

MICHAELSON CARW
SEW-153

Excerpt from

**SURVEY AND EVALUATION OF THE IDITAROD TRAIL
AND CONNECTING TRAILS IN THE CHUGACH NATIONAL FOREST**

DRAFT TECHNICAL REPORT

VOLUME 2: NATIONAL REGISTER EVALUATION FORMS

Prepared for
USDA Forest Service
Chugach National Forest
Anchorage, Alaska

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PHASE I EVALUATION FORM

Kurt Schweigert

March, 1991

1. Name of Property: Michaelson Cabin, AHRS Site #: SEW-153

2. Location: NE/NW/NW Section 28, T.7N-R.1W
Seward C-7 Quadrangle

3. Classification:

Ownership: Public-federal

Category of Property: Buildings

Number of Resources within Property:

Contributing: 0

Non-Contributing: 4 buildings, 1 object.

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed: 0

Name of related multiple property listing:

6. Function or Use: - -

Historic Functions: Domestic/Camp/Seasonal Residence

Current Functions: Domestic/Camp/Seasonal Residence

7. Description:

The site contains a gabled wood frame dwelling, a shed-roofed wood frame sauna, a gabled wood frame privy, and a shed-roofed wood frame meat house.

Feature 1 is a gabled wood frame, one-story dwelling which has an unmortared fieldstone foundation. The structure is three main parts, in "dogtrot" configuration. The eastern pen has 1"x12" board walls nailed horizontally to each other and possibly to a frame. The roof of the eastern section is weathered 1"x6" boards. The roof of the eastern pen is full dimension 2" X 6" planks, which are overlain with asphalt roll material and then weathered 1" boards. All observed nails are round wire type. At least one corner of the eastern pen has modern dimension 2" X 5" plate set at an angle in a post. The north wall of the east pen has apparently been rebuilt: a sheet of plywood underlies the weathered board siding. The middle section of the building has vertical board and batten siding, two 4-pane fixed windows on each of the north and south sides, and new sheet metal over a weathered board roof. The western pen is the largest and has vertical board-and-batten siding, sheet metal roofing, and a shed addition on the north side. The addition has vertical board walls. A recent aluminum chimney rises from the east end of the large west pen.

Feature 2 is a shed-roofed wood frame sauna, reportedly built in 1976 (AHRS form). The structure has weathered

horizontal board siding, no visible foundation, and corrugated sheet metal on the roof. Siding may have been salvaged from an older structure. Feature 3 is a gabled wood frame privy with vertical board siding, asphalt roll material on a board roof, and no foundation. Feature 4 is a gabled wood frame meat storage building which has horizontal board-and-batten walls, battened asphalt roll material on the roof, and no visible foundation. The upper walls are screened, and a wood plank floor is elevated about 35cm above ground level. All nails are round wire type. Feature 5 is a pile of salvaged lumber and a burn barrel. Some of the lumber has notches for joist fittings; this may represent parts of an original structure on the site which has been demolished.

8. Statement of Significance:

Significance Level: N/A

Applicable Criteria: N/A

Areas of Significance: N/A

Period of Significance: N/A

Significant Dates:

Significant Person:

Architect/Builder:

State significance of property:

Robert Michaelson prospected and mined on the Kenai Peninsula and adjacent areas before, during, and long after the 1896-1898 gold rush to the area Barry 1973). Michaelson staked claims on Canyon and Mills creeks in 1895, and he reportedly built a cabin near the confluence of those creeks about that time. A "Michaelson Cabin" is shown to the northeast of the confluence on a 1910 map (Sleem 1910). The cabin was standing at least until the early 1920s, when Michaelson went blind and left Alaska (Estes 1981).

The original cabin was reported to have been located a short distance to the northeast of the current cabin site. The original Michaelson cabin is reported to have been destroyed during the construction of a mining camp to Juneau and Mills creeks at an unknown date, and the current cabin was not built until the 1930s or later (Draft National Register Nomination 1977; Estes 1981). The privy is reported to have been built in the 1940s, and the sauna in 1976.

