GHQ/SCAP Records (RG 331, National Archives and Records Service)

Description of contents

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(1) Box no. 2951

(2) Folder title/number: (33)
618.2: Kamigamo Golf Course Project
(Recreation & Playgrounds)

(3) Date: Jan. 1947 - July 1947

(4) Subject:

Classification	Type of record
9622, 9870	a, c, r

(5) Item description and comment:

Kyoto

(6) Reproduction: (Yes) No

(7) Film no. Sheet no.

(Compiled by *National Diet Library*)

618.2 Recreation and play grounds

NO.	DATE	SUBJ/SYNOP
1.	8 May 48	Kamigamo Golf Course
2.	30 Jun 48	Tress cut down for Golf Courses
3.		

KYOTO MILITARY GOVERNMENT TEAM
APO 301 (Kyoto, Japan)

HCS/ejc

618.2

30 June 1948

SUBJECT: Trees Cut Down for Golf Course

THRU : Commanding Officer, Kinki Mil Govt Region, APO 301

TO : Commanding General, Eighth Army, APO 343
ATTN: Inspector General Section (Major Hogan)

1. Confirming telephone conversation of this date, information furnished by the Public Works Section of the Kyoto Prefectural office shows that a total of 635 trees (totaling 794.356 koku, or 7801.37 cubic feet) were cut down during the period 22 March to 24 April, at which time all work ceased.

2. Three hundred of the above trees, totaling 44.686 koku, or 440.825 cubic feet, were small cypress saplings of about 2 inches in diameter. These trees were planted so closely together as to require trimming out in the immediate future.

3. One koku equals ten cubic shaku. One cubic shaku equals 9.821 cubic feet.

File Copy
AGO 2

HAROLD C. SHEFFIELD
Major QMC
Commanding

2

44 886
9.821
44886
89772
8908
35908
403974406
440825

440.825 cubic feet.

Par 3. One Koku equals ten cubic shaku. One Cubic Shaku equals 9.821 ~~cubic ft~~ cubic feet.

Kamigamo Golf Course

Total Quantity Lumber Cut Down Mar. 22 -- Apr.24, 1948

Hole No.	PINE No.	PINE Volume	CEDAR No.	CEDAR Volume	CYPRESS No.	CYPRESS Volume	OTHERS No.	OTHERS Volume
1	7	15.605			9	2.909		
2/3	5	6.902			300	44.886		
5	5	7.751						
6	48	95.567	25	72.790	26	71.065		
7	7	29.394	19	112.780	4	23.624	2	13.827
8	25	46.095	8	22.995	13	22.746		
9	11	18.750	4	8.077	57	28.104		
14	48	121.558			12	28.901		
	156	341.622	56	216.642	421	222.265	2	13.827

(440.825 ft³)

Volume in Koku
Grand Total: 635

794.356 Koku or 7801.37 cubic feet

N.B. Koku means 10 cubic shaku

The above figures were submitted by Public Works Dt., Kyoto-Fu
June 30, 1948

Pub. Works Section — M. Nagasawa

Trees Cut down 22 Mar - 24 Apr 48

Trees 635 794.356 Koku

~~10^3 shaku~~

$10\ shaku^3$

1 Koku = $12\ shaku^3$

1 shaku = .994 ft.

1 $shaku^3$ = .9821 ft^3

~~1 Koku = 11.785 cu ft~~

1 KoKu = 9.821 cu ft

794.356
9.821
794356
1588712
6354848
7149204
7801370276

7,801.37 cu ft

794.356
11.785
397178
6354848
5560492
794356
7943560
9361.485460

9.94
9.94
3976
8946
8946
98036
9.94
395144
889324
8892324
88923077
9821

9821
2
19642
98211
11.785

300 koku
44.886 koku
440.825 ft^3

Cypress

or 9,361.48 cu ft.

