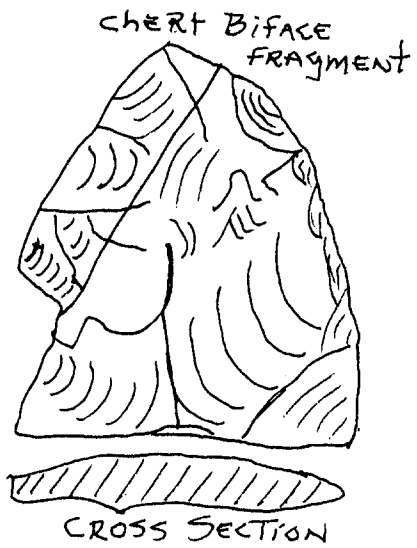
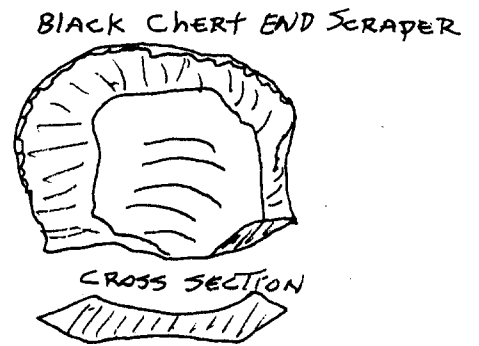
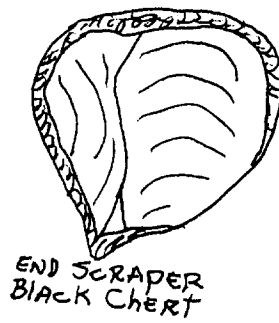
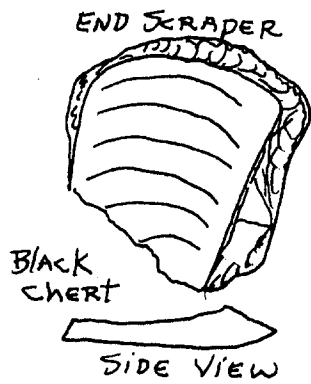
54 black fl. (6 retouched) 11 lt. gray fl. n = 65	23 black fl. (3 retouched) n = 23
9 black fl. (1 retouched) 1 white fl. n = 10	54 black fl. (4 retouched) n = 54

50 cm.

- 258 -

16S

XCL-108
 ALL ARTIFACTS
 ACTUAL SIZE



XCL-109

Site Elevation: 3095 ft.	NW1/4, SE1/4 Section 11 T16S, R5W	Probable Site Type: Unknown
Site Age: Unknown	Umiat Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

This site lies on a north facing cut-bank on the south side of Agiak Creek 200 meters south of the lake. XCL-102 lies about 150 meters to the northeast. The site provides an excellent view of the creek valley to the south.

Vegetation at the site is sparse and consists of lichen, moss, grass, and low woody and herbaceous plants. Much of the cut-bank is exposed gravel and mineral soil.

The site was located as the result of surface reconnaissance and consists of a single white chert flake. Interestingly, no white chert was found at XCL-102, a very large site to the north.

The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any temporal or cultural assessment of the site. The function of the site is unknown but it is assumed that it is associated with XCL-102.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-110

Site Elevation: 3125 ft.	NE1/4, NW1/4 Section 14 T16S, R5W	Probable Site Type: Lookout
Site Age: Unknown	Umiat Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on a low knob 300 meters east of the Agiak Lake outlet stream. A western tributary of the outlet lies 100 meters south of the site while XCL-102 lies 500 meters to the north-northeast. The view from the site is local and centers on the outlet stream.

The surface of the site is uneven and vegetated with grass, moss, lichen, and scattered low woody and herbaceous plants. Much of the surface is unvegetated.

The site was located by visual inspection when of a handfull of black chert flakes were observed. The flakes lay on the south face of knob, near its base. No subsurface testing was undertaken.

The site's location suggests that it served as a lookout. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any temporal or cultural assessment of the site.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-111

TENT RINGS + LITHICS

Site Elevation:
3155 ft.

NW1/4, NE1/4
Section 11
T16S, R5W
Umiat Meridian

Probable Site Type:
Camp

Site Age:
ca. 100 years B.P.

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Nunamiut
Eskimo

This site sits on a series of terraces above the southwest corner of Agiak Lake. The site is 15-25 meters above lake level and offers an excellent view across the southern end of the lake and the surrounding local country. Two small "drainages" divide the site into three physiographic sections.

Vegetation generally consists of moss, sedge, lichen, low woody and herbaceous plants and some scattered dwarf birch. Blocks and slabs of limestone cover nearly 40% of the total site area.

The site was located as the result of surface reconnaissance and consists of tent rings, caches, and lithics, bone, and wood debris scattered about the surface.

On the first terrace level are tent rings "A" and "B" and caches 1-3. On the second level is cache 4, the largest and best preserved of the caches, plus a tent ring and two collapsed caches or shooting pits.

Cache 1: lies 8 meters to north of tent ring "A". This is a low stone cache made of relatively thick slabs of limestone which are heavily encrusted with black "leafy" lichen. The cache is located in a shallow draw and its presence is obvious, as there are only a few stones of large size nearby.

Cache 2: Lies 20 meters upslope at 310° from cache 1. It is less well preserved, and is not covered. Immediately to the northwest of cache 2 is tent ring "B", which may or may not be a real occupational locus. The stones could be the scattered remains of cache 2. No lithic or other cultural material was observed.

About 10 meters at 50° from ring "B" is cache 3, another poorly preserved site of lichened limestone slabs. The only artifact on the site near this feature is a broken fragment, three pieces, of a spruce, bent wood

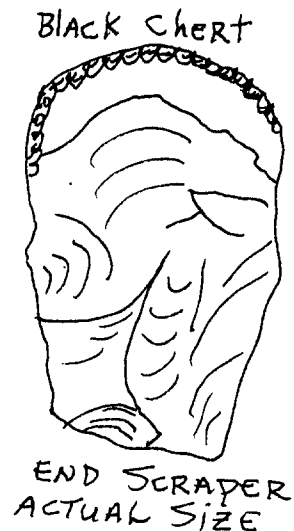
bucket, which appears to have been at least 10 cm deep. Total length of fragment is 50 cm. Six stitching holes are present on one end. Two lengths of stitching material, which appears to be root fiber are inserted in the stitching holes. The thickness of wood is about .5cm.

On the second level of the terraces is Cache 4, which is very nicely preserved. It is a circular configuration of limestone slabs which is over a meter in diameter and .40 meter high. A large slab which lies to one side appears to have been the roof.

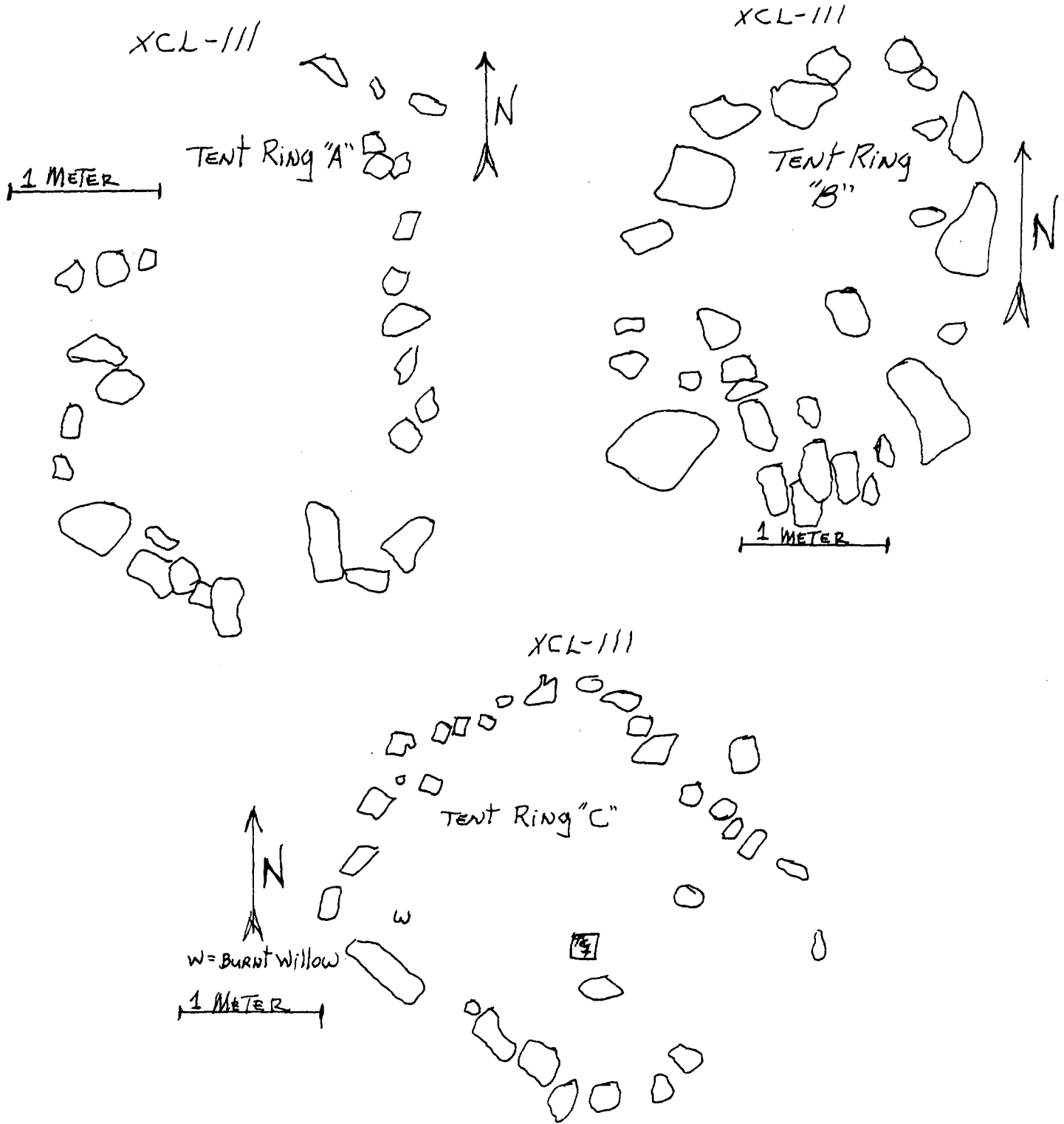
The wood fragments present at the site include the bentwood bucket fragment at cache 3, a burnt willow fragment in tent ring "C", and several willow branches of various lengths and thicknesses near ring "C" and cache 4. Caribou bones and fragments are littered over the entire site. Lithic material on the site includes white chert, one flake on slope southwest near ring "A", blue chert, one blocky poor quality "core" near the southeast edge of terrace 3, and black chert scattered on terrace 1, in Ring "A", and 15 meters from the edge of terrace 3. The only formal artifact observed was an end scraper of black chert on terrace 3.

