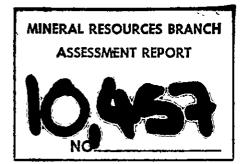
82-409-104576

GEOCHEMICAL SURVEY & PROSPECTING

ON THE

AMERICAN BOY PROPERTY (Cindy Lou, Janelle, AB#1-AB#8) Omineca Mining Division 93M/5E 55°18' 127°34'

OWNER & OPERATOR: TRI-CON MINING LTD. AUTHOR: A.M. HOMENUKE, P.Eng. (Geol.) SUBMITTED: June 14, 1982



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#### I. INTRODUCTORY NOTES

#### Location and Access

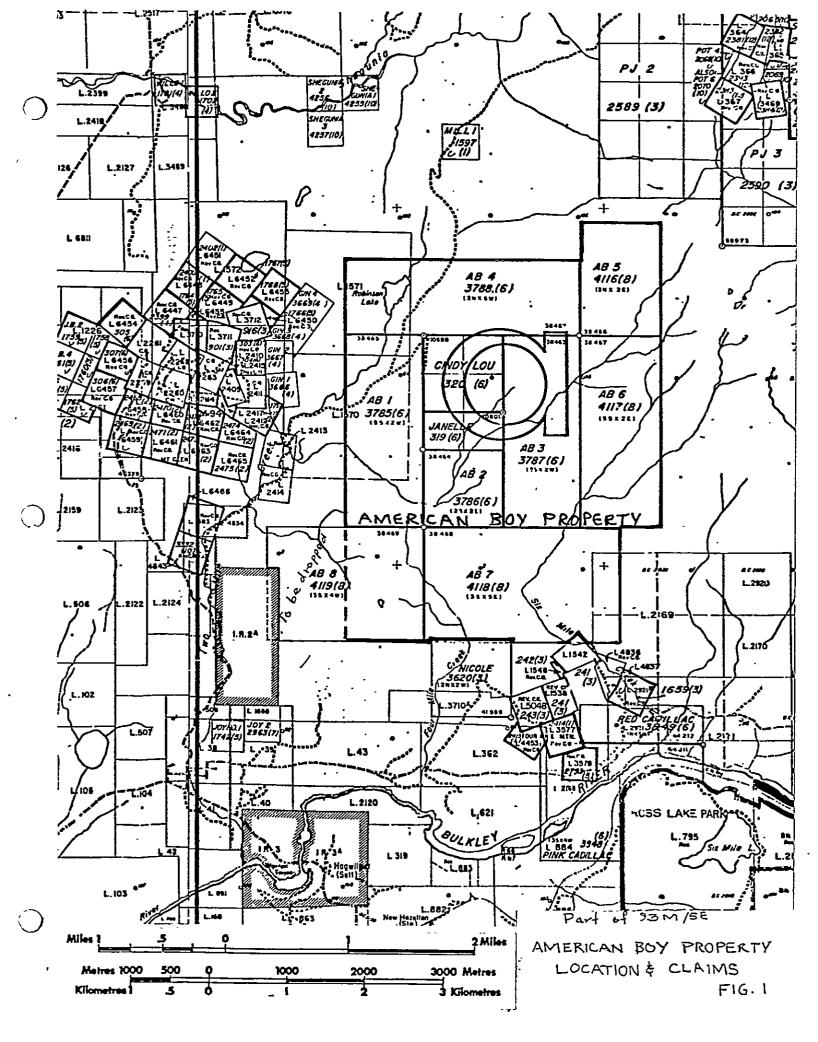
The main workings are located on the southwest flank of Nine Mile Mountain, 10 km NNE of Hazelton, B.C. The total property covers the area between Two Mile Creek and Four Mile and Nine Mile Mountains (Fig. 1).

The main workings and the north part of the property are accessible by a gravel road which branches off the Silver Standard Mine Road, 2 km north of Two Mile, and follows the valley of Two Mile Creek. A four-wheel drive road, servicing a microwave state on top of Nine Mile Mountain, passes through the claims. This road is maintained by B.C. Telephone Company. The road to Four Mile Mountain provides access within one kilometre of the south boundary of the claims. Old cat trails provide further local access, however, a major portion of the property is only accessible on foot, or by helicopter. If it is warranted, a new road from Four Mile Mountain to the main workings appears relatively easy to construct.

#### Physical Features

The area of the claims is characterized by very steep southerly to westerly slopes, in many cases, to the point of forming escarpments. There is a broad, flatter area to the southwest. Three major creeks flow in a general southerly direction across the property, in part through steep-walled canyons.

The area is heavily forested, ranging from interior rain forest, through open spruce groves to subalpine vegetation. The type of vegetation is controlled by topography and elevation. There are a few open, grassy slopes with deciduous trees, and many swampy areas. Much of the timber is over mature and windfalls often impede progress on foot.



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#### Property Description

The original 6 units, located in 1976, were expanded in 1981, with 79 additional units. The following table lists the pertinent data for the claims.

	TABLE	*	<u>ms</u>	
Claim Name	Record No.	No. of Units	Record Date	Year of Location
Janelle	319	2	June 8	1976
Cindy Lou	320	4	June 8	1976
AB #1	3785	10	June 4	1981
AB #2	3786	4	June 4	1981
AB #3	3787	10	June 4	1981
AB #4	3788	12	June 4	1981
AB <b>#</b> 5	4116	6	Aug. 6	<u> </u>
AB #6	4117	10	Aug. 6	1981
AB #7	4118	15	Aug. 6	. 1981
*AB #8	4119	12	Aug. 6	1981

\*AB #8 will be reduced to 6 Units.

Tri-Con Mining Ltd. is owner and operator.

#### History

The first miners came into the Hazelton area, with completion of the railway through that town. The American Boy Property was first staked by D.A. Harris in 1910. From 1911 to 1916, Harris Mines Limited carried out surface trenching and underground development of five veins. Small shipments of high-grade silver ore were made to the Trail Smelter.

In 1917, 254 tons of lower-grade development ore were hauled to the Silver Standard gravity mill on Two Mile Creek.

In 1927, further minor development work was done and G.S.C. Memoir 223 mentions "some work done during 1937", but no details were given.

American Standard Mines acquired the property in 1950 and did considerable stripping, diamond drilling and underground work. A new vein History - Contd.

(No. 6) was discovered in the Fall of 1951.

In 1952, Pioneer Gold Mines of B.C. Limited did some further surface stripping.

In 1955, J. Gallo shipped 21 tons of crude ore from a shoot on the No. 6 vein. Apparently, other operators did some work on the property in the late 1950's, but no records are available.

George Braun re-staked the property in 1967, and the Northwestern Midland Development Co. Ltd. shipped 10.35 tons of Wilfley Table concentrate, stockpiled by previous operators. Minor trenching was done in 1968 and 1971.

Tri-Con Mining Ltd. re-staked the property in 1976, and in 1978 and 1980, carried out backhoe trenching, sampling and limited electromagnetic surveying.

In 1981, the property was expanded from 6 units to 85 units. During staking and prospecting, one new vein was found, an old vein was "rediscovered", and mineralized float from a probable third vein was found. In addition, reconnaissance soil sampling was done on many of the claim lines.