Major Hogan, Yokohama 20696 phoned asking for the amount of lumber that was cut on the Kami-Kamo Golf Course. Information may be obtained thru Mr. Nagasawa, Director of Civ Engr Dept, Kyoto Pref from records of the Kami-kamo shrine or the Adachi Gumi (keeping record of amount).

Maj Hogan asked for a telephone report as soon as possible followed by a letter.

10^3 shaku
10 shaku^3

Maji Hogan

KYOTO MILITARY GOVERNMENT TEAM
APO 713 (Kyoto, Japan)

HCS/ejc

8 May 1948

SUBJECT: Kamigamo Golf Course

TO : Commanding Officer, Kinki Mil Govt Region, APO 301

1. The attached report was prepared at the request of the Commanding General for a reply to Commanding General of Eighth Army concerning report made by Mr. Nichols, Head of the Shinto and Buddhism Unit, of the Religious and Cultural Resources Division, CI&E Section, SCAP, in which it was stated that the Occupation Forces had ordered the construction of the Kamigamo Golf Course.

2. It is believed that the chief concern of Eighth Army is that there is a possibility of this being used as a claim against the Termination of the War Budget. As will be seen from the report, the project is being financed entirely by local funds.

1 Incl.
As stated

HAROLD C. SHEFFIELD
Major QMC
Commanding

KYOTO MILITARY GOVERNMENT TEAM
APO 713 (Kyoto, Japan)

HCS/ejc

8 May 1948

MEMORANDUM: Kamigamo Golf Course

1. In accordance with telephone conversation, the following information concerning Kamigamo Golf Course is submitted:

a. Project was originally started by procurement demand for the use of the Occupation Forces but discontinued by reason of the procurement "freeze" in November 1946.

b. At the time procurement demand was cancelled by Eighth Army, Commanding General, I Corps, called the Governor of the Prefecture and the Mayor of Kyoto and announced to them that the project was being terminated by the Occupation Forces, but expressed the hope that the Japanese could accomplish the project on their own responsibility, as a civic enterprise for the benefit of future tourist trade.

c. Because of the financial condition of the Prefecture and the City, it was not possible to finance such a project and a private corporation, the Kinki International Sightseeing Corporation, was formed to do the work. The prefectural authorities assumed the task of acquiring the land for the project, the cost of construction to be borne by the private corporation. Prefectural authorities and/or City authorities hope eventually to take over the course completely as a civic project.

d. The corporation has been formed among leading business and professional men of the Kyoto-Osaka-Kobe area. Thirty million yen has been subscribed from these private sources for the corporation, which is headed by Dr. Watsuji, a prominent local business man and formerly the mayor of Kyoto City.

e. Negotiations were held between the prefectural authorities, the corporation, and the Kamigamo Shrine authorities for the acquisition of the land, the greater part of which being shrine lands expropriated by the Central Government. Negotiations were successfully completed and shrine authorities withdrew their objections to the construction of the course which was started the last of March this year. Prefectural authorities insist and shrine authorities concur that no pressure was used in concluding negotiations which were carried out in a truly democratic manner.