There is good reason to believe that the site is one of multiple occupational events. Cultural evidence suggests that the lithic material and the cultural features are not related. The tent rings and caches likely represent a Nunamiut Eskimo occupation while the lithic detritus most likely results from an earlier occupation.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.



XCL-111 (continued)



XCL-112

Site Elevation:
3160 ft.

SE1/4, NW1/4
Section 11
T16S, R5W

Probable Site Type:
Camp/Lookout

Site Age:
ca. 100 years B.P.

Umiat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Nunamiut
Eskimo

This site lies near the top of a curving ridge system 100 meters upslope from the southwest corner of Agiak Lake. XCL-111 lies 400 meters to the east and a small pond lies 175 meters to the east-southeast. The views from the site are good over the pond and south and east across the southern end of Agiak Lake; the best views are to the northwest.

Vegetation at the site consists of moss, lichen, grass and some low woody and herbaceous plants. Roughly 30% of the site is vegetated while the remaining surface area is comprised of exposed rocks and small boulders, gravel, and mineral soil. Active erosion is occurring at the east end of the site.

The site was located through visual reconnaissance and consists of one tent ring approximately 3 meters in diameter. Two small gray chert flaks were found under one of the tent ring rocks. A 20 cm² test pit was excavated to a depth of 8 cm. in the center of the ring and yielded no cultural material.

No surface lithics or other cultural material were seen on the unvegetated areas of this ridge. It appears that this tent ring was a briefly occupied lookout camp. It is quite possible that the tent ring and the lithics represent two separate occupational events. The tent ring probably represents a Nunamiut Eskimo occupation which occurred no more than 100 years ago.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present, excepting the erosion at the eastern end, the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-113

Site Elevation:
3145 ft.

NW1/4, SE1/4
Section 11
T16S, R5W

Probable Site Type:
Camp/Lookout

Site Age:
Last 200 years

Umiat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Nunamiut
Eskimo

This site is located on the broad ridge/terrace system on the west side of Agiak Creek, the outlet stream at the southern end of Agiak Lake. XCL-111 lies about 200 meters to the north-northeast while Agiak Lake is

less than 100 meters to the northeast. Depending on the location within the site, the views are excellent in nearly all directions.

Vegetation at the site covers about 40% of the surface and consists of moss, sedge, lichens, and some low woody and herbaceous plants. No active erosion was noted.

The site was located as the result of surface reconnaissance and is divisible into three parts. First, a chipping station, second, a tent ring, and third, a hunting blind. All of these locales are close enough to each other to warrant a single site number, although they probably are not contemporaneous.

The chipping station faces downstream and is protected from northerly winds by the higher portions of the ridge. Approximately 300 pieces of black chert, mostly detritus, although, a couple of unifacially retouched objects are present, are located on the uphill (north) edge of the southernmost terrace of this ridge. This locale is 20 meters west of the eroded slope down to the creek.

Some 75 meters to the north of the lithic scatter, on the northeast edge of the ridge, is a tent ring roughly 3 meters in diameter. A blocky chunk of blue-gray chert, covered with lichen, was found on the surface. Beneath one of the rocks of the tent ring was a black chert flake. This locality is an extremely exposed location when the north wind is blowing.

The third locality of this site consists of a low rock wall which may be either a hunting blind or a wind break and lies 100 meters west from either of the first two areas.

The blind is made of about 25 limestone boulders extending 1.10 meters in an east-west orientation and is about 45 cm. high. No observable cultural material was associated with the blind.

The tent ring and the blind may be contemporaneous and probably represent use by Nunamiut Eskimos during the last 200 years. The lithic scatter may represent an earlier occupation.

By itself this site does not have much significance. However, as a member of the suite of sites clustered around the outlet of the lake, XCL-102, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, it is integral to historic/prehistoric land use pattern in the area.

At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-114

Site Elevation: 3140 ft.	NE1/4, SE1/4 Section 11 T16S, R5W	Probable Site Type: Camp
Site Age: ca. 200 years B.P.	Umiat Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Nunamiut Eskimo and older

This site consists of two tent rings on the south side of the small pond 200 meters west-southwest of the southern end of Agiak Lake. The tent rings are located in a boulder field about halfway along the long axis of the pond about 30 meters east of the shore. The view from the site is of the local area and is somewhat obscured by higher terrain.

Vegetation consists of moss, lichen, low woody and herbaceous plants and some sedge. Outside the rings, the ground is covered >50% with lichen covered small boulders.

Ring "A" is nearly rectangular, and measures 3.5 meters x 2.5 meters. One blue/gray chert flake was found under one of the portable rocks. A black chert flake scraper was found under another. Ring "B" is a round tent ring located 30 meters northeast of ring "A". The diameter of ring "B" is 3 meters and no cultural material was found under the portable rocks of the ring.

This site may consist of several temporally unrelated occupations. The most recent occupation, occurring no more than 75 years ago, is probably represented by the rectangular tent ring. The circular tent ring may represent a slightly older occupation. The lithic debitage may represent the earliest of the site occupations.

Site significance is related to the suite of sites around the Agiak Lake outlet. Research potential appears low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-115

Site Elevation: 3150 ft.	NW1/4, SE1/4 Section 11 T16S, R5W	Probable Site Type: Camp
Site Age: ca. 250 years	Umiat Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Late Prehistoric - recent Eskimo

This site is located on the edge of a terrace ridge at the southwest corner of Agiak Lake. Site XCL-113 lies over the ridge to the south; site XCL-114 lies upslope to the west; while site XCL-102 lies about 200 meters to the south-southeast directly across Agiak Creek. The view

from the site to the east and north covers the lake and surrounding local country while the views west and south are restricted by the ridges.

Vegetation at the site consists of moss, lichen, sedge and some low woody and herbaceous plants. Unvegetated areas account for about 30% of the site's surface. There is no evidence of erosion.

The site was located as the result of surface reconnaissance and consists of four tent rings and 10 caches.

Tent ring "A" - is subrectangular in shape, and measure 3 meters². An opening in the low rock wall faces south. No cultural material is visible on the surface, but looking underneath rocks revealed numerous black chert flakes, wood fragments, artifacts, and charcoal. Wood artifacts included an arrow shaft fragment with nock and a whittled stake?

Immediately to the southwest of ring "A" is a small cache; two cairns and another cache lies some distance to the north.

Tent ring "B" is about 5 meters from ring "A". It measures ca. 3 meters across and is circular. No cultural material was observed under the portable rocks. The cache closest to ring "B" contained a saw cut antler section. A rather unique cache lies about 10 meters south of tent ring "B". This cache is a large, rectangular box of stone slabs that measures 2.25 meters x 1.25 meters contains pieces of caribou fur.