This property is recommended to be not eligible for nomination to the National Register under any of the eligibility criteria. The property has no known associations with events, patterns, or persons important in history. It does not contain structures

which represent significant types, periods, or methods of construction. Evidence has not been found that the property has yielded or might yield information important in prehistory or history.

9. Major Bibliographic References:

Draft National Register of Historic Places Nomination
Dated 7/15/1977. On file at State Historic
Preservation Office, Anchorage.

Estes, Ed

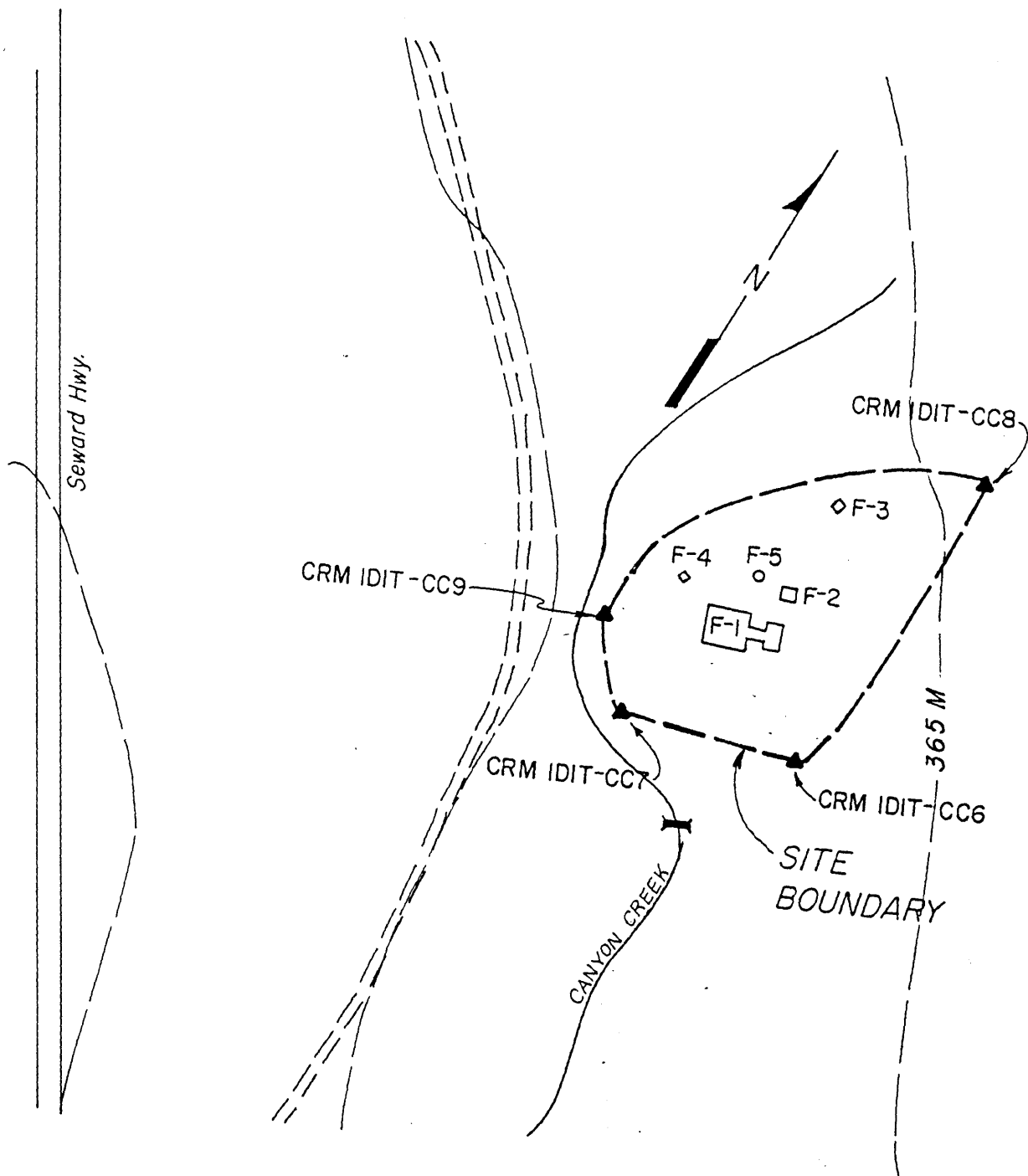
1981 Interview at Moose Pass, Alaska, June 15,
1981. On file at Bureau of Land Management
Anchorage District office, Anchorage, Alaska.