#### Economic Assessment

There are at least 8 silver-gold-base metal bearing veins on the property, with indications for several more. A few small, but very high-grade ore shoots were previously mined. The property was expanded in 1981 from 6 to 85 units, based on the writer's observations of regional relationships between the silver deposits on Glen Mountain (Silver Standard Mine), Nine Mile Moutain (Sunrise Silver), Four Mile Mountain (Mohawk, Erie). and the American Boy Property. Geochemical results indicated that there are several more areas of interest, improving the possibility of finding the right combination of structure and lithology conducive to the formation of an ore deposit.

#### Present Work and Distribution

Exploration in 1981 consisted primarily of a geochemical reconnaissance on parts of all the claims. A total of 271 soil samples were taken and analyzed for five elements.

The writer spent 5 days on geological reconnaissance (for assessment purposes, prospecting) examining parts of most of the new claims. B.C. Telephone Company recently did considerable cat work on the road, above and below the main workings. This work exposed a new vein on which some hand trenching and mapping were done. A couple of days were spent surveying to prepare a plan of the main workings on the Cindy Lou and Janelle claims.

## II. GEOLOGY, MINERAL DEPOSITS AND PROSPECTING

#### Introduction

The rocks in the vicinity of Nine Mile, Four Mile and Glen Mountains have been variously interpreted over the years. Widespread drift cover, rugged topography, and monotonous lithologies have all contributed to a general lack of detailed mapping, except in the immediate vicinity of mining properties.

Most of the interest, of course, was centered on the Silver Standard Mine, which has produced over 7 million ounces of silver. As the most significant ore shoots were confined to a specific lithology, stratigraphic interpretation appears to be an important exploration tool.

The ore shoots at the mine lie mostly within a 250-metre lithologic unit, containing more volcanic detritus and less argillite and greywacke than the beds above and below. This unit has been termed "tuffs", or "tuffaceous sandstone and siltstone", while the other beds have been termed "arkose and argillite". It is likely that the ore horizon is more favorable due to its brittle nature allowing larger openings to form. However, the overall structural setting of the veins at the Silver Standard Mine cannot be ignored as a major factor. The main ore shoots mined in the past were in a structurally uncomplicated area (very few cross-faults) so that the veins have a high degree of linear continuity.

#### Introduction - Contd.

Known veins in other parts of this area appear to have many more structural controls, with ore zones primarily controlled by fault intersections. A more complete understanding of the geology may eventually lead to discovery of other favorable horizons controlling significant mineral deposits. Meanwhile, a few small, but rich ore shoots have been mined from the complex veins at the American Boy Property, and similar zones are still being developed and mined by a lessor at the Silver Standard Mine.

#### Regional Geology

The rocks underlying the area were previously included as part of the Hazelton Group. Mapping in the 1970's, by the Geological Survey of Canada, shows them to be part of the Bowser Lake Group. Richards (1978) describes the area as follows:

> "The rocks are part of the Upper Jurassic Lower Cretaceous Bowser Lake Group. Contacts with the underlying Hazelton Group are not exposed in the map-area, but elsewhere it lies conformably on the Hazelton Group. The Bowser has been arbitrarily divided into two informal units - lower and upper. Contacts between the two are gradational, and the term "intermediate Bowser" was coined to classify outcrops where a decision between upper and lower could not be reached. The lower Bowser occupies the largest area. It appears to represent a northerly prograding deltaic assemblage with a gently north to northwest dipping paleoslope. The upper Bowser generally underlies many of the major valley bottoms. It is a shallow marinelagoonal alluvial suite deposited on a gentle, west to southwest dipping paleoslope. The upper unit is generally finer grained than the lower, contains a much greater amount of carbonaceous material and is much less indurated. Megascopic clasts of red volcanics, biotite, quartz and rare chert and muscovite are present in the upper and absent in the lower. The two units represent end-members in the evolution of the southeastern part of the Bowser basin. Sedimentary rocks of the lower units reflect deposition controlled by tectonism along the Skeena Arch. The upper unit reflects tectonism in what eventually became the Omineca Crystalline Belt."

#### Regional Geology - Contd.

The table below, adapted from Richards (1980), gives an outline of the lithologies present.

#### TABLE II. Description of the Bowser Lake Group

#### LOWER CRETACEOUS

"Upper Bowser Lake subdivision": Lower floodplain facies, channel sandstone dominant; overbank sandstone, siltstone, shale and coal; minor conglomerate with dominant carbonaceous and volcanic detritus; biotite, minor chert, rare muscovite.

#### JURASSIC CRETACEOUS

"Intermediate Bowser Lake subdivision": <u>Upper floodplain</u> <u>facies</u>, channel sandstone and conglomerate; subordinate overbank sandstone, siltstone, shale, and marl; minor coal; <u>Lower floodplain facies</u>, interfingering channel sandstoneconglomerate and overbank sandstone, siltstone, shale, marl, and minor coal; <u>Deltaic front (intertidal) facies</u>, interbedded channel and overbank facies, ripple and plane-laminated sandstone-siltstone, worm burrows and <u>Ostrea</u>-sandstone; <u>Lagoonal facies</u>, black siltstone, shale, lesser sandstone, minor limey nodules.

#### UPPER JURASSIC

"Lower Bowser Lake subdivision": <u>Deltaic front (intertidal)</u> <u>facies</u>, interbedded channel sandstone and conglomerate, ripple and plane laminated sandstone, siltstone, shale, minor coal, thick-shelled pelecypod beds, including <u>Ostrea</u>, worm burrows common; <u>Deltaic plain facies</u>, dune, rippled, and plane laminated sandstone, shale, isolated thin-shelled pelecypods, minor <u>Ostrea</u> sandstone members; <u>Deltaic slope facies</u>, fine grained siltstone, black shale, interbedded sandstone Lower Bowser Group, undifferentiated; detritus mainly volcanic, minor granitic; minor grey limestone.

#### Regional Geology - Contd.

Bulkley Intrusions of Late Cretaceous Age form the cores of most of the mountains in the region. Richards (1978) states . . . "These are high-level intrusions, many with roofs preserved. They have, in general, domed the adjacent strata and superposed on them rusty hornfels halos up to 1,000 m wide." Many smaller bodies of Tertiary Age Babine Intrusions also cut the Bowser Group rocks.

The regional deformation is by block-faulting, with the youngest rocks occupying the valley bottoms. Under different climatic conditions, the topography would probably closely resemble a Basin-and-Range province.

#### Property Geology

Richards (1980), a G.S.C. Open File Map, shows the American Boy Property to be underlain by the Lower Bowser Lake Subdivision, Deltaic front facies (see Table II), except in the valley of Two Mile Creek, where the Intermediate Subdivision is present. Several rhyolite porphyry intrusions are shown across the south part of the property. In general, the rocks strike northeasterly with a shallow to steep southeasterly dip, except in the area of the main workings, where the dip is westerly.

Kindle (1954), from thin section work, indicated the most common rock around the mine to be a calcareous tuff, interbedded with fine-grained argillites, and that elsewhere, tuffaceous sandstones were present.

This writer has referred to the sandstones and black shale beds as arkose and argillite, in keeping with older usage at the nearby Silver Standard Mine. The sandstones or siltstones with a high volcanic detritus content are termed "tuffs", or tuffaceous sandstones. It is anticipated that more current usages will be adopted for future work.