Tent rings "C" and "D" are about 15-20 meters down slope towards the creek from "A", "B", etc. Both of these tent rings are round, 3 meters is diameter, and have no cultural material in association either on the surface or under the portable rocks. The two caches associated with rings "C" and "D" are empty.

The stone cache 15 meters southwest of ring "A" contains a fragment of a wood bucket bottom. Just east of ring "A" are three fragments of shaped wood.

This site is similar to the others in the outlet area in that it consists of tent rings and caches of various ages resulting from a variety of occupational events. Evidence suggests that none of the occupations exceed 250 years in age.

Site significance is of a local nature particularly as the site is associated with other sites in the outlet area. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-116

Site Elevation:
3160 ft.

SW1/4, NE1/4
Section 11
T16S, R5W

Probable Site Type:
Camp

Site Age:
Last 100 years

Umia Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Nunamiut
Eskimo

This site lies 60 meters north of the pond adjacent to the southwest corner of Agiak Lake and is directly across the pond from XCL-114. While XCL-114 lies low in the pond basin, XCL-116 is in a hummocky area elevated 7 meters above the level of the pond, and enjoys a much more panoramic view.

Vegetation at the site consists of moss, lichen, low woody and herbaceous plants, sedge, and some dwarf birch and willow. Limestone slabs and rocks are exposed over 50% of the site surface. There is no evidence of erosion.

The site was located as the result of surface reconnaissance and consists of two tent rings. Ring A, is nearly rectangular and has no cultural materials associated with it.

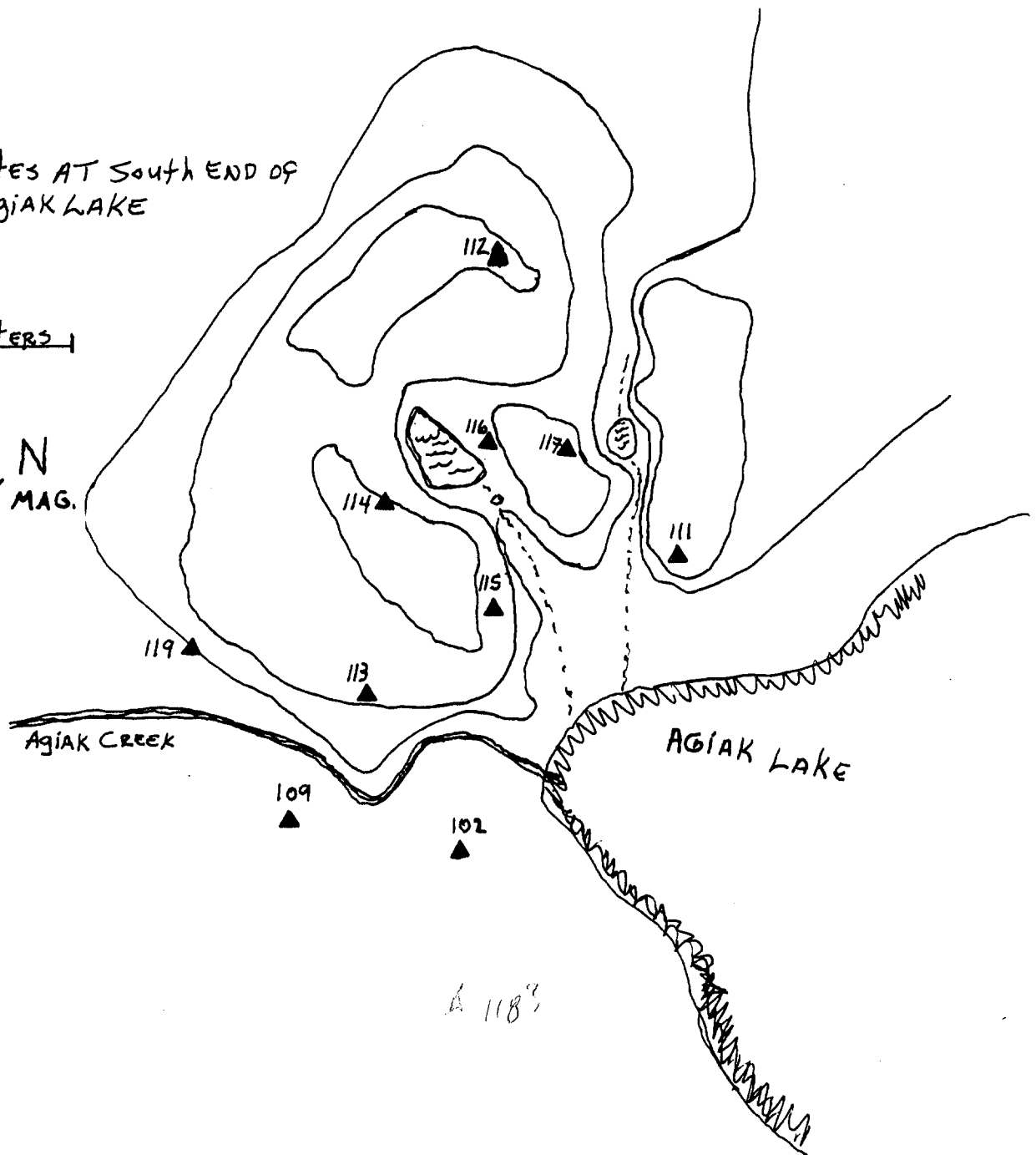
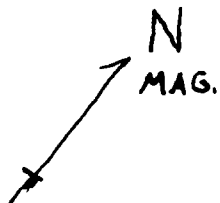
Tent ring "B" is about 50 meters to the northeast of ring "A". Ring "B" is a large sub-circular ring measuring 4 meters x 3.50 meters and also had no cultural material associated with it.

These two rings are similar in style and setting to those at XCL-114 and those across Agiak Creek at XCL-118, in that the rings are large, and tend to be in rocky areas away from obvious lake/creek/ridge habitation sites. The tent rings at these sites also appear to be "outliers". Whether this type of location and structure is a product of social distance, different economic function, or different time period is unknown. What is odd about these three locations is they are not choice camping spots. At XCL-114, for instance, there is protection from south winds, but the site is exposed to much more severe winds from the north. On a low terrace on the north edge of the pond, where there are nearby willows and it is protected from north winds there is no sign of human occupation.

Evidence suggests that these are summer camps situated to escape mosquitos and probably functioning as base camps for caribou hunting. Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

Sites AT South END OF
AGIAK LAKE

200 Meters



XCL-117

Site Elevation:
3155 ft.

SW1/4, NE1/4
Section 11
T16S, R5W

Probable Site Type:
Unknown

Site Age:
ca. 100 years

Umiat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Nunamiut
Eskimo

This site is located on the edge of the east-west trending ridge edge that overlooks a small pond west of XCL-111. The site lies along the north edge of the middle of the ridge in the area of high site density west of the outlet of Agiak Lake. The site lies roughly 300 meters north of the mouth of the Agiak Lake outlet stream. The view from the site is good and encompasses the southern end of the lake and the surrounding local country.

Vegetation at the site consists of lichen, moss, grass, sedge, low woody and herbaceous plants, and scattered dwarf birch and willow. Much of the site surface is exposed limestone slabs, gravel and mineral soil.

This site consists of a single cairn made of small rocks. The cache measures 50 cm. across and is 50 cm. high. Inside are numerous bones of an infant or fetal caribou. There is also some caribou fur preserved in clumps below and around the bones.

The purpose or function of this site is unknown but the faunal material suggests it is no older than 100 years.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

*TENT RINGS
FLAKES, NOTCHED PT.*

XCL-118

Site Elevation:
3200 ft.

SE1/4, SE1/4
Section 11
T16S, R5W

Probable Site Type:
Camp

Site Age:
Unknown

Umiat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

The site is located on a rocky ridge roughly 300 meters east of XCL-102 and the southern end of Agiak Lake. The view from the site is excellent to the north, south, and west encompassing the surrounding local country.

Most of the surface of the site is made up of exposed rocks, gravel, and mineral soil. The site consists of nine tent rings situated along the rocky ridge. The rings are in places that seem poor locations for camping, on the windy, rocky slopes. This is a location where one would expect to find a line of inuksuk, or some shooting pits, although, the lack of large rocks may contribute to their absence. These tent rings

are located in a similar settings to those in XCL-089,090,091, at the northeast end of the lake.

A few hundred meters north of XCL-118 are several broken down cairns which may have formed part of an inuksuk line at one time. They may or may not be related to the tent rings.

Two of the tent rings contained numerous artifacts. Tent ring "B" contained numerous black and gray/green chert flakes as well as several chert scrapers. Tent ring "H" contained numerous black chert and obsidian flakes as well as obsidian scrapers, an obsidian projectile point base, and a black chert projectile point. Tent ring "C" contained a black chert projectile point.

