

Mining District File Summary Sheet

DISTRICT	Silver City
DIST_NO	4370 6000 0329
COUNTY If different from written on document	Storey
TITLE If not obvious	Hughes Tool Co. Mining Papers Group 1, Fort Knox Placers, Storey County, Nevada 6 pgs & 1 map
AUTHOR	D.J. Decker
DATE OF DOC(S)	1973
MULTI_DIST Y / N?	
Additional Dist Nos:	
QUAD_NAME	Virginia City 7 1/2'
P_M_C_NAME (mine, claim & company names)	Hughes Tool Co.; Sumner Corp.; Fort Knox Nos. 1-4, 6
COMMODITY If not obvious	Gold
NOTES	property report; production; placer; geology; geologic and claim map; 2 copies

Keep docs at about 250 pages if no oversized maps attached
(for every 1 oversized page (>11x17) with text reduce
the amount of pages by ~25)

Revised: 1/22/08

SS: DD 1/24/08
Initials Date

DB: _____
Initials Date

SCANNED: T.M. 12/1/08
Initials Date

4370

HUGHES TOOL CO.
MINING PAPERS
GROUP 1, FORT KNOX PLACERS

104

4376 66600329

~~Metallurgy Idaho Mining Co.~~ 104
~~Washoe Co~~ (Stripping Job) 1975
Group 1 Fort Knox Placers

Robert L. Lutz
Summa Corporation

6000 0329

FORT KNOX PLACERS, GROUP 1, STOREY COUNTY, NEVADA

Donald J. Decker

August 1973

Fort Knox Placers, Group 1, Storey County, Nevada

Group 1 consists of 5 unpatented placer mining claims consisting of approximately 40 acres each, for a total of approximately 200 acres. The claims are located 3 miles south of Virginia City, in American Flat, as shown on the Virginia City Quadrangle. More specifically, they lie in N $\frac{1}{2}$ S $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 7, N $\frac{1}{2}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 7, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 7, and SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 6, T16N, R21E, MDM. Access may be gained by a dirt road from the vicinity of Gold Hill.

No mention of placer working in American Flat was found in the literature of the district. It is estimated however, that approximately 10,000 cubic yards of gravel have been washed in placer operations in this area. Apparently most of this work was done in the 1800's, as most of the workings are grown over with brush.

The American Flat area is underlain by Tertiary andesite and rhyolite as shown by Calkins. The alluvium covering the flat proper is presumably derived from the surrounding hills, and the upper reaches of American Ravine to the West. As shown on the enclosed sketch map, alluvium varies from zero (0) to at least thirty (30) feet deep on the claims.

Assuming the old placer workings indicate the areas of best values, Ft. Knox 2 and 4 contain the best areas of gold values in American Flat. This portion of the claim block drains an area in the center of section 6 to the

North across which at least a branch of the Comstock Fault is thought to pass. This area has produced gold from underground and open pit operations, and could be the source for the gold in the gravels of the claim block.

During the examination in August of 1973, a 10 foot vertical channel sample was cut in the cat trench in the NW corner of Ft. Knox No. 2, and a 2 foot sample was taken from the surface nearby. The samples were panned in an attempt to determine the gold values present. Values were encountered in the entire 10 foot channel sample, however they were very low. The 2 foot sample taken nearby was high in value and probably contained 10 times the value of the 10 foot vertical channel sample. The 10 foot sample was cut in old gravels which have been incised by younger drainage channels. The two foot sample was taken from the younger drainage and the higher gold values probably represent a concentration of the gold found in the older gravels in the more recent drainages.

Weight of gold in the samples was not determined because the samples were lost while an attempt was being made to fire assay them.

The potential exists for a large tonnage of placer gravel in the Ft. Knox Placer claims. It is questionable however if sufficient gold is present to support an economic operation. The recent drainage channels which incise the older gravels have concentrated the gold enough to produce placers which were worked in the past by hand methods.

It is recommended that large test samples be taken in order to obtain accurate values for the gravels present. This could be done with backhoe trenches, or large diameter rotary drill holes. The older gravels should be tested primarily because of their large tonnage in comparison to the younger drainage channels.