#### Mineral Deposits and Prospecting

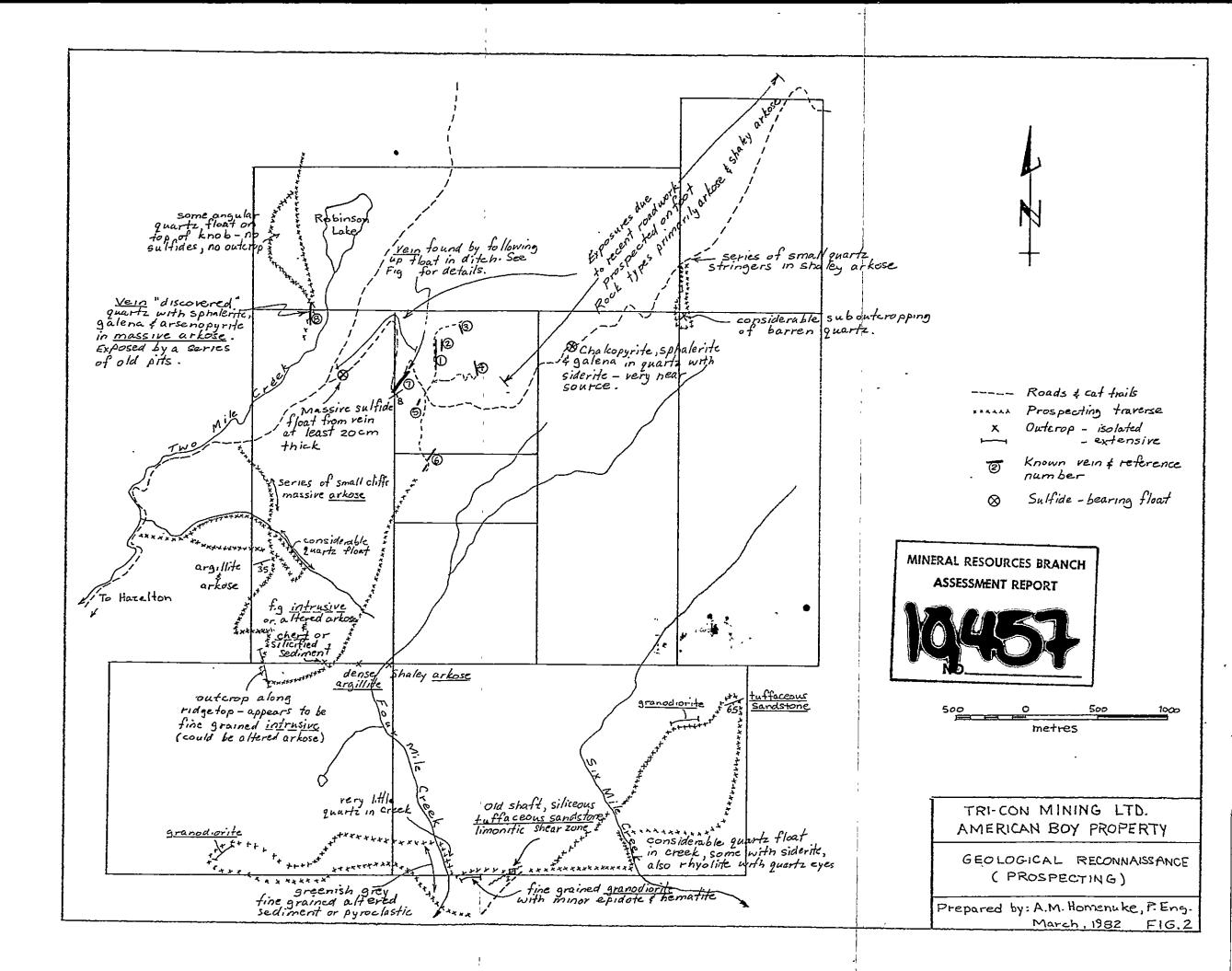
The American Boy Property historically consisted of six veins. The discovery and development of these veins has been described in various B.C. Minister of Mines' Annual Reports, and by Kindle (1954). Additional trenching, mapping and sampling was carried out by Tri-Con Mining Ltd. on some of the veins (Homenuke, 1978, 1981). With the expansion of the property, it was decided to carry out a geological reconnaissance to gain some knowledge of the area. As insufficient data was collected due to lack of outcrop and difficulty of access, this turned into a prospecting program, with some geologic notes. Most of the traversing was done by the writer, with additional work by Steve Homenuke and Cam Lee, both well experienced.

The first area examined was the microwave road, which had been widened by B.C. Telephone, exposing much new bedrock. This led to discovery of the No. 7 vein below the main workings. Quartz with chalcopyrite, sphalerite and galena was found several hundred metres up the road from the main workings. Although not in place, the distribution of the float indicated that the source was very close. Additional high grade leadsilver float was found almost at the valley bottom. Whether this represents yet another vein is not known.

Traversing high ground on the west side of Two Mile Creek led to the rediscovery of an old vein, for which no records have been located. This is the No. 8 Vein.

The locations of these veins and float occurences are shown on Fig. 2 and 3, and a brief description of each vein follows.

> <u>NO. 1 VEIN</u> - Exposed by surface trenching and underground workings for over 700 feet. Mainly barren quartz, but one ore shoot was developed by two shafts. Some ore grade material remains in place. A grab sample of this taken by S. Homenuke in 1976 ran 299.5 ounces silver per ton and 0.116 ounces gold per ton. The vein strikes northerly and dips 60° to the east. Near the shafts, it is 3 to 4 feet wide, but narrows to the north. The mineralized zone is about 14 inches wide.



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<u>NO. 2 VEIN</u> - Exposed by surface cuts and an adit for about 150 feet. It ranges up to 4 feet wide, but only minor high grade stringers have been found in the quartz. It also strikes northerly and dips steeply to the east.

<u>NO. 3 VEIN</u> - Believed to be a continuation of the No. 4, or Main Vein, described below. Exposed by surface trenching and an adit for about 200 feet along strike. It is generally less than a foot wide, with sulfides mostly leached out. A sample taken by Kindle (1954) of material from a surface trench assayed 1.435 ounces gold per ton, 10.81 ounces silver per ton, 13.46% lead and 35.70% arsenic.

<u>NO. 4 VEIN</u> - (Main Vein) - A shaft is collared on this vein 350 feet higher in elevation than the portal of No. 3 Vein. The vein is exposed on surface for about 300 feet. A portion of this was sampled by Tri-Con in 1978. The vein on surface averages less than a foot wide and ten samples gave an average of 1.67 ounces silver per ton, and 0.172 ounces gold per ton. A 100 foot length gave an average of 2.6 ounces silver per ton, and 0.31 ounces gold per ton, across a foot. Most of the ore shipped from the property was from stoping on this vein. Development work included a 300-foot inclinded shaft and two levels at 100 and 160 feet. The shaft is partly waterfilled at present. The shipping ore came from a galenarich zone up to 2 feet wide. The vein strikes northerly and dips steeply to the east.

<u>NO. 5 VEIN</u> - This vein is exposed by a shaft and short adit in a small hill to the southwest of the previous workings. It is 65 feet long, 14 inches wide and carries minor sulfides. It strikes northeasterly.