The tent rings are described as follows:

Tent Ring "A": Oval, 3.5 meters north-south, 3.0 meters east-west

Test Pit 1: Six gray chert flakes

Test Pit 2: Six black chert flakes

Tent Ring "B": Oval, 3 meters north-south 3.5 meters east-west, located 30 meters bearing 340° mag. from tent ring "A". Under the ring rocks the following artifacts were found: one projectile point or biface fragment, three end scrapers, three unifacial side scrapers. One obsidian flake was found in a test pit in the center, 5 cm. below surface.

Tent Ring "C": Oval, 3 meters north-south, 3.5 meters east-west located 75 meters on a bearing of 25° mag. from tent ring "A". Seven black chert flakes were found beneath the tent ring rocks, one large, gray chert, flake core near the northeast corner, one side notched projectile point is in the west central part of the ring beneath a stone.

Tent Ring "D": Oval, 3.0 meters north/south, 2.5 meters east-west located 75 meters from the tent ring "A": on a bearing of 40°mag. No cultural material was associated with this tent ring.

Tent ring "E": Circular, 3.0 meters in diameter 150 meters from tent ring "A" on a bearing of 55°mag. Poorly constructed tent ring, four black chert flakes found beneath ring stones.

Tent Ring "F": Circular, 3.0 meters in diameter located 15 meters east-southeast of ring "G". Rock stripe in 20 cm. deep crack. Twenty black chert flakes were found beneath rocks on the south side of the tent ring, one gray chert flake core lies on the northwest edge of the tent ring, four black chert flakes were found in a small test square.

Tent Ring "G": Circular, 3.0 meters in diameter located 45° bearing from ring "C", just south of crest of ridge. The south wall of the ring is insubstantial.

Tent Ring "H": Roughly oval, 3.5 meters north-south, 2.5 meters east-west located 35 meters bearing 30° mag. to a prominent boulder on the ridge. This ring contained many obsidian artifacts. The following cultural material was located beneath rocks in the tent ring (see map).

Rock 1: Obsidian end scraper.

Rock 2: Obsidian end scraper, one broken retouched obsidian flake, two small red obsidian flakes.

Rock 3: Basal part of side notched projectile point, one gray obsidian flake, one red obsidian flake.

Rock 4: Obsidian end scraper.

Rock 5: Black chert projectile point, one broken end scraper, two black obsidian flakes, 22 red obsidian flakes.

Rock 6: Unifacial obsidian side scraper.

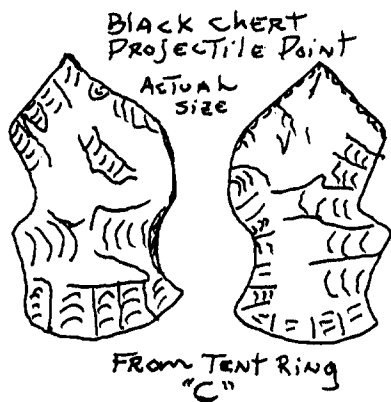
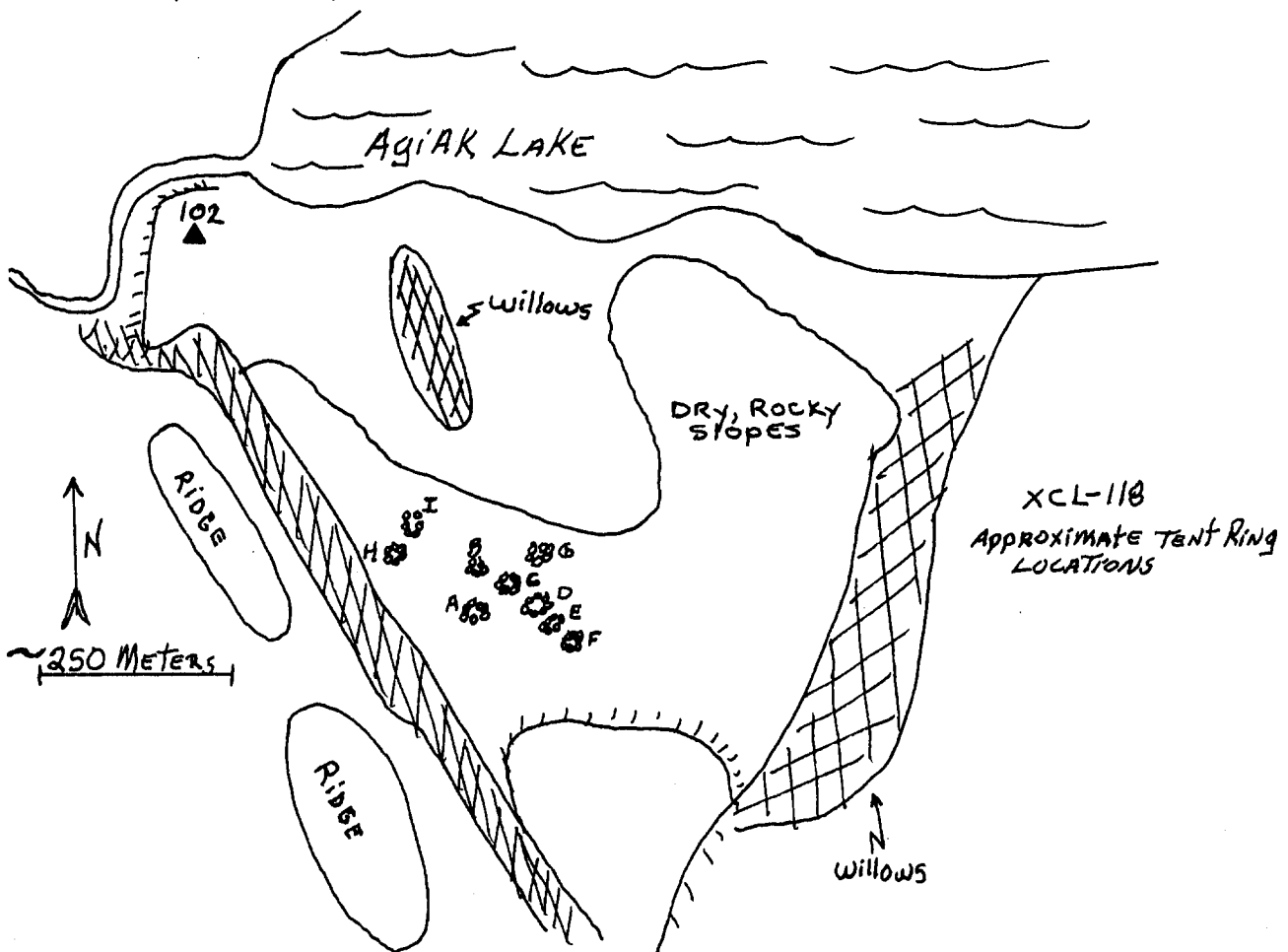
Rock 7: Six obsidian flakes.

Rock 8: Obsidian end scraper.

Tent Ring "I": Circular 4.0 meters in diameter located 25 meters bearing 0° mag. from ring "H". The south wall of ring is less substantial than the north wall. Ten black chert flakes were located under rocks in the tent ring.

As is often the case it is somewhat difficult to determine if the lithics are associated with the tent rings or if the tent rings were superimposed over an already existing site. In this case the artifactual evidence seems to suggest that the tent rings and the lithics are associated. However, based on limited obsidian hydration data from the site, if associated with the obsidian artifacts, the tent rings are in excess of 1000 years in age which seems rather unlikely. *why unlikely?*

Site significance is moderate as is research potential. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.



XCL-118 (continued)

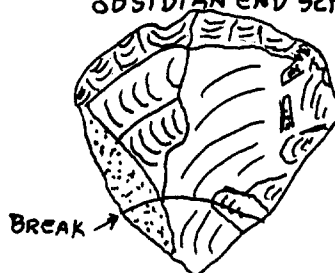
XCL-118

OBSIDIAN END SCRAPER



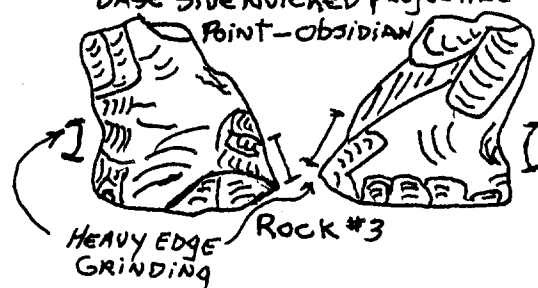
Rock #1

OBSIDIAN END SCRAPER



Rock #2

BASE SIDE NOTCHED PROJECTILE
Point - obsidian

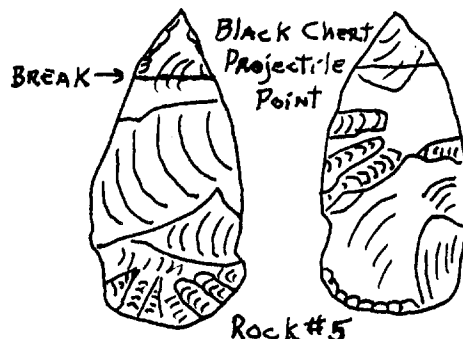


Rock #3

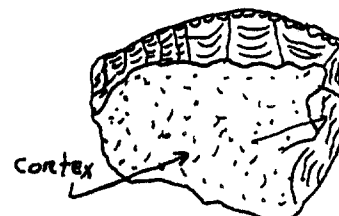
OBSIDIAN END SCRAPER



Rock #4



Rock #5



Rock #8

XCL-119

Site Elevation:
3140 ft.