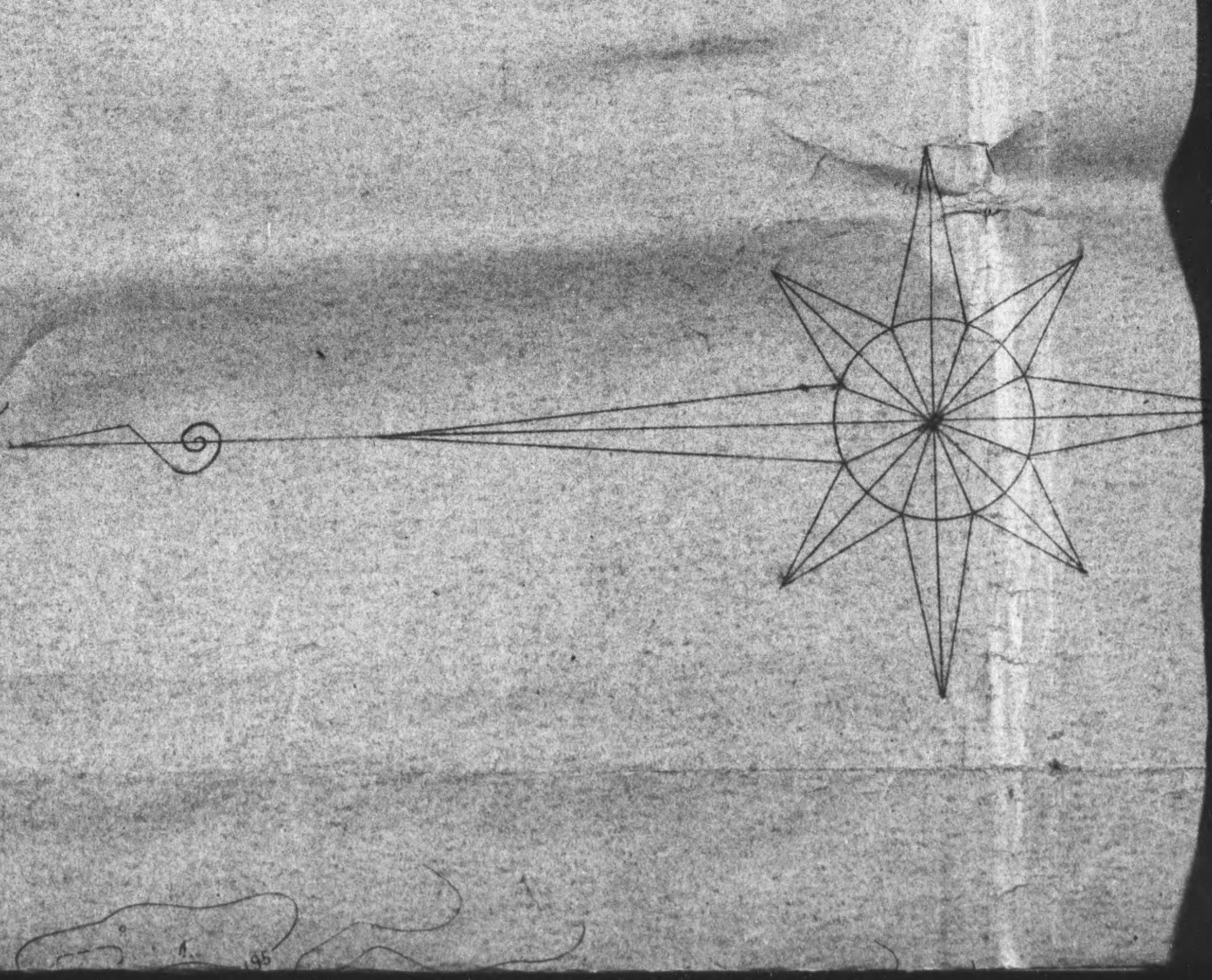
f. For the acquisition of the land, the Prefectural Assembly has voted five million yen. The City authorities of the City Assembly expect to match this appropriation which will provide sufficient funds for the acquisition of the land. Prefectural authorities are now negotiating with the Central Government to have title of the land for the golf course transferred to the Prefecture.