<u>NO. 6 VEIN</u> - This vein, discovered in 1951, is located 1,400 feet southeast of the No. 5 Vein. It also strikes northeasterly and dips 70-80° to the southeast. There is a waterfilled,

considerable morement indicated by change in lithologies - vein coincides with major photolinear feature Overburden shale Argillite Shale Shale Arkose Dense Argillite Shale ROAD (band of limey nodules) Shear zone with series of quartz ribbons and irregular z-8 cm band of sulfides (galena, sphalerite, tetrahedrite) 10 feet 0+0 1 3 metres (looking North) Location of section shown on Fig. 3 FIG.4

#### NO. 6 VEIN - CONTD.

inclined shaft near the southwest end of the vein. Some ore was shipped from here in 1955. In 1978 and 1980, Tri-Con Mining Ltd. trenched the vein on surface for about 300 feet. The vein averages less than a foot and carries varying amounts of arsenopyrite, galena and sphalerite, with occasional tetrahedrite.

<u>NO. 7 VEIN</u> - Exposed in a ditch on the access road, discovered by Tri-Con personnel in 1981. Intermittent hand trenching indicates strike length over 200 feet. The vein is less than a foot wide, where exposed, with a few inches of sulfides in places. The vein strikes northeasterly, with a near vertical southeasterly dip. A sketch of the vein is shown on Fig. 4.

NO. 8 VEIN - Rediscovered during prospecting in 1981. This vein is on the west side of Two Mile Creek, near the south end of Robinson Lake. Sometime in the past, several hand trenches were dug, however, no records of the work are available. Some arsenopyrite, galena and sphalerite have been noted in the quartz on the dumps.

Elsewhere, prospecting traverses have shown occurences of barren quartz veins, some granodiorite intrusions, and that most of the area is probably underlain by arkose (sandstone). The southeastern section of the property falls on the north side of Four Mile Mountain. There are several northeasterly striking quartz veins in a granodiorite stock, which forms the core of the mountain.

Along the south boundary of the claims, a shaft was found which had been sunk on a northeasterly trending limonitic shear zone. Of possible significance in this area is the presence of a well indurated rock similar in appearance to the "tuffs" at the Silver Standard Mine. As these rocks are near the above intrusive, with related mineralization,

#### Mineral Deposits and Prospecting - Contd.

this area is a target for future exploration. This is further supported by the following section on geochemical surveying.

#### III. GEOCHEMICAL SURVEY

#### Procedure

271 soil samples were taken from the "B" horizon, and with minor exceptions, along most of the new claim boundaries at 100-metre intervals.

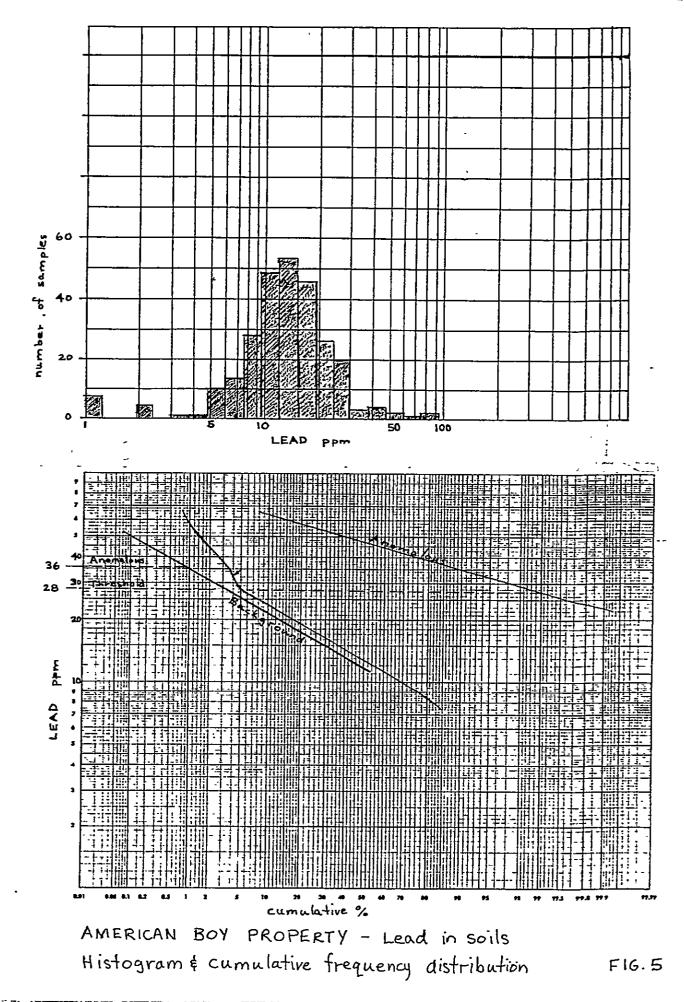
They were placed into kraft envelopes and marked as to location. The samples were delivered to Acme Labs in Vancouver, B.C., where they were subjected to the following procedures.

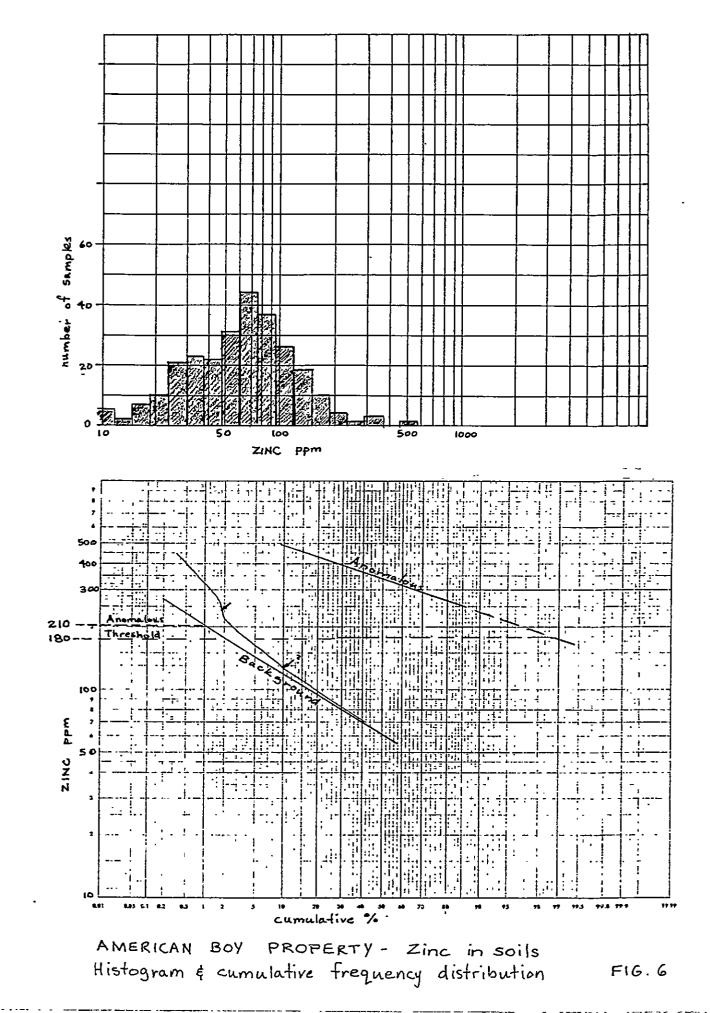
- 1. Preparation dried at 60°C and sieved to -80 mesh.
- Digestion 0.5 grams of sample digested with hot aqua regia for one hour, then diluted to 10 ml. with water.
- Analysis Solution aspirated and analyzed by inductively coupled argon plasma (ICP). This is a computer assisted, multi-element spectral analysis: 26 elements were available, but to save on costs only lead, zinc, silver, arsenic, and manganese were selected.