Schweigert, Kurt P.

1991 Survey and Evaluation of the Iditarod Trail
and Connecting Trails in the Chugach National
Forest. Report prepared for U.S. Forest
Service, Chugach National Forest, Anchorage,
Alaska.

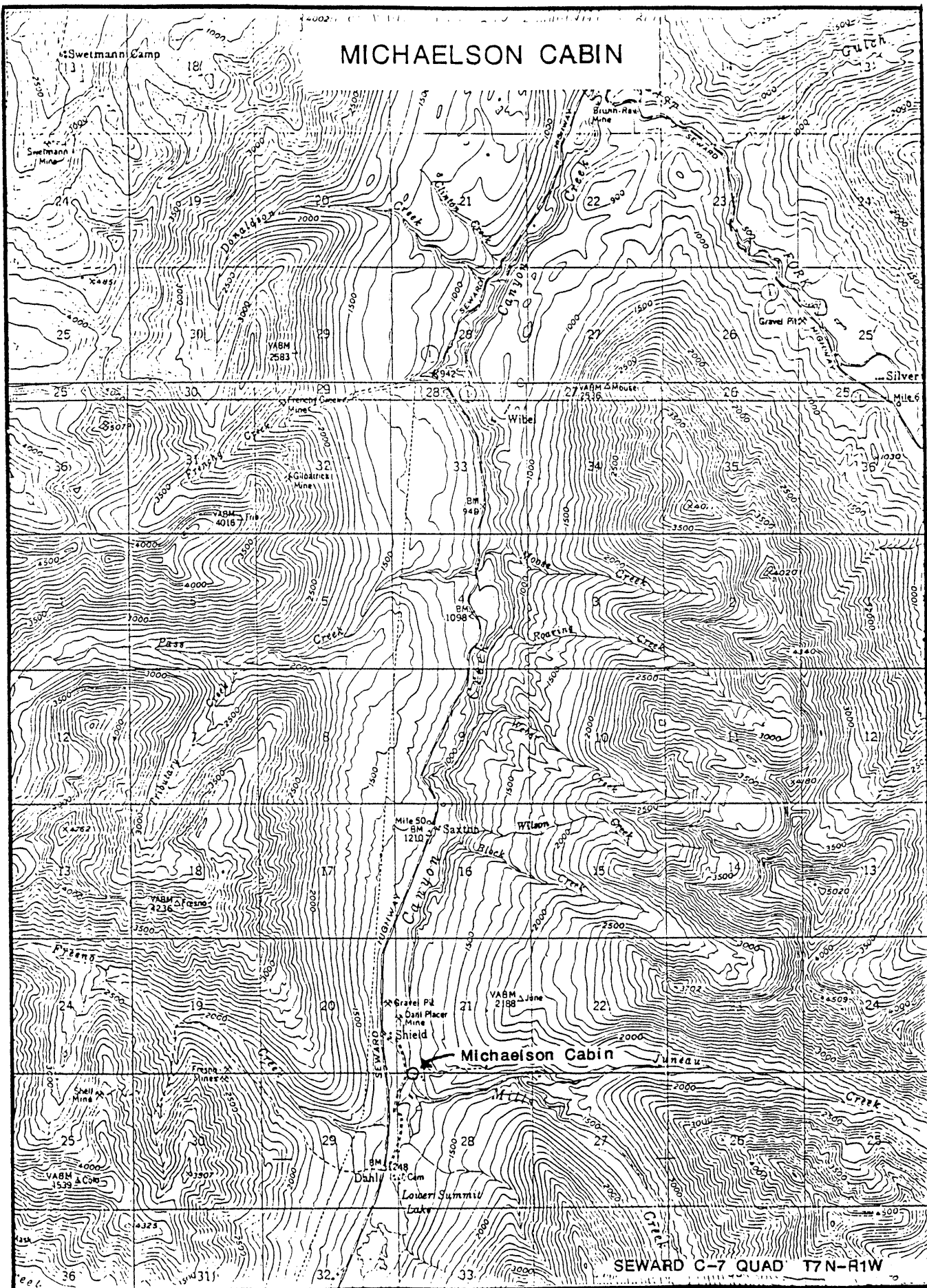
Sleem, D.H.