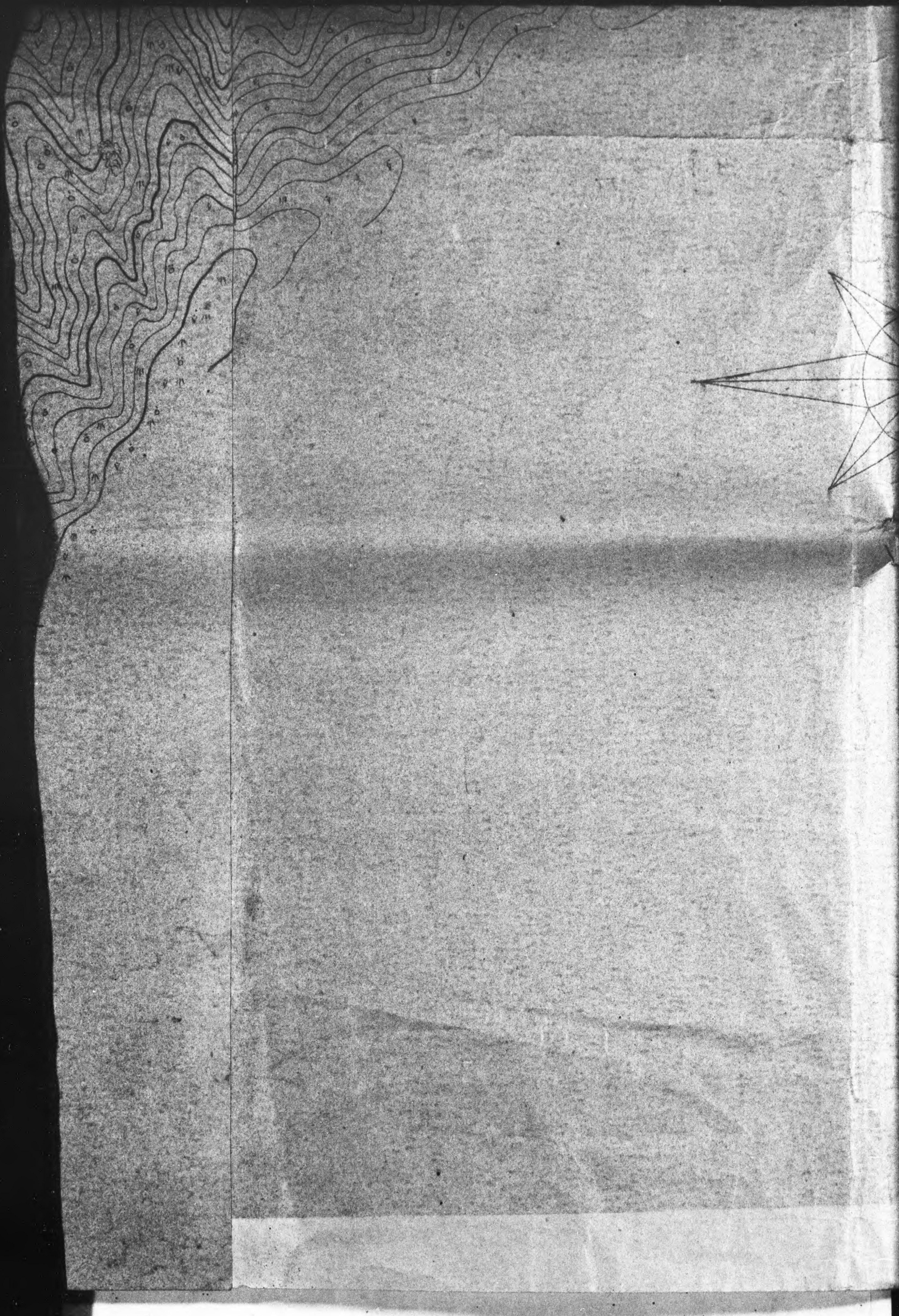
g. No funds are being expended by the Central Government, nor to my knowledge has any member of the Occupation Forces ordered or used pressure on the Japanese authorities for the construction of this project.