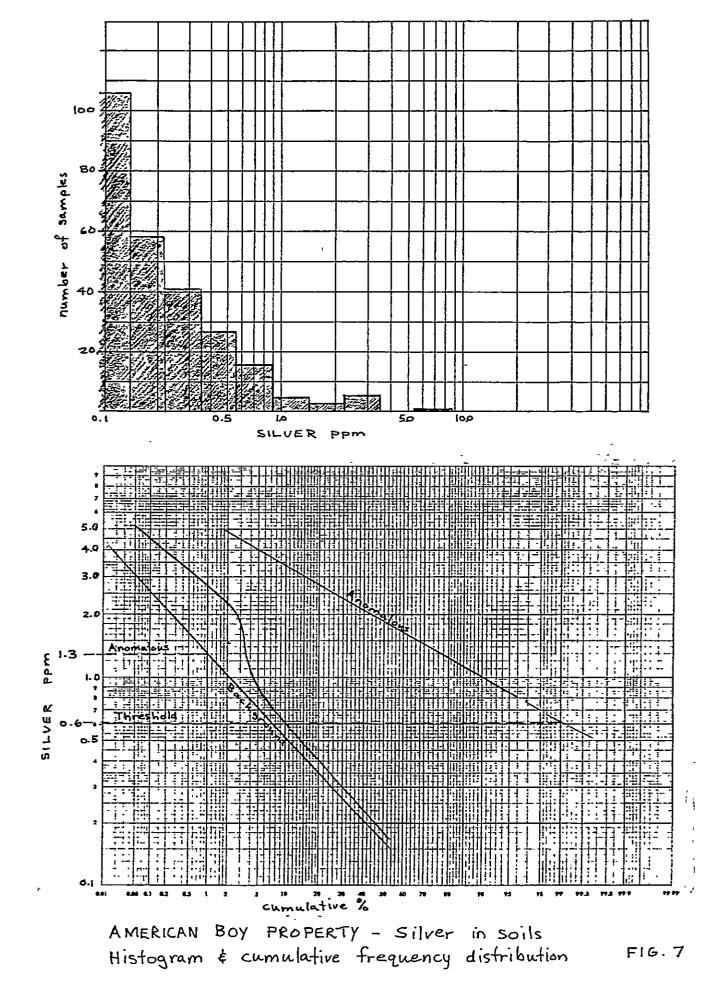
The results are shown on Figs. 10 to 14.

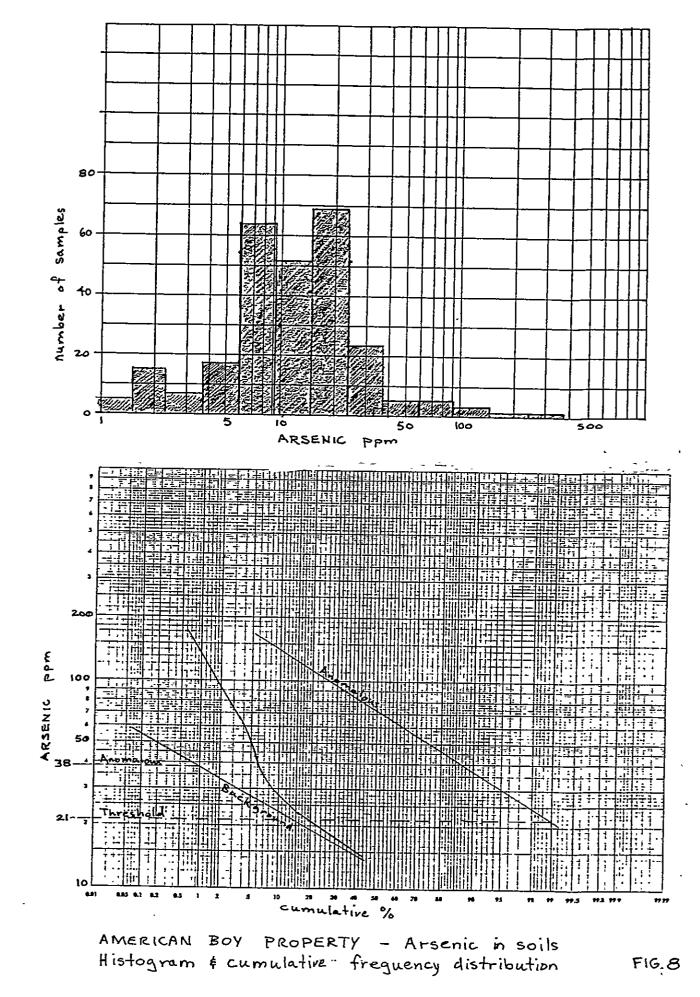
#### Discussion of Results.

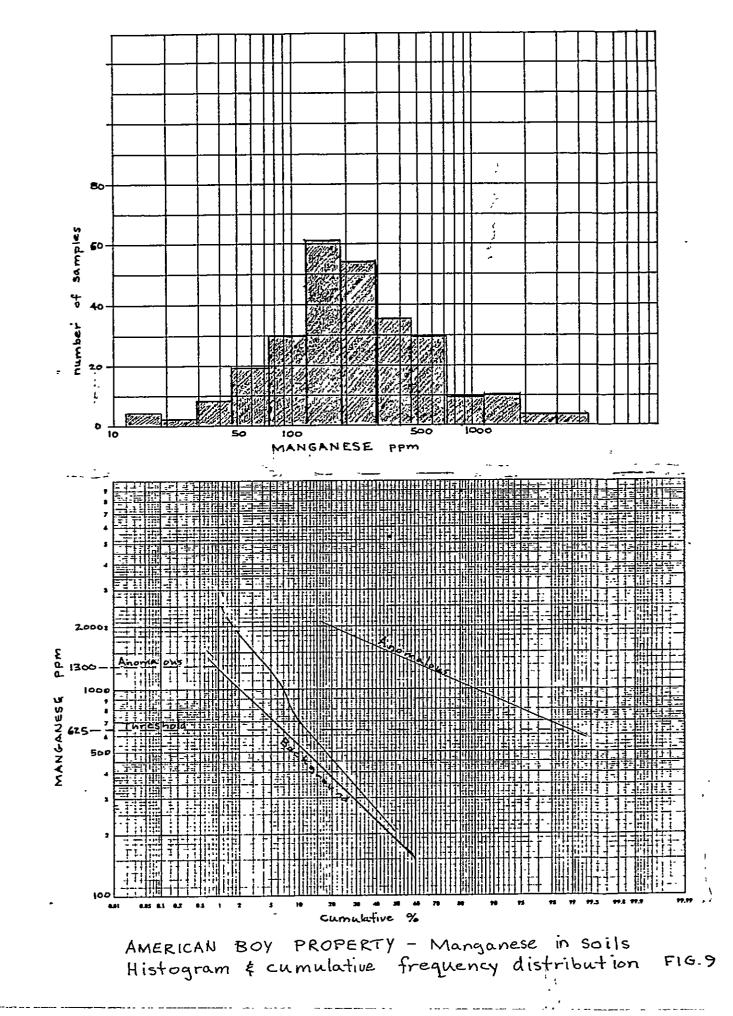
The area covered by the soil survey and the results of the survey exhibit a wide variation. To assist in interpreting the results, histograms of the data and cumulative frequency distributions were prepared. The latter were particulation into populations after Sinclair (1974). An arbitrary one percent level was selected to terminate the upper limit of background (anomalous), and the lower limit of anomalous (threshold) populations.











