

MINING OPERATIONS IN THE RAMPART DISTRICT, 1962

During September 21 to 26, 1962, I visited Rampart to obtain right-of-way easements for the Eureka-Rampart access road. Work at placer mines in the district had ceased for the year, but I obtained information about the mining operations from some of the miners. The number of active operations in the district remains about the same as it was in 1960, but work done on the various properties in 1962 was almost entirely maintenance and preparatory work.

Harry Havrilack continued work on Ruby Creek but did only a small amount of sluicing during the year, devoting most of his time to stripping and other preparatory work. *KX 48-20*

Idaho Bar Mining Co., operated by Ace Parker and Kosta Melinkoff, began a new operation in 1962 on Idaho Bar, which is on the top of a ridge between Little Minook Creek and Hunter Creek. The ridge is about 1000 feet higher than the mouths of the creeks. It is planned that water for mining will be pumped from the upper part of Little Minook Creek. The 1962 season was spent in preparatory work. *KX 48-33*

T and T Mining Co. did not mine during the year. Bill Thomas, owner and operator of the company, worked on the property on weekends only, and his work consisted of stripping. *KX 48-105*

Brian MacDivitt mined by hand on Minook Creek for a short time during the 1962 season. He also spent a month in the early part of the summer on a prospecting trip on which he covered a large part of the Hess Creek drainage. *KX 48-49*

Quail Creek Mining Co., owned and operated by Mel Haugdahl and Willie Redig, was reported to have mined during the season on Quail Creek. ^{X48-75} This operation was described in a report in 1957, and, since then, the operation has been intermittent. When the owners are not mining, they work as electricians in the Fairbanks area.

College, Alaska
February, 1963

Robert H. Saunders
State Mining Engineer

MINING OPERATIONS IN THE MANLEY HOT SPRINGS
AND TOLOVANA DISTRICTS, 1962

During July 31 through August 3, 1962, I made a trip to Eureka to obtain right-of-way easements for the Eureka-Rampart access road, and, on the trip, I visited the few placer mining operations that are still active in the Manley Hot Springs and Tolovana districts.

Manley Hot Springs District.

Gus Benson was preparing to sink a prospect shaft on the right limit of Cache Creek on claims that he has owned for many years. *KX 48-3*

Harold Strandberg was moving equipment from Eureka to Tofty and repairing a ditch at Tofty in preparation for mining there in 1963. *KX 48-44*

The Eureka Creek operation of Strandberg Mines, Inc., was idle, and some of the equipment was being offered for sale.

Rhode Island Creek Mines, owned and operated by Archie Pringle, mined throughout the 1962 season on the left-limit bench of Rhode Island Creek below the mouth of Gold Run. This is the area that was being stripped when the operation was visited in 1960. Two TD-18 tractors, a sluice plate, and steel sluice boxes are used for mining. The owner employs one man to help him run the operation. *KX 48-37*

Tony Lanning mined one cut in the early part of the 1962 season at Shirley Bar. During the remainder of the season, he mined on the upper part of Eureka Creek on ground formerly owned by Pete Johnson but now owned by Pete's nephew, Leo C. Johnson, of South Pasadena, California, and leased by Tony. On Eureka Creek, Tony mines alone using a TD-14 tractor and the same boxes and hydraulic equipment that Pete *KX 48-25*

formerly used. Sluicing is done in "splashes", and the ditch is used for water storage. The boxes, wings, pipelines, giants, and the ditch are used in the same general manner that Pete used them, however, Tony mines with the TD-14 and, therefore, is able to use all of the available water for sluicing. The boxes appeared to be in the same place as they are shown in the photograph in the 1960 report.

Tolovana District.

The Redstone Mining Company, owned and operated by Carl Heflinger, mined during 1962 on Livengood Creek near the mouth of Gertrude Creek. Two D-8 tractors are used for stripping and mining, and an HD-14 tractor is used for stacking tailing. The ground averages 20 feet in depth: 15 feet of muck and 5 feet of gravel. The muck and the upper two feet of gravel are stripped by bulldozers. Three cuts of 35,000 square feet each are mined in one season. Steel sluice boxes are used, on a grade of 18 inches per box length, and a sluice plate is used at the head of the boxes. This is a one-family operation with Carl and his two sons doing all the work. K49-18

K49-295 Olive Creek Mines, owned and operated by Carl Parker, moved from Little Eva Creek in the Fairbanks District in 1962 and resumed operations on Olive Creek in the Tolovana District. Two non-contiguous blocks of ground on the right-limit bench of Olive Creek were mined during the season. Two D-8 tractors were used for mining, stripping, and stacking tailing; the dragline usually used for stacking tailing by this operator had not yet been moved from Little Eva Creek. At the time of my visit, mining was not in progress; Carl and one employee were K49-70

stripping with the tractors, and one other employee was freighting
equipment in from Little Eva Creek. Carl has acquired ground on
Amy Creek, tributary to Livengood Creek, and he plans to mine there
in 1963.