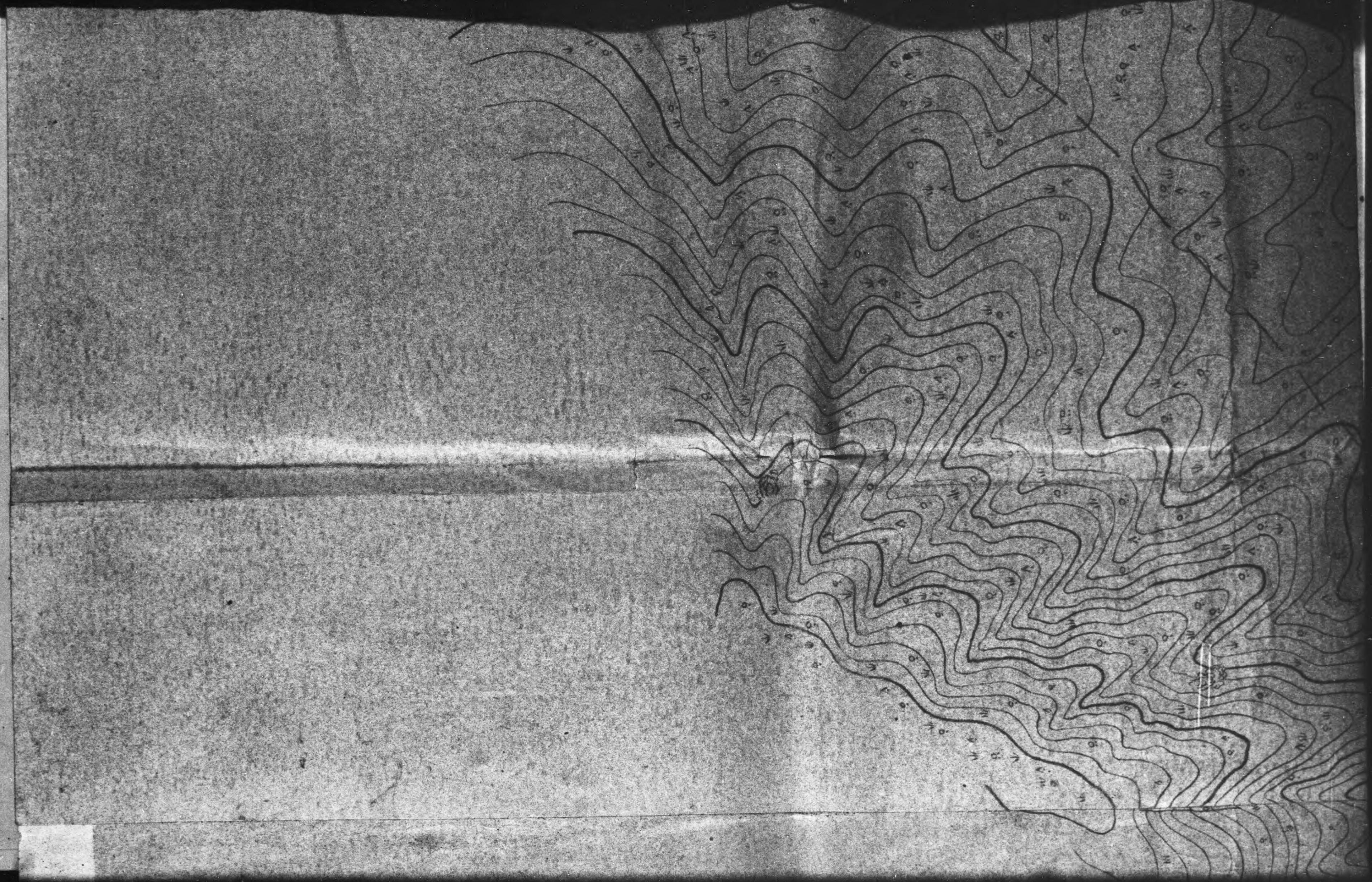
HAROLD C. SHEFFIELD
Major QMC
Commanding