#### Discussion of Results - Contd.

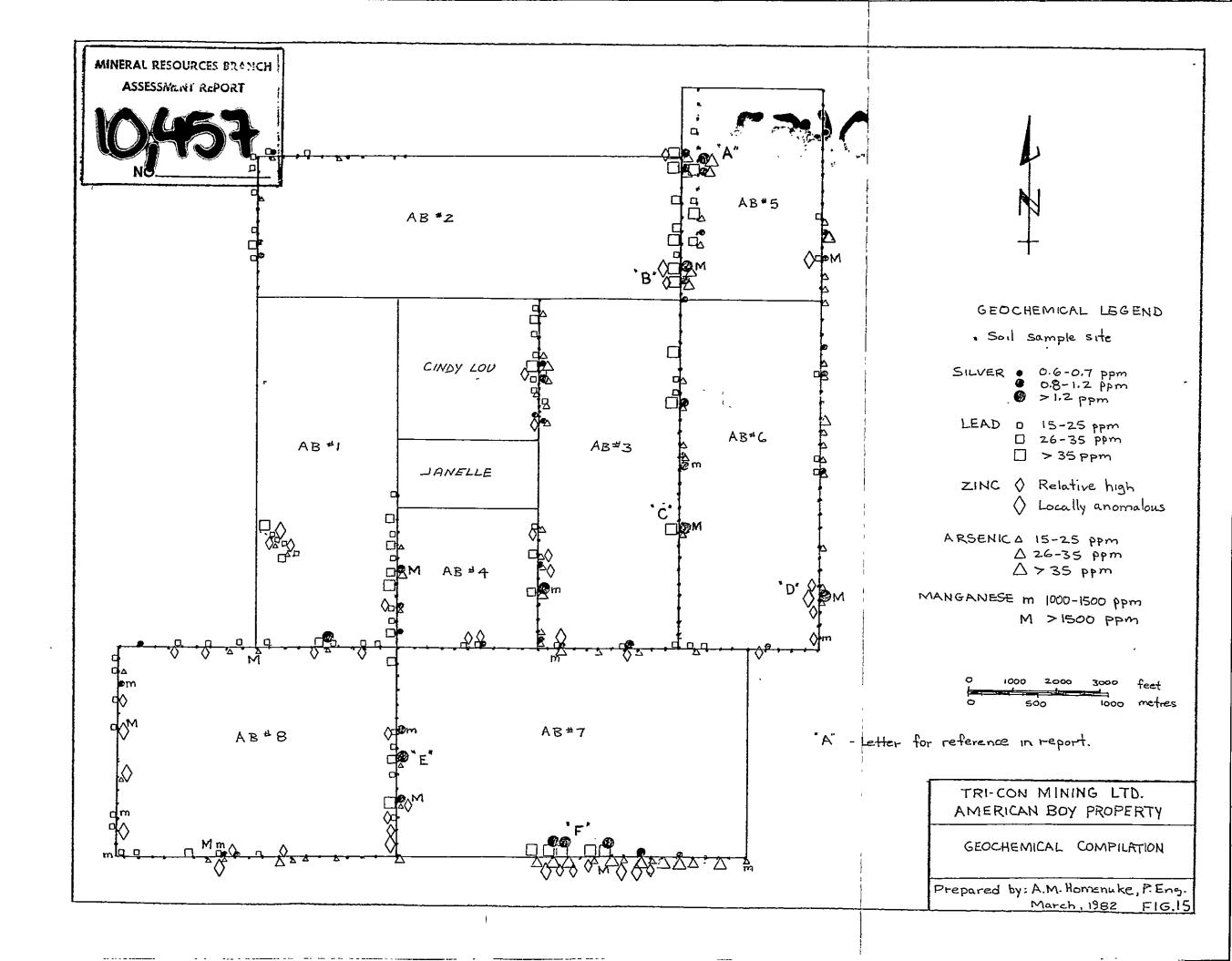
The statistical distribution of each metal is discussed below. NOTE: Anomalously low values are not considered.

> LEAD (Fig. 5) - Lead shows a very smooth distribution of background values. At the 1% cut-off, 5% of the samples are shown to be threshold (28 ppm), or higher and 3.5% to be anomalous (36 ppm).

<u>ZINC</u> (Fig. 6) - The zinc distribution is relatively smooth, however, the histogram shows a weak high at 35 ppm, and there is a very slight inflection point on the cumulative frequency distribution at 130 ppm. This probably indicates that the distribution is polymodal, rather than bimodal. Indeed, if the map of zinc values is examined, one can see sample values below threshold that are 2-3 times higher than surrounding samples. Whether this is due to variation in underlying lithology, or is a function of a physical feature such as elevation, has not been determined.

<u>SILVER</u> (Fig. 7) - Silver shows a "half a curve" on the histogram, due to the number of samples reporting at the analytical detection level. The cumulative frequency distribution shows a considerable difference in the two populations, with 10% of the values being above threshold (0.6 ppm), and 3.5% being anomalous (1.3 ppm).

<u>ARSENIC</u> (Fig. 8) - The arsenic histogram shows two peaks, however, as they are very near the mean, they did not keep the cumulative frequency distribution from appearing bimodal. A lesser sample value interval, or more samples may change this appearance. 20% of the values are shown to be above threshold (21 ppm), and 6% are shown to be anomalous (38 ppm).



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# Discussion of Results - Contd.

MANGANESE (Fig. 9) - Manganese shows smooth curves, with 12% of the values above threshold (625 ppm), and 4.5% anomalous (1300 ppm).

For the purpose of geochemical interpretation, a range of values for each metal was chosen and symbolized on a single map (Fig. 15). As the area covered by the survey is large and physically varied, and the number of samples relatively small, the highest levels of values shown on the map are somewhat lower than the previously indicated anomalous level. Zinc, for the reasons discussed above, is considered subjectively in relation to surrounding values.

A considerable number of areas show clusters of high values. Six of these areas, lettered "A" to "F" on the map, are considered most significant. Quartz veining and float has been found in area "B". Areas "A" and "F" almost certainly indicate mineralization. "F" is just north of Four Mile Mountain, where several veins have been explored in the past. None of the other areas have been examined.

#### IV. CONCLUSIONS

- 1. There are eight known quartz veins on the American Boy Property.
- 2. Sulfide-bearing float (Fig. 2) and geochemical anomalies indicate that several more veins may be present.
- 3. Areas "A" and "F" on Fig. 15 show the most significant geochemical values for silver, lead, zinc, and arsenic, all of which occur in the known veins, and these areas almost certainly reflect underlying sulfide mineralization

#### ITEMIZED COST STATEMENT

# A.M. Homenuke, P.Eng.

Surveying & mapping, interpretation & report 7 days @ \$250/day \$1,750.88 (In field parts of June 2, 3, 5, 9, 10, Aug. 4-8, 1981 - Total applied to assessment: 3 days; Maps & Reports: 4 days - 3 days to prospecting below).