NE1/4, SW1/4
Section 11

Probable Site Type:
Shooting Pits

Site Age:
ca. 100 years

T16S, R5W
Umiat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Nunamiut
Eskimo

On the west side of Agiak Creek, near the prominent S-bend just south of the lake, there is a long east-west trending terrace. Site XCL-113 is located near the east end of this terrace, and XCL-119 lies near the midpoint some 150 meters west of the Creek, and 10 meters above it. The view is excellent to south, down Agiak Creek and the low areas on either side of it.

Vegetation at the site consists of moss, sedge, lichen, low woody and herbaceous plants and dwarf willow. About 50% of the surface of the site area is unvegetated.

The site was located as the result of surface reconnaissance and consists of a cluster of shooting pits all of which face down Agiak Creek. There are three inuksuk running southeast-northwest along the slope to the north of the pits.

The largest pit is 3.50 meters in diameter and 1 meter in depth. The others are smaller measuring 1.5 - 2.0 meters in diameter. No cultural material was observed in or around the pits.

Little else can be said concerning this site. The site was probably occupied/used no longer than 100 years ago by Nunamiut Eskimo.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low except when the whole area around the southwest end of Agiak Lake is considered as a single activity area. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

Site Elevation: 3120 ft.	D R A F T	XCL-120 NE1/4, SE1/4 Section 11 T16S, R5W Uniat Meridian	Probable Site Type: Camp
Site Age: Last 200 years		Probable Cultural Affiliation: Nunamiut Eskimo	

The site is situated on a beach ridge just in front of a prominent talus lobe at the southeast end of Agiak Lake. The site is about 10 meters from the lake shore, 10 meters from the top of the talus lobe and lies about 400 meters east of XCL-102. The site affords a good view of the lake and the local surrounding country.

Vegetation at the site consists mostly of sedge and willow although there is some scattered lichen and moss. Much of the area is exposed gravel and mineral soil which appears to be the result of seasonal frost action.

The site was located as the result of surface reconnaissance and consists of a single tent ring situated in the center of a frost boil. The tent ring is roughly circular and about 2.5 - 3 meters in diameter. A careful search under the tent ring stones revealed a few flecks of charcoal but no lithic artifacts.

This tent ring of unknown age indicates shoreline occupation away from the intense occupation at the outlet stream area, and the tent rings on the talus slopes above at XCL-118. This tent ring may or may not be associated with these other occupations. However, its overall flavor suggests it is fairly recent.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-121

Site Elevation:	NE1/4, SE1/4	Probable Site Type:
3560 ft.	Section 21	Unknown
	T16S, R4W	
Site Age:	Umiat Meridian	Probable Cultural
Unknown		Affiliation: Unknown

This site lies on the north side of a small creek that feeds Ekokpuk Creek about 5 km. east of the hourglass shaped lake in the to Agiak/Ekokpuk Pass. The site lies low in the main valley, well below prominent knolls and ridges. There is a small patch of 4-5 meters tall leafless willow 35 meters upstream. Other vegetation includes lichen, moss, dwarf birch, sedge, ground level willow, and low woody and herbaceous plants. Views are very good down valley, and good upstream.

A single black chert flake was found in the erosion lobe about 10 meters north of the creek. A 20 cm² test pit was excavated to a depth of 10 cm. just beyond the eroded area but no cultural material was found.

The function, age, and cultural association of this site are unknown. Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-122

Site Elevation:	NW1/4, NW1/4	Probable Site Type:
3320 ft.	Section 18	Shooting Pits/Inuksuk
	T16S, R4W	
Site Age:	Umiat Meridian	Probable Cultural
Last 100 years		Affiliation: Nunamiut
		Eskimo

This site is located in the talus about 40 meters higher than the Agiak Lake Inlet Creek, on a hillside slightly more than a kilometer east of the lake. Vegetation at the site consists only of lichen and moss. The view from the site is excellent east, north and west encompassing the lake and the Agiak/Ekokpuk Valley.

The site consists of three shooting pits. A line of inuksuk, which becomes sproadic as it moves up valley, begins above XCL-101 and terminates at XCL-122. Two large, standing, inuksuk are located adjacent to the shooting pits. Subsurface tests in all three pits yielded no cultural material.

This is a hunting site and probably reflects the use of firearems. Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-123

Site Elevation:
3350 ft.

NE1/4, SE1/4
Section 18
T16S, R4W

Probable Site Type:
Hunting

Site Age:
ca. 100 years B.P.

Umiat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Nunamiut
Eskimo

This site is located on the bench at the eastern end of the isolated mountain that lies adjacent to the southern quadrant of Agiak lake. Agiak Lake lies slightly more than 2 kilometers to the west while a small tributary stream of "Hourglass" Creek lies 50 meters to the east. Views are excellent from west around to the southeast at the first locality and are excellent from northwest around to the south at the second. Vegetation at both localities consists of dwarf birch, sedge, moss, lichen, and some willow. Unvegetated areas amount to about 20% of the site.

The site consists of two localities and was located through surface reconnaissance. Locality 1 consists of 14 stone inuksuk in an east-west line 50 meters long that covers the width of the bench at the base of the talus slope. Several of the cairns are in good shape; few are heavily lichened. The terrace is 4 meters above the gravel/rock braided floodplain.

Locality 2 lies 150 meters south of locality 1 and is comprised of a large boulder. Stacked on top are numerous small boulders, and at either end are large slabs of bedrock leaning in the northerly direction. One of these slabs has fallen and now lies 2 meters away. This appears to be a hunting blind 2.75 meters long x 1 meter thick x .70 meter high. Locality 1 is not visible from the blind; the inuksuk are just barely out of view around the corner. Ten meters upslope of locality 2 are large numbers of shattered, bleached caribou bones. This is an excellent location for inuksuk and a hunting blind, with or without a rifle.

Evidence suggests the site is no older than 100 years. Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-124

Site Elevation:
3420 ft.

SE1/4, SW1/4
Section 18
T16S, R4W

Probable Site Type:
Hunting

Site Age:
Last 100 years

Umiat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Nunamiut
Eskimo

The site is situated on an elevated knoll that lies near the center of the valley which enters the Agiak inlet stream valley from the south.

The knoll appears to be a moraine remnant and is sparsely vegetated with sedges, grass, lichens and dwarf heath. The knoll commands a perfect view north toward the valley and north and south toward the knolls in the pass area. The site offers a good view of XCL-123 across the valley floor.

A row of 14 poorly preserved cairns run along the top of the knoll, oriented 142° mag. They may have served as an inuksuk line. On a bench along the north side of the knoll is a beautifully made semicircular hunting blind. The blind is 1.5 meters long and stands 60 cm. high. It is not very old, since lichens have not yet re-colonized the stones. In fact, it appears that one can see where stones were removed from the talus slope to make the blind: there are "holes" in the more-or-less uniform cover of black lichens. The blind looks to the north out over the flood plain, and obviously did not function in conjunction with the cairns on the ridge above it. However, it may have functioned as a unit with the blind and inuksuk at XCL-123 to the northwest.

The inuksuk appears to predate the hunting blind by roughly 100 years, although, both are probably the result of Nunamit Eskimo activity.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impact.

XCL-125

Site Elevation:
3600 ft.

NW1/4, NW1/4
Section 24
T16S, R5W

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Umiat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located just below the promontory of a knob on the south side of the isolated mountain southeast of Agiak Lake. The knob rises steeply on the east and drops precipitously on the west. The views from the site are excellent in all directions except to the north where the mountain blocks long range vision. A large patch of perennial auffs lies in a creek bottom 750 meters northwest of the site.

Vegetation covers about 10% of the surface of the site and consists of lichen, sedge, and moss. The vast majority of the site's surface is exposed bedrock, cobbles, boulders, and gravel.

The site was located as a result of surface reconnaissance. Over 200 flakes of black chert were found on the western edge of the knoll near its summit. Most of the flakes were among, between, and beneath the fist sized stones scattered about the knoll. The flakes are tightly clustered in an area 1 meter².

If there ever was a lookout site, this is one. Lithic remains suggest a single occupation occurred at the site. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes temporal or cultural assessment of the site.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-126

Site Elevation:
3650 ft.