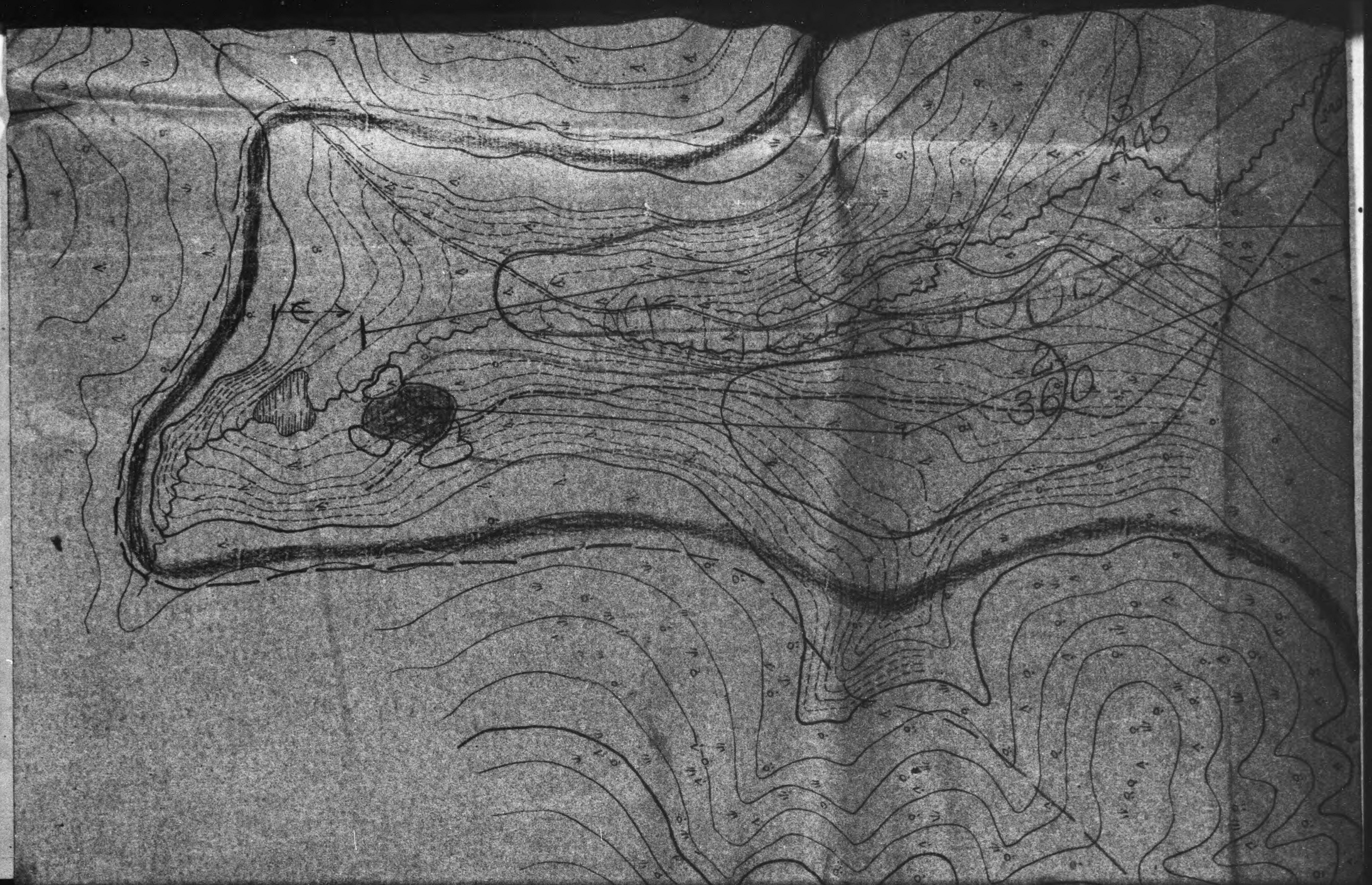
Inclosure 1

No.