# Prospecting

# <u>5 days @ \$150/day</u> (3 days by writer from above) Balance June 3 and 5 (Note: considerably

more time was spent prospecting, but too informal for presentation, although some general information was derived).

#### Geochemical Sampling

<u>14 days @ \$125/day</u>	$\mathbf{I}_{0}$	,750.00
May 28 - June 3, July 27 - Aug.	12. 1981	

#### Analysis

271	soil	sam	ples	for	5	eleme	nts or	1 Z	ICP	
(РЪ,	Zn,	Ag,	As,	Mn)	6	3.90,	plus	7	samples	
pulv	verize	ed @	1.0	0			-		-	1,063.90

#### Room and Board

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19 man days required @ $35.00 665.00
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#### 4x4 Vehicle

16 days @ \$35.00		560.00
Flagging, string, sample bags, etc.		150.00
Secretarial, copying TOTAL:	T.K-	125.00
TOTAL:	6814.78	\$ 6,813,90
TOTAL APPLIED TO PROSPECTING:		\$ 1,000.00

#### CERTIFICATE OF QUALIFICATION

I, ALEXANDER M. HOMENUKE, DO HEREBY CERTIFY:

1. THAT I am a member in good standing of the Association of Professional Engineers of British Columbia.

2. THAT I received the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Geological Engineering from the Colorado School of Mines in 1974.

3. THAT I received a Diploma of Technology in Mining from the B.C. Institute of Technology in 1969.

4. THAT I have been employed in various aspects of mining exploration for 13 years and am presently employed by Tri-Con Mining Ltd., of #2580-1066 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, British Columbia.

5. THAT I presently reside at 29825 Harris Road, Mt. Lehman, British Columbia.

6. THAT this Report is based on work supervised or conducted by myself.

DATED at VANCOUVER, British Columbia, this 14th day of June, 1982.

10 Α.