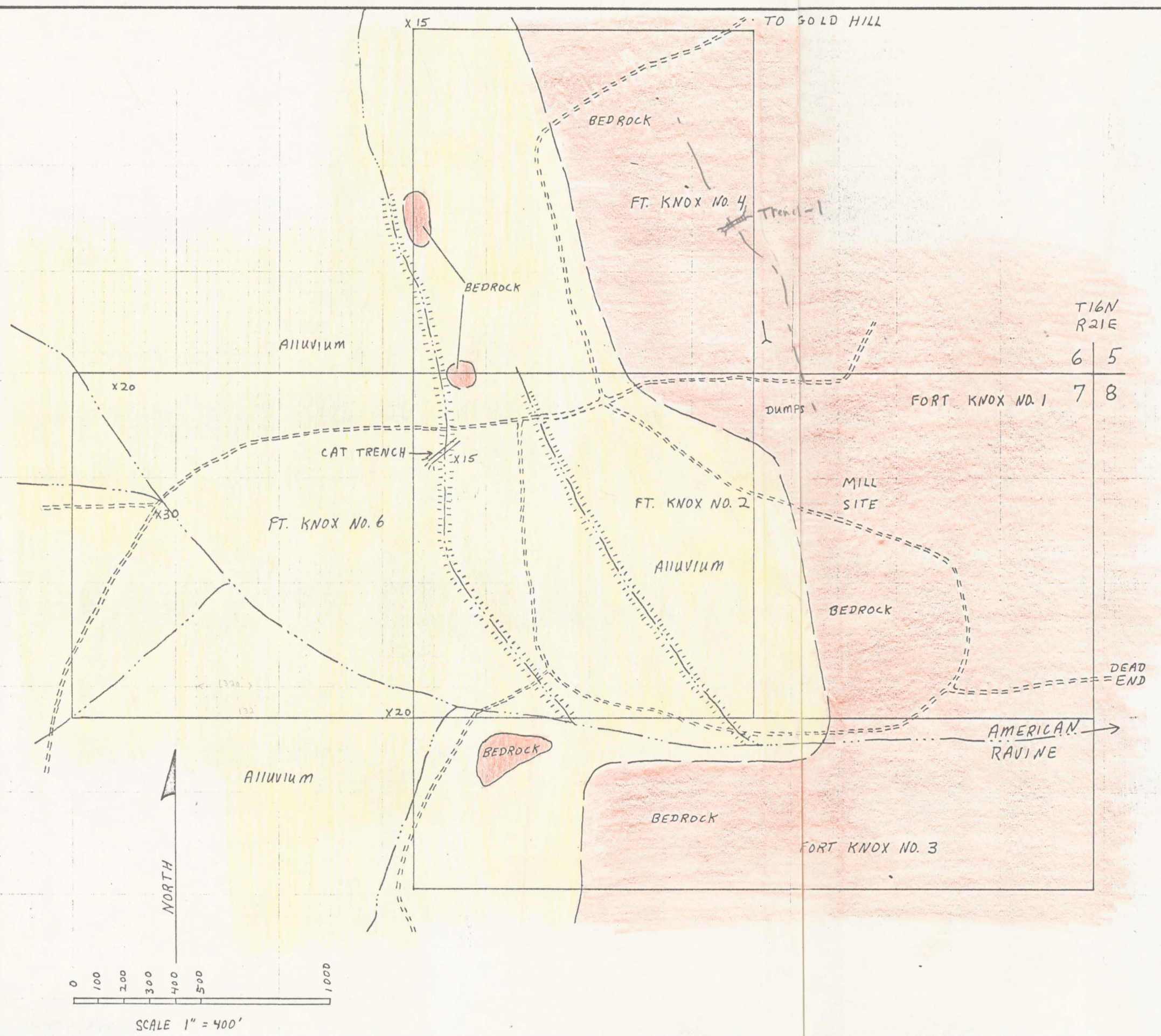
Bibliography

- Bonham, H.F., 1969, Geology and Mineral Deposits of Washoe and Storey Counties, Nevada; Nevada Bureau of Mines Bulletin 70.
- Calkins, F.C., 1944, Outline of the Geology of the Comstock Lode District, Nevada; U.S. Geological Survey Open File Report. (Mackay School of Mines Library)
- Gianella, V.P., 1936, Geology of the Silver City District and the Southern Portion of the Comstock Lode, Nevada; Nevada Bureau of Mines Bulletin 29.
- Stephenson, E.L., 1972, Hughes Tool Company Memo.
- Stoddard, C., and Carpenter, J.A., 1950, Mineral Resources of Storey and Lyon Counties, Nevada, Nevada Bureau of Mines Bulletin 49.
- Thompson, G.A., 1956, Geology of the Virginia City Quadrangle, Nevada, U.S. Geological Survey Bulletin 1042-C.
- Vanderburg, W.O., 1936, Placer Mining in Nevada, Nevada Bureau of Mines Bulletin 27.

Conclusions and Recommendations

Low grade placer gold is found in older gravels in this claim block; primarily on the Ft. Knox 2 and 4 claims. Higher grade values (possibly 10 times that of the older gravels) are found in the more recent stream drainages which incise the older gravels. The younger drainages have apparently concentrated the gold from the older gravels; and this is where all past production has been made.

It is recommended that large samples be taken in order to determine if an economic concentration of gold is present.



- ===== ROAD
- CONTACT
- DRAINAGE
- DRAINAGE WITH OLD PLACER DIGGINGS
- X 20 MINIMUM ESTIMATED DEPTH TO BEDROCK
- ALLUVIUM
- BEDROCK
- Sample Trench

SUMMA CORPORATION
MINING DIVISION

SKETCH MAP OF GROUP 1,
FT. KNOX PLACERS, STOREY
COUNTY, NEVADA

(American Flat Area; T16N, R21E)

DONALD J. DECKER
August 1973

1-G-2