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KX49-53
87

Ben Falls did not sluice any ground during 1962 but was
reported to be working intermittently on his claims on Wilbur Creek.

KX49-44

College, Alaska
March, 1963

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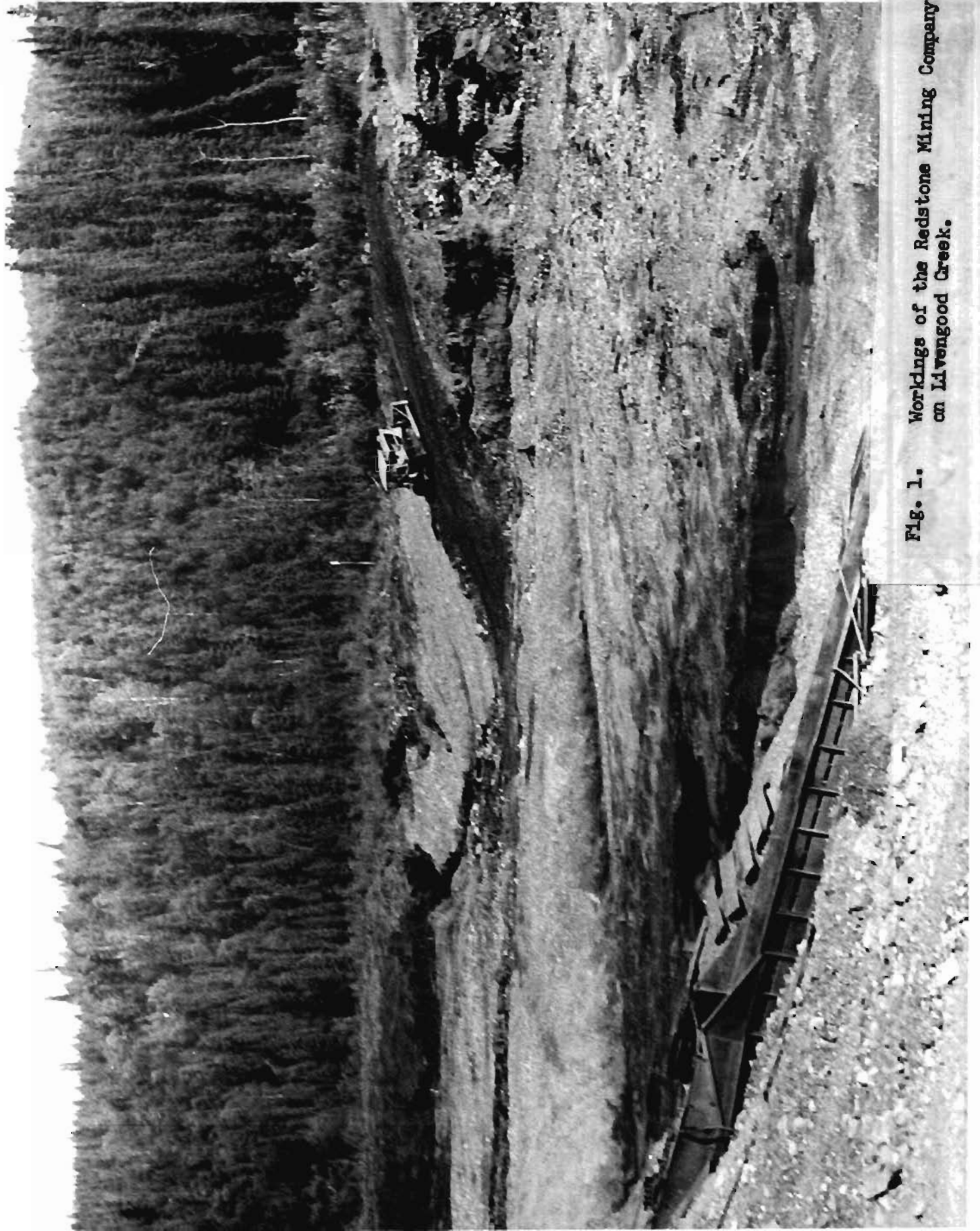


Fig. 1. Workings of the Redstone Mining Company on Livengood Creek.