1910 Map of Kenai Mining District and Moose Pass
Regions, Kenai Precinct, Alaska. Rand,
McNally & Co., Engravers, Chicago.



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MICHAELSON CABIN

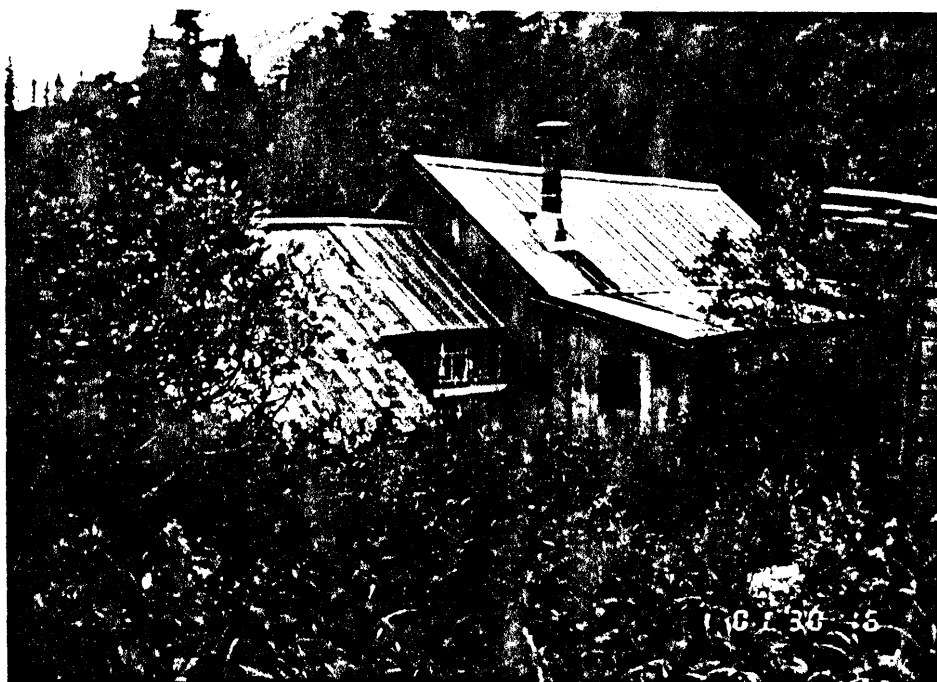
MICHAELSON CABIN



MICHAELSON'S CABIN



Feature 1, Dwelling, View to SW

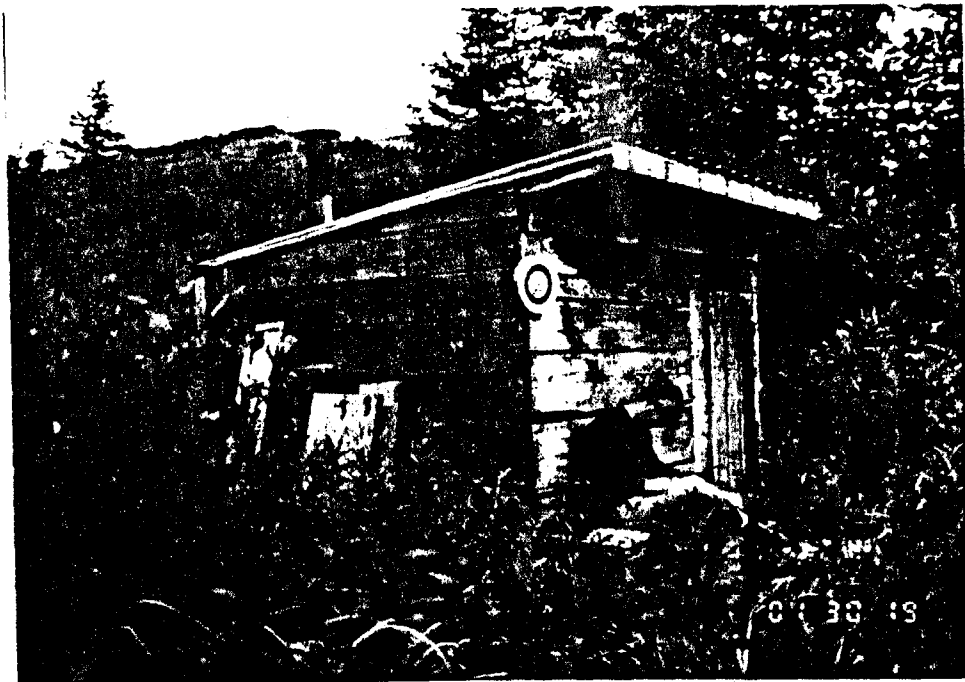


Feature 1, Dwelling, East End, View to North