NW1/4, SE1/4
Section 6
T16S, R4W

Probable Site Type:
Cache/Deadfall

Site Age:
Last 100 years

Umiat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Nunamiut
Eskimo

This site is high up on the southwest facing talus slope on the mountain adjacent the northeast quadrant of Agiak Lake. Site XCL-089 lies several hundred meters downslope. The view from the site is excellent to the south, west, and north. To the east the view is blocked by higher terrain. On the talus vegetation is basically an afterthought and consists of lichen and moss.

The site was located through visual reconnaissance and consists of a stacked cairn and a cache set on the edge of a flat area in the otherwise steep talus slope. The cairn is 3 meters south-southwest of the cache, which is made of several large rock slabs and numerous smaller ones. Inside the cache are two knife cut pieces of willow. The first is 52 cm. long, and was jammed between the wall rock slab and the large roof slab. The second piece of wood is 22 cm. long, and still has some bark on it. One end of the stick is broken, the other is whittled around the edge, smooth cylindrical, but is not a well-worked artifact.

This feature is tentatively identified as a cache of stone slabs, used for meat storage. However, it is possible that it is a deadfall; the wood fragments being the remains of the bait/trigger pin. There are however, problems with this assessment. The supposed trigger pin was held very securely by additional rocks on top of the roof slab making removal or movement of the trigger pin pretty difficult. The overhang of the roof slab resting on the wall slab ranged from flush to 4-5 cm, which would also make triggering difficult. There were no openings between the slabs of the feature large enough to admit any animal the size of a marmot. These three characteristics argue in favor of the feature being a cache. If the feature is a a cache, then the position of the wood is not easily explained. No other cultural material was found in the vicinity.

The cairn on the edge of the talus brow is visible from below. It is highly probable that the cairn was used to relocated the cache/deadfall. The presence of identifiable wood in the site suggests the site was utilized in the last 100 years.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-127

Site Elevation:
3650 ft.

NW1/4, SE1/4
Section 6
T16S, R4W

Probable Site Type:
Hunting Blind

Site Age:
Last 200 years

Umiat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Nunamiut
Eskimo

This site lies on the southwest facing edge of a broad knoll roughly 400 meters northeast of XCL-126. The site is located near the mouth of a ravine where the steep slope begins to break. Views are excellent over the entire Agiak Lake Valley, north over Amiloyak Lake and part of Chandler Lake. Vegetation at the site consists of moss, lichen, sedge, and some low woody and herbaceous plants. A variety of rocks, gravel, and boulders cover 75% of the surface.

The site was located as the result of surface reconnaissance and consists of a low stone hunting blind some 50 meters west of the mouth of the ravine. The blind lies just over the top of the knoll, and provides concealment from both north and south moving animals. Surface rocks surrounding the blind were moved to inspect below the surface, but no cultural material was noted.

The blind could have functioned as a shelter/lookout at any time, and likewise could have served as a reasonable blind even without the employment firearms.

The site was probably used by Nunamiut Eskimo during the last 200 years. Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. At present the site is not threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-128

Site Elevation:
3120 ft.

SW1/4, NE1/4
Section 12
T16S, R5W

Probable Site Type:
Camp

Site Age:
Unknown

Umiat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

This site lies on an old vegetated beach ridge or ice thrust berm on the north side of the Agiak Lake inlet creek. The ridge is elevated 2 meters above the present lake level and lies 7 meters east of the lake shore and 50 meters north of the creek. The view from the site is good in all directions but is limited to the local country. Vegetation at the site includes sedge, moss, lichen, low woody and herbaceous plants, and dwarf willow. The vegetation is patchy and much of the area is exposed gravel.

The site was located as the result of visual inspection of the surface. Twelve flakes of chert were found within an area 2 meters in diameter. All but one of the flakes were of black chert; the other was a banded brown/gray chert. One of the black chert flakes was bifacially retouched while three were unifacially retouched. This cultural material was located on the unvegetated crest of the beach ridge. Also present are a number of tent-ring size boulders that appear fresh compared to the lichen covered and slightly more weathered surface of most of the ridge. While there is no apparent pattern and only moderate clustering of these cleaner rocks, their presence is suspicious, and does not seem to be due to natural forces.

There is some modern trash in the area which may relate to these suspicious rocks. Subsurface testing did not yield any additional cultural material.

This site may have served as a short term camp. Lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any temporal or cultural assessment of the site.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

XCL-129

Site Elevation:
3130 ft.

SE1/4, NE1/4
Section 12
T16S, R5W

Probable Site Type:
Ivrulik

Site Age:
Last 100 years

Umiat Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Nunamiut
Eskimo

This site lies adjacent to an ancient beach ridge on the northeast side of an embayment on the northeast quadrant of Agiak Lake. The site lies in a low willow area which is poorly drained. The site area was the location of a persistent snow bank which refused to melt until the end of June.

The view from the site is somewhat obscured by higher ground, however, 30 meters away the old beach ridge affords a perfect 360° view of the area.

The area is vegetated by sedges, grasses, lichen, moss, low woody and herbaceous plants and some willow. The site locale is well sheltered from wind and would be an excellent fall-winter-spring camping location, but it appears to be too wet for summer use.

The site was located through visual inspection of the surface. One and possibly two houses were located in this low lying area. They are marked by conspicuous centrally located, rock lined hearths, and are outlined by a vegetation anomaly having no sedge tussocks inside their perimeters. Test pits, consisting of simply of turning back sod without excavating, revealed willow flooring in every test. Caribou bone was also abundant. Two small trade beads, and a shard of a glass bottle suggest the structures are recent, perhaps 100 years old or less. The hearths are extremely well preserved, with charcoal, burned bone and ash intact.

Some of the willow branches found on the floor are rather large, 2-3 cm diameter, and may have been part of a super structure. The houses appear to be Ivrutiks, or moss houses commonly used by the Nunamiut Eskimo during the winter months.

House 1

Test Pit 1: Willow flooring, caribou mandible with teeth.

Test Pit 2: Willow flooring, glass bottle fragment.

Test Pit 3: Willow flooring, large caribou antler.

Test Pit 4: Center of hearth, caribou bone, charcoal, burned bone, ash fire-cracked rock.

Test Pit 5: Willow floor, caribou bone, glass chip, one small blue bead, one small white bead, and one banded gray and translucent yellow chert flake.

Test Pit 6: Willow flooring, caribou bone.

House 2

Test Pit 1: Willow flooring.

Test Pit 2: Willow flooring and caribou bone.

Test Pit 3: Willow flooring and caribou bone.

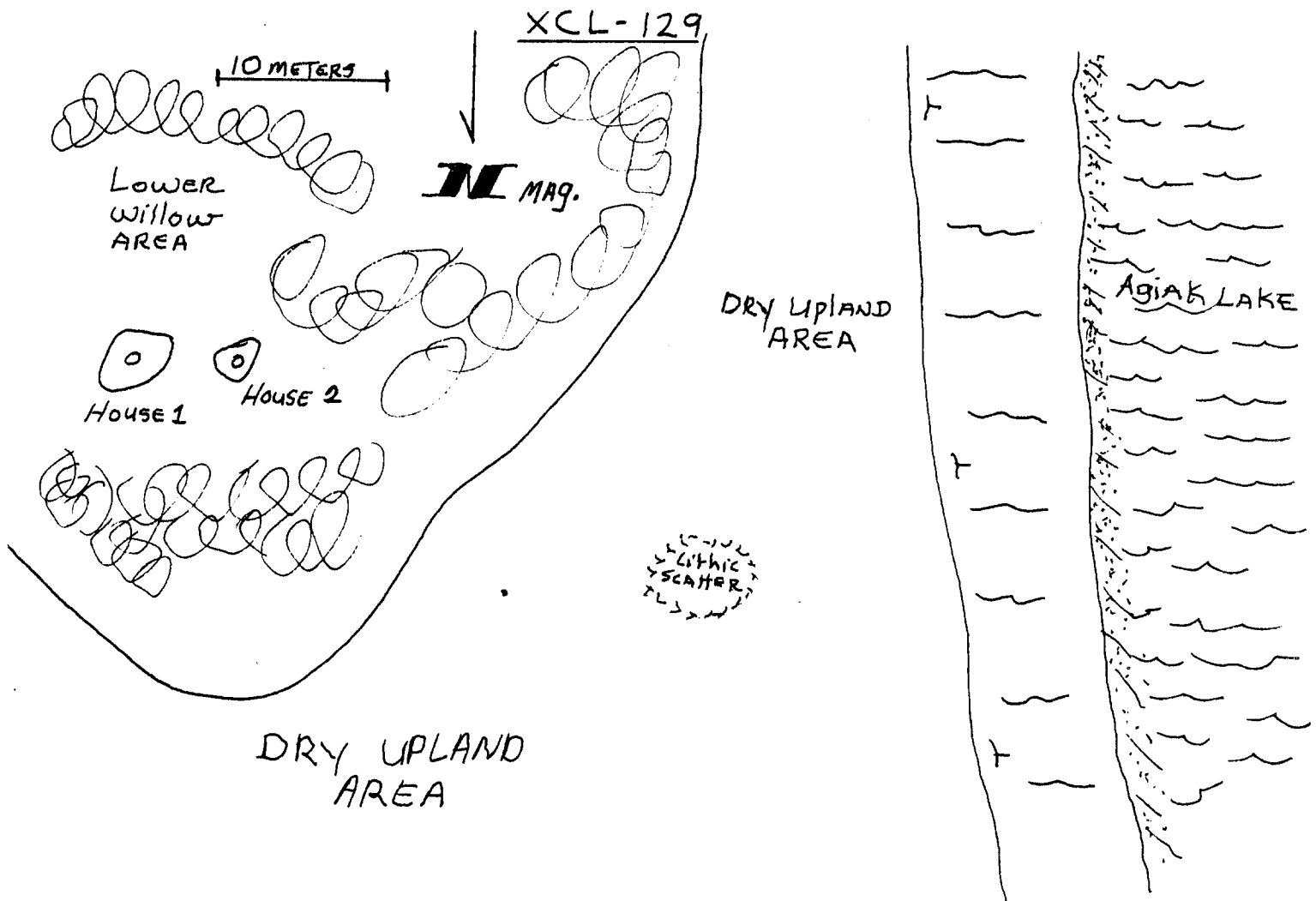
A black chert flake concentration on the nearby ridge crest may be associated with the house occupation. There are other possible cultural features along the beach ridge, including what may be some of H. Alexander's test pits, although, none contained any artifacts.