A.M. HOMENUKE, P.Eng. Geological Engineer

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APPENDIX I

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GEOCHEMICAL MAPS

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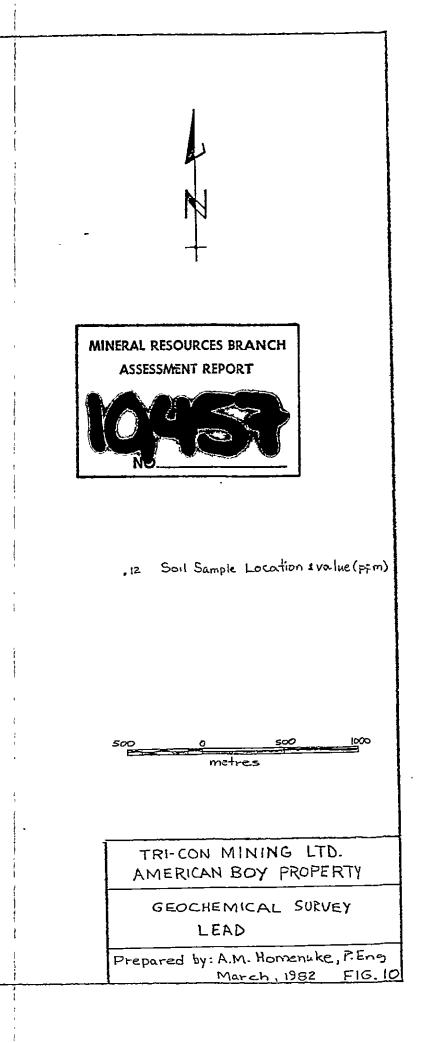
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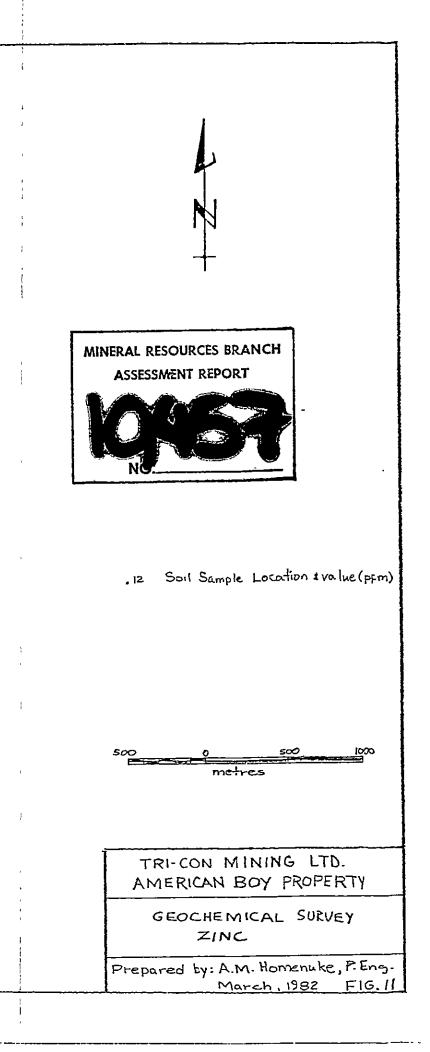
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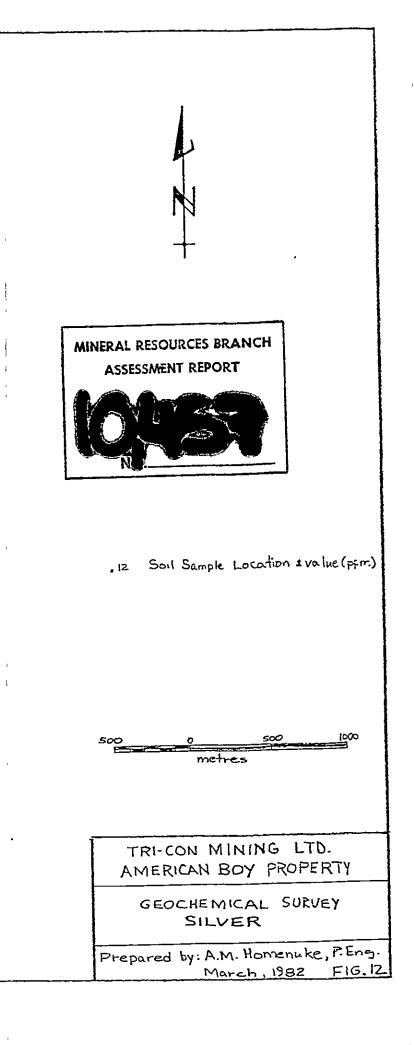
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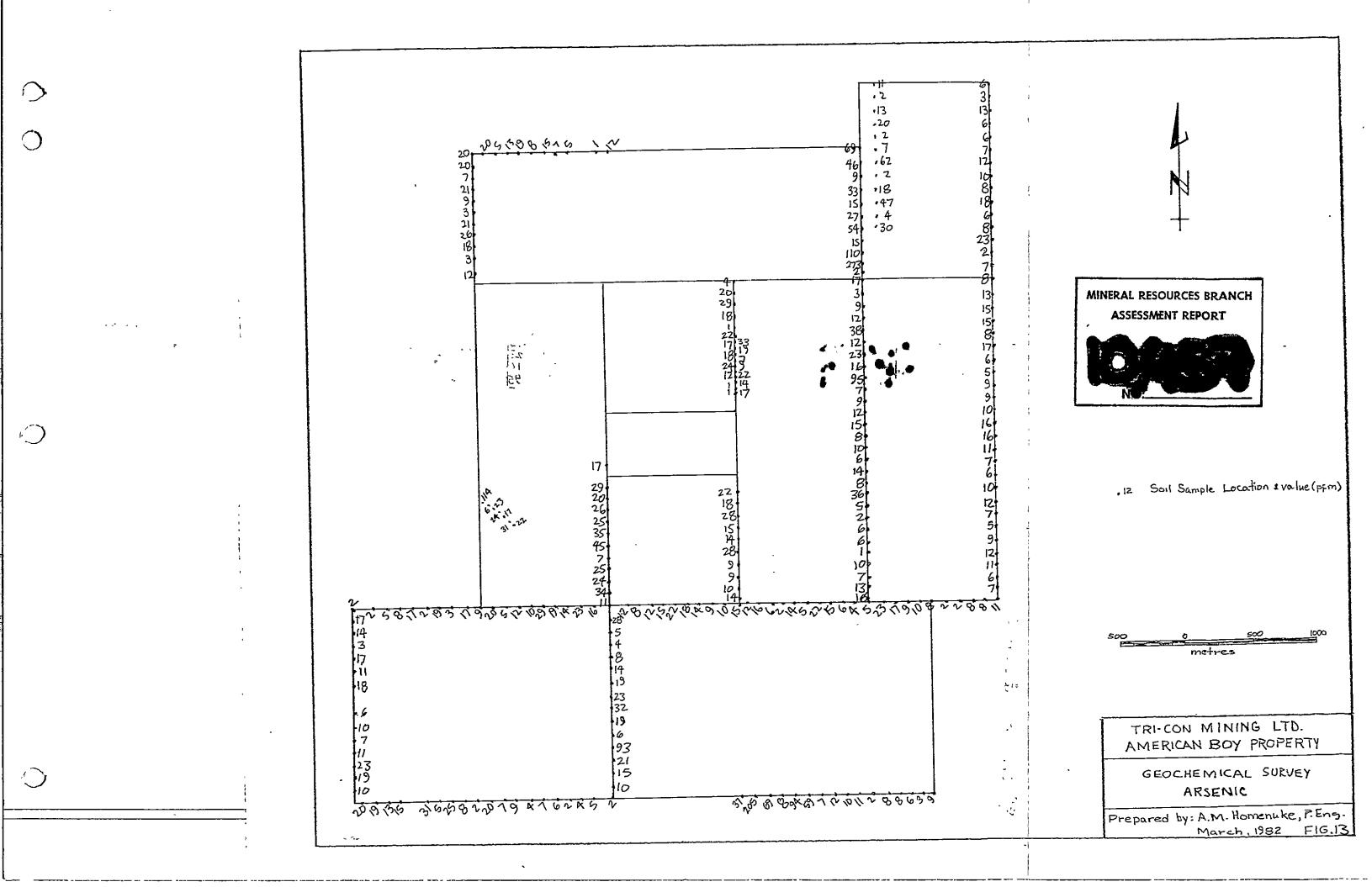
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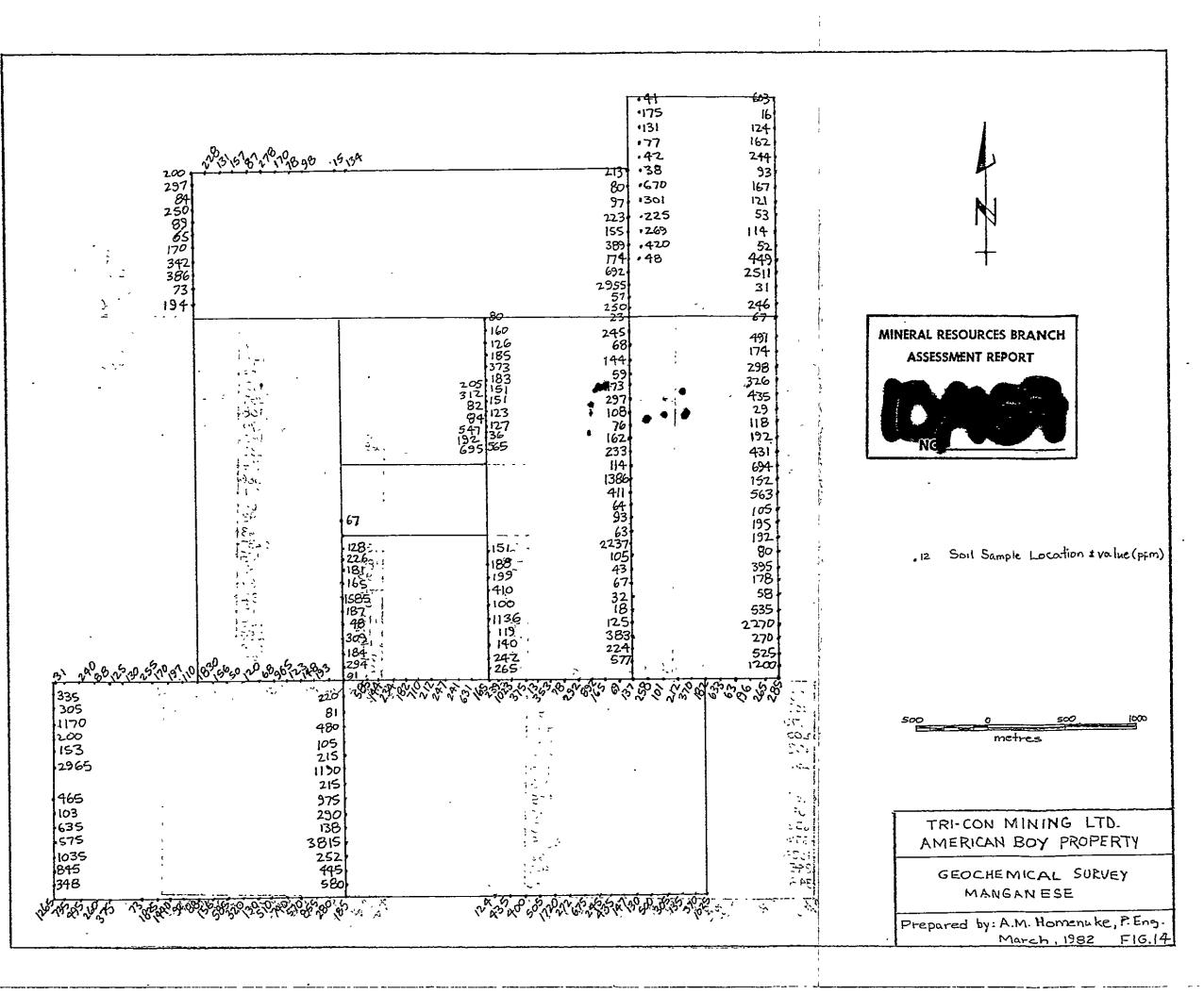
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