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Feature 1, Dwelling, View to NE



Feature 2, Sauna, View to NNE

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Feature 2, Sauna, View to South



Feature 3, Privy, View to SE

MICHAELSON'S CABIN

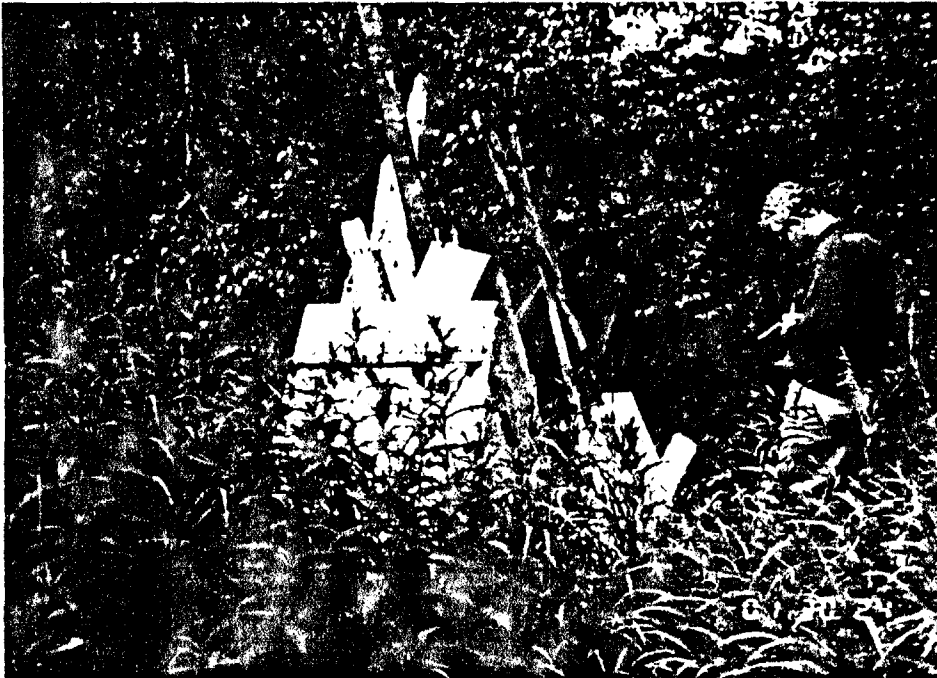


Feature 4, Meathouse, View to NW



Feature 4, Meathouse, View to SE

MICHAELSON'S CABIN



Feature 5, Lumber/Trash Pile, View to NW