This is one of the most important sites recorded by this survey. The house remains are well preserved and undisturbed, and all spatial relationships appear to be intact. The testing method did not disturb any of the subsurface material. The undisturbed sod mat was rolled back into place thereby returning everything to its original position. The only materials collected were the two small trade beads in the hope they might help date at least one occupation of the site.

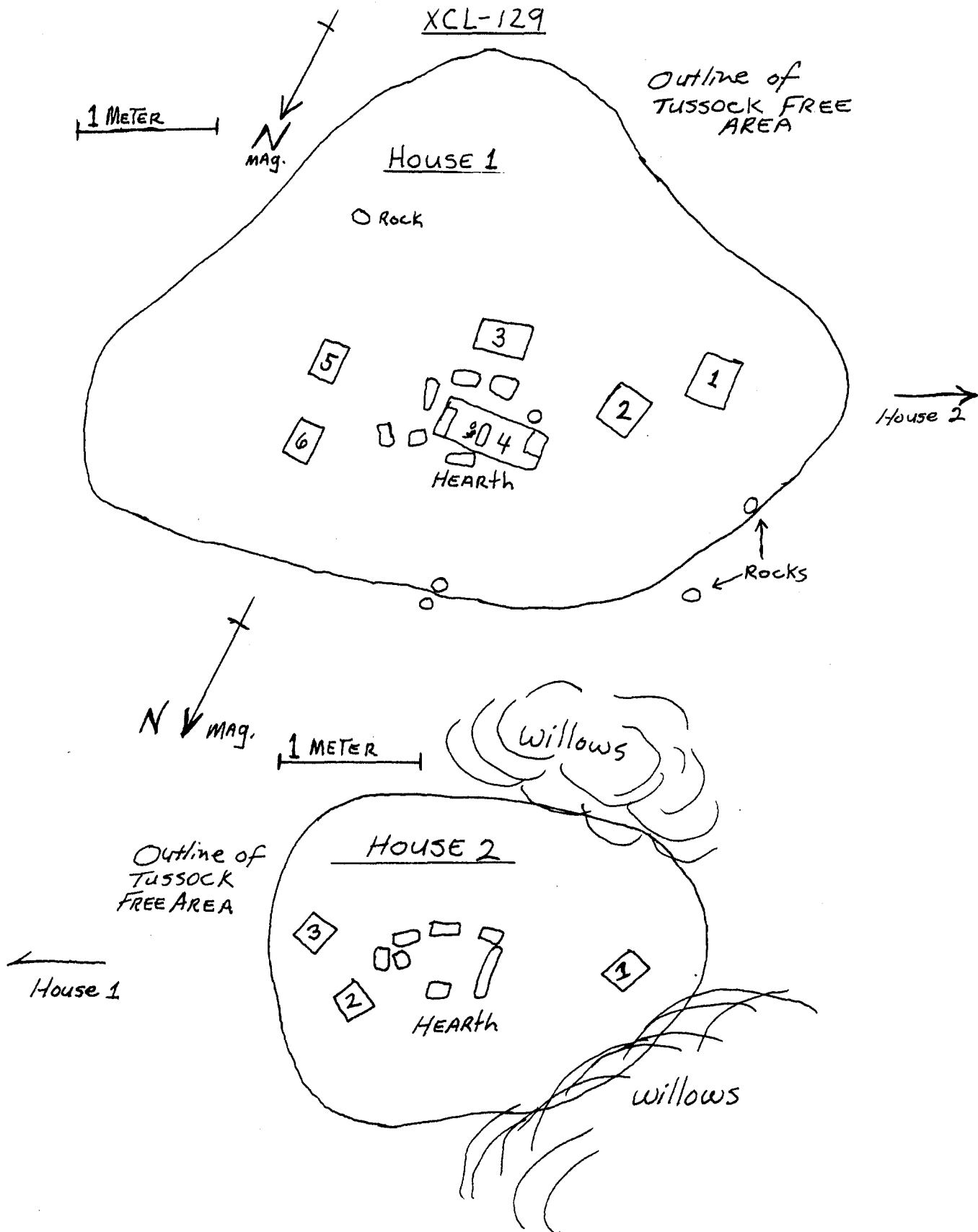
Evidence suggests the site could provide a good insight into local Nunamiut land use. The bone remains might well contain information concerning season of occupation, and the houses will undoubtedly provide data on spatial organization.

This site should be either excavated or protected. At present there seems to be no natural disturbance with the exception of a caribou trail that runs by several meters east of House 2. The houses lie near the beach ridge which offers an excellent camping location, and the site may possibly be disturbed if camping activity increases in this area. The site should be periodically monitored to make sure there is no disturbance of this resource. A modern camp is located 30 meters to the south of the site on the beach ridge.

XCL-129 (continued)



XCL-129 (continued)



KIR-041

Site Elevation: 3165 ft.	NE1/4, SW1/4 Section 18 T31N, R26E	Probable Site Type: Shooting Pit/Inuksuk
Site Age: Last 100 years	Kateel River Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Nunamiut Eskimo

The site lies near the bottom of the steep rocky talus on the south side of the mountain to the west-northwest of Agiak Lake. The site is located in a boulder field that sticks out from the side of the slope. The view from the site is superb across the entire valley east and south, although, the north end of Agiak Lake is obscured by the slope of the mountain.

Vegetation at the site consists of moss, lichen, sedge, low woody and herbaceous plants, and dwarf willow. There are scattered rocky areas which are unvegetated.

The site was located as the result of surface reconnaissance and includes at least four well-constructed shooting pits and a cache above a short row of Inuksuk. The stone cairns run parallel to the slope, and the four shooting pits are arranged vertically, three near one another while the fourth is 50 meters upslope. The cache is a 3-sided box constructed of stone slabs and is 7 meters downslope from the isolated shooting pit.

The row of cairns, not more than 5 or 6, runs along the contour of the slope for 150 meters.

Cultural evidence suggests the site was utilized by Nunamiut Eskimos sometime during the last 100 years.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

KIR-042

Site Elevation: 3200 ft.	SW1/4, SW1/4 Section 18 T31N, R26E	Probable Site Type: Hunting Blind/Shelter
Site Age: Last 100 years	Kateel River Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Nunamiut Eskimo

From the low heights of land at the south end of Agiak Lake there is one large knoll visible in the pass over to Agiak Creek. This site is on the southwest and west-southwest facing side of this knoll near the summit. The view from the site encompasses most of the surrounding local country.

Vegetation at the site is a thin, broken cover of moss, lichen, sedge, and low woody and herbaceous plants. Boulder fields and rock stripes cover much of the site surface.

On the southwest facing aspect of the knoll is an L-shaped stone shelter. Because it "backs into" the slope it probably isn't a hunting blind. Animals moving southwest through the pass would have to emerge suddenly over the very top of the knoll for this rock wall to have provided any cover. The shelter is open to the south and west, and looks out across the broad valley of the pass.

A large natural boulder makes up much of the corner of the shelter and additional rocks are piled on it and to its south and west to create a fairly substantial rock wall that fits into the slope.

The second part of this site is a circular shooting pit in the talus about 50 meters northeast of the shelter. The pit is on the northwest facing slope of the knoll near the top. The shooting pit overlooks the valley and the broad area of the pass. One caribou long bone fragment was found in the shelter.