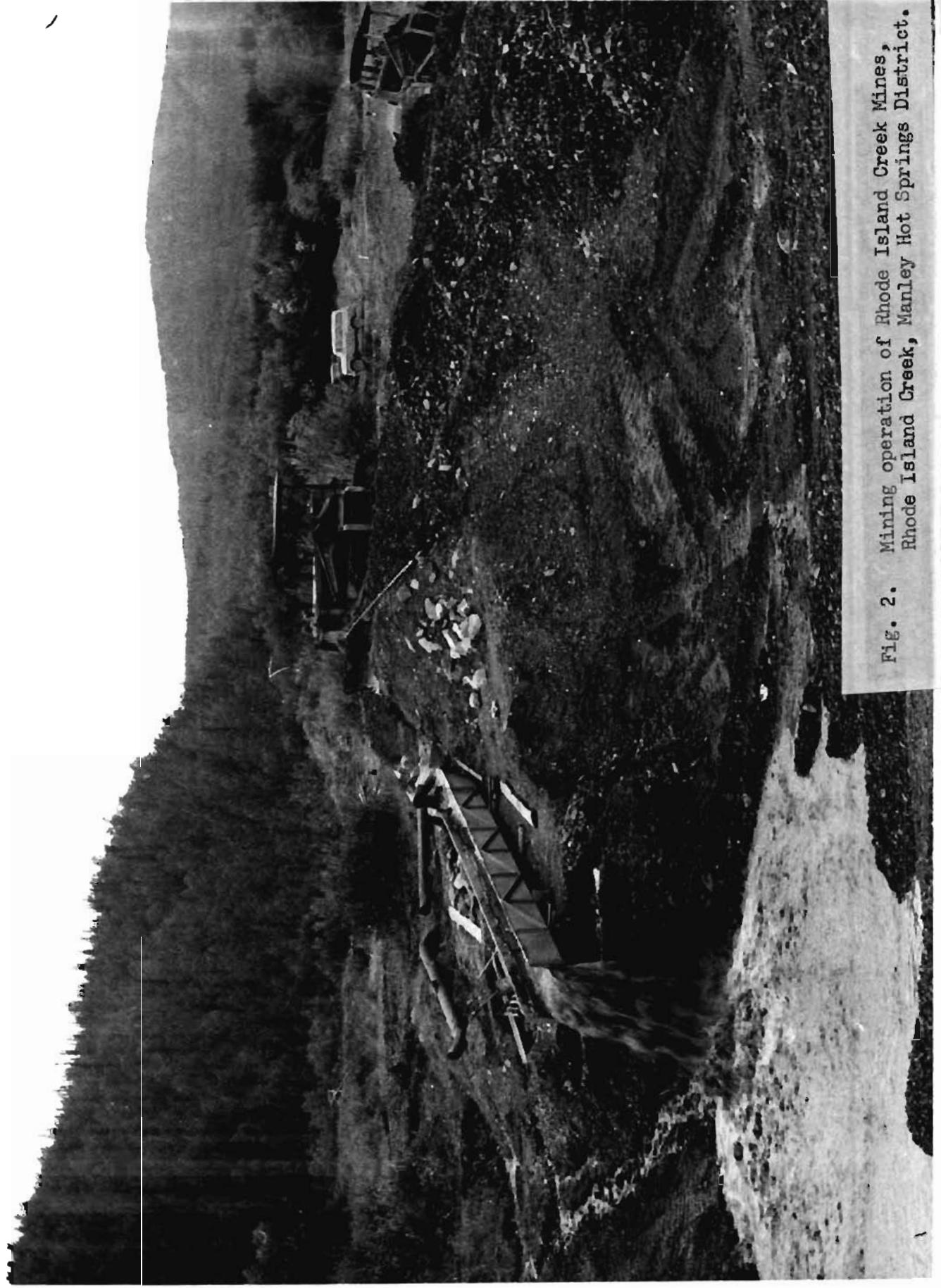


Fig. 2. Mining operation of Rhode Island Creek Mines, Rhode Island Creek, Manley Hot Springs District.