The site probably represents use by Nunamiut Eskimos sometime in the last 100 years.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

KIR-043

Site Elevation: 2940 ft.	SE1/4, NE1/4 Section 25 T31N, R25E	Probable Site Type: Lookout
Site Age: Unknown	Kateel River Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

This site lies on a prominent, well-drained ridge on the west side of Agiak Creek, about 2.5 kilometers downstream from Agiak Lake. The ridge upon which the site is situated is probably formed of bedrock although it is capped with a veneer of till. The creek is forced eastward around this geologic feature. The ridge and its immediate vicinity is quite hummocky. Below the ridge to the east is a willow-covered terrace that would provide good fuel and winter camping resources. The view from the ridge is excellent and encompasses the entire valley. The ridge is vegetated with lichen, dwarf willow and moss, scattered grass and a few low woody and herbaceous plants.

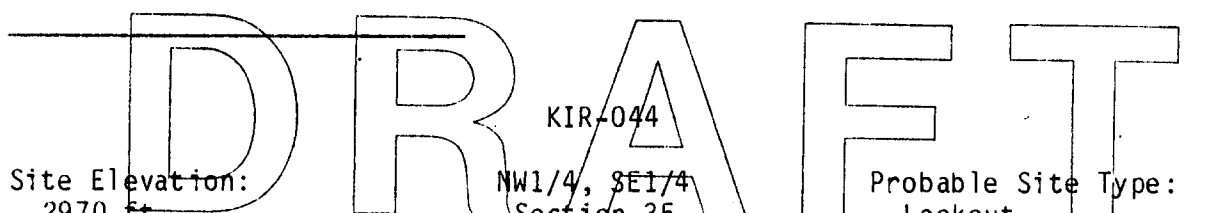
The site was located through visual reconnaissance of the surface and consists of several scatters of chert waste flakes on a small knoll near the northern end of the ridge. Three separate flake scatters occur within

a 10 meter² area. Two of the scatters consist of black chert flakes and the other is comprised of gray chert. All flake scatters consist of 20 or more surface flakes. No subsurface testing was undertaken.

The flake scatters probably represent a lookout/flaking station but the site may well have been a habitation location also. The excellent camping locations are afforded by the creek terrace, and the presence of a tall species of willow provides a source of both fuel and structural materials.

The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes any temporal or cultural assessment of the site. However, the homogenous nature of the flake scatters suggests more than one occupational event occurred at the site.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.


KIR-044
NW1/4, SE1/4
Section 35
T31N, R25W

Site Elevation: 2970 ft.	Probable Site Type: Lookout	
Site Age: Unknown	Kateel River Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

This site is located on the eastern side of a high, flat glacial feature which abutts the valley wall. Agiak Creek lies about 100 meters to the west while Agiak Lake lies more than 3 kilometers to the east. The site provides a fine view of the Agiak Creek Valley to the south and west encompassing the surrounding ridges and knolls as well as the southern end of Agiak Lake to the northwest.

The flat area east of Agiak Creek narrows to the east and becomes a ridge bordering a creek which flows from a cirque east of the site. The site is located on a flat area that marks a small break in the upward slope of the ridge. The site is sparsely vegetated with lichens and heaths. Between 60 and 80 meters northwest of the site are several caribou trails that cut across the ridge from north to south.

The site consists of a scatter of 27 black chert flakes, and a possible flake core fragment of black chert. Flakes were found lying on the surface and protruding from the ground. A single black chert flake was found 170 meters northwest of the site, on the surface, on the south edge of the flat area.

The site's location and cultural material suggest it served as a lookout/flaking station. The proximity of caribou trails may also indicate its use as a hunting lookout. It is located on the south side of the ridge and might have been used to view animals to the south, or to ambush animals moving over the ridge from the north.

The lack of diagnostic artifacts makes the cultural affiliation or age of the site impossible to determine.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

KIR-045

Site Elevation:
3000 ft.

NW1/4, SE1/4
Section 35
T31N, R25E

Probable Site Type:
Lookout

Site Age:
Unknown

Kateel River Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Unknown

On the west side of Agiak Creek there is an long and fairly high crescent-shaped moraine that is truncated on its southeast end by Agiak Creek. Agiak Lake lies roughly 5.5 kilometers to the northeast. This site is on a promontory 20 meters above the creek on the southeast end of the moraine. The view from the site is good and encompasses all of the local country.

Vegetation at the site consists of lichen, moss, and sedge. There are areas of exposed mineral soil and rock and active erosion is occurring on the steep northeast slope.

The site was located through visual inspection of the surface when four black chert flakes were found in the back dirt of a ground squirrel burrow. Additional surface reconnaissance revealed ten more flakes of the same material and a unifacial knife. A 20 cm² test pit was excavated to a depth of 10 cm. near the ground squirrel burrow and yielded one black chert waste flake. Most of the cultural material was found on the east end of the moraine.

Cultural evidence and location suggest that the site served as a lookout. The lack of diagnostic artifacts precludes cultural or temporal assessment of the site.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential appears low. At present erosion is acting upon the site.

KIR-046

Site Elevation:
2800 ft.

NE1/4, NW1/4
Section 14
T31N, R25E

Probable Site Type:
Shooting Pit

Site Age:
Last 200 years

Kateel River Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Nunamiut
Eskimo

This site lies on the southeast side of the large knoll, about 50 feet above Agiagiak Creek. The Continental Divide lies slightly more than 2 kilometers to the south while Agiak Lake lies a bit less than 5 kilometers to the east.

The site was located as a result of surface reconnaissance and consists of a shooting pit. The pit lies on a rocky outcrop above Agiagiak Creek which provides an excellent view down into the creek valley, and is perfectly suited for observing animals moving along the creek to the south of the knoll. The only vegetation at the site is the lichens which cover the rocks and the bottom of the shooting pit which is covered by sphagnum moss.

The shooting pit is about 2 meters² in diameter. To the west is a natural pit which may have also served as a shooting pit. No other cultural material was found in the area.

This is another un-dated shooting pit in the Agiak Lake vicinity. Clearly it was used for caribou hunting, probably with firearms, but little else can be said about it.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

KIR-047

Site Elevation:
2800 ft.

NE1/4, NW1/4
Section 14
T31N, R25E

Probable Site Type:
Camp/Lookout

Site Age:
Last 100 years

Kateel River Meridian

Probable Cultural
Affiliation: Nunamiut
Eskimo

This site lies on the south flank of the prominent knoll 15 meters above Agiagiak Creek. KIR-046 lies slightly more than 100 meters to the west on the same knoll. The site overlooks the creek and provides an excellent view of the surrounding local country.

The site is vegetated with low dwarf heaths and sedge, with some dwarf birch growing over several of the tent ring stones.

The site, a tent ring, lies on a small terrace on the south flank of the knoll. It is somewhat unusual for a tent ring to be so elevated, when excellent locations are available on the valley floor. The tent ring is about 3 meters wide and 3 meters long and is oval in shape with one flat side. A careful search under the rocks, and a small test pit in the center revealed no cultural material at all.

The tent ring is of unknown age, but its outline suggests it may be the result of the use of a commercially manufactured wall tent. The tent ring may or may not be contemporaneous with the shooting pit at nearby KIR-046.

The site probably served both as a camp and a lookout. Evidence suggests the site was utilized by Nunamiut Eskimo during the last 100 years.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.

~~DRAFT~~

Site Elevation: 2800 ft.	KIR-048 NE1/4, NW1/4 Section 14 T31N, R25W	Probable Site Type: Lookout
Site Age: Unknown	Kateel River Meridian	Probable Cultural Affiliation: Unknown

This site lies on a broad, flat area on top of the same knoll where KIR-047 and 046 are located. The flat portion of the knoll top is about 50 meters² in size and is very sparsely vegetated with low woody and herbaceous plants, dwarf willow and some grass. The knoll provides a 360° view of the creek valley. The bluffs on Okokmilaga River and nearby knolls are visible on the west while to the east the Continental Divide and the large aufies area beyond is visible.

The site was located as the result of surface reconnaissance. Black chert flakes are scattered across the top of the knoll. Several areas have concentrations of these flakes. More than 20 black chert flakes lie in a 2 meter² area 26 meters west of a high grassy bump on the south side of the knoll top. Some of these flakes may have been retouched. A second, more diffuse concentration of black chert flakes lies between 28 and 38 meters north-northeast of the first concentration. Some of these flakes may also have been retouched. No subsurface testing was undertaken.

The site is appears to be a lookout/flaking station. The lack of diagnostic cultural material makes age and cultural assessment impossible. The lookout may have functioned in conjunction with the shooting pit at KIR-046, but their contemporaneity is not demonstratable.

Site significance is of a local nature and research potential is low. At present the site does not appear to be threatened by any adverse impacts.