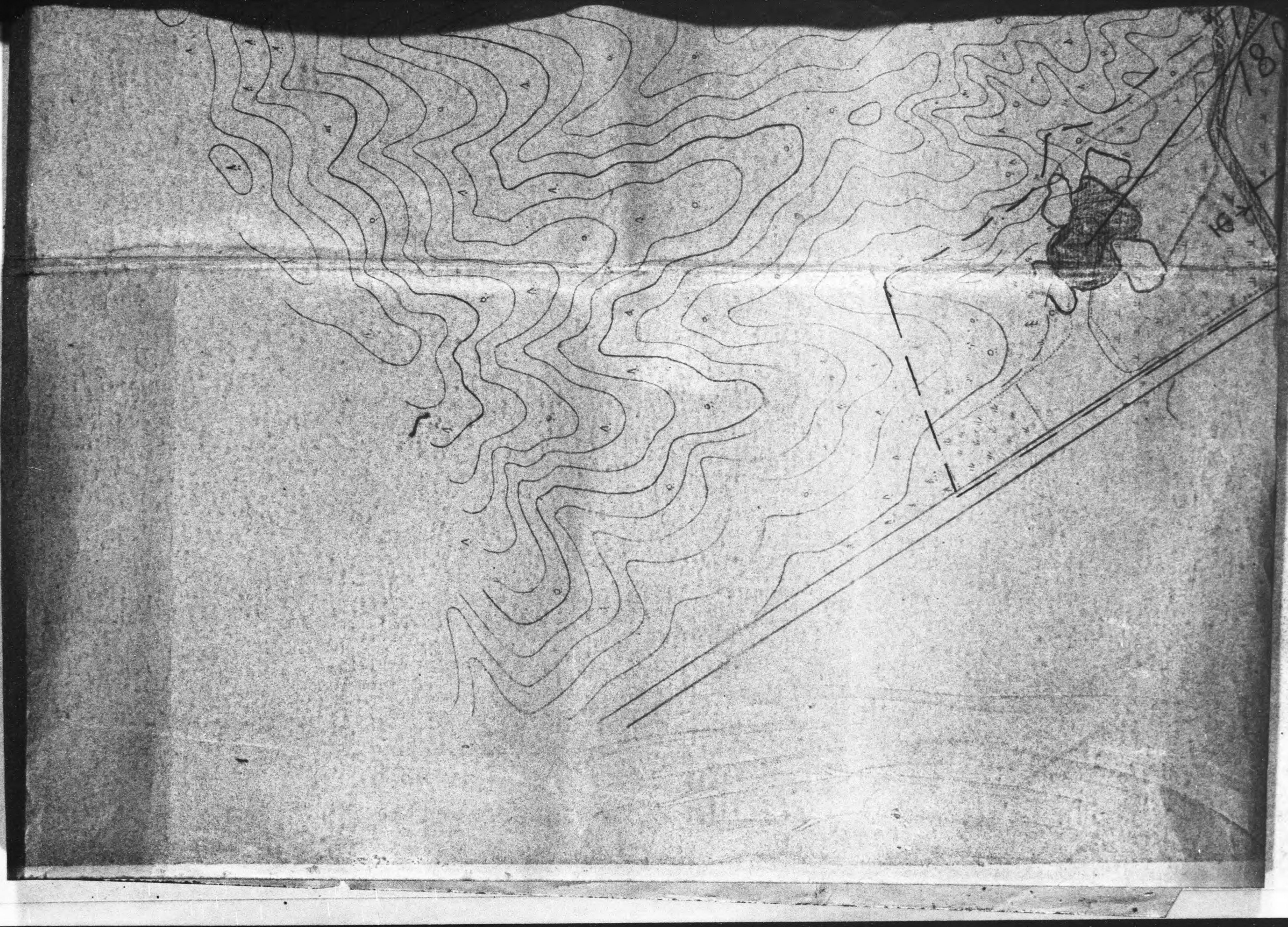


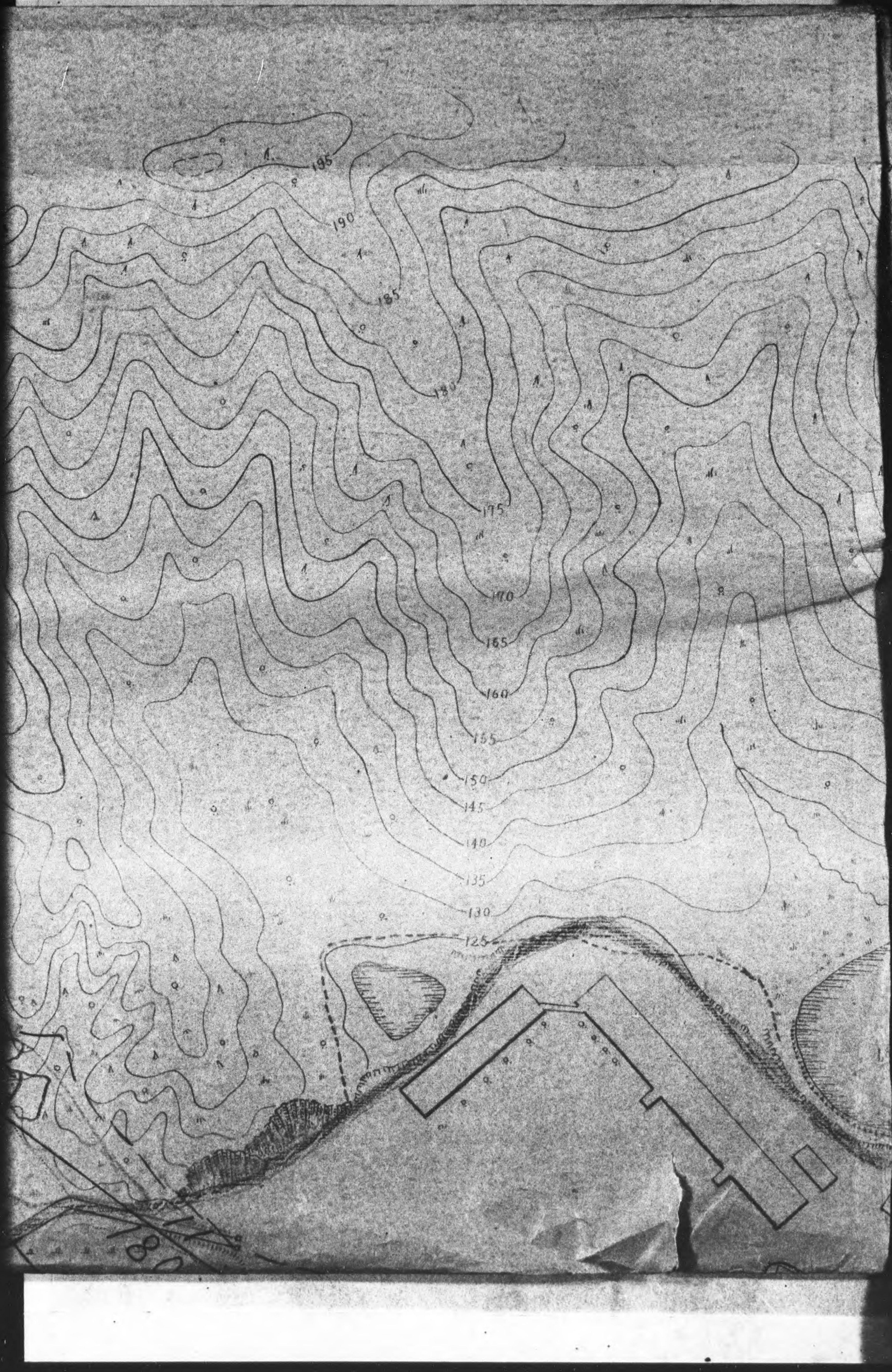



345
360

		champ Tees
1	410	450
2	360	400
3	445	470
4	425	440

		champ Tees	Ladies Tees	Par
1	410	450	410	4
2	360	400	360	4
3	445	470	370	4
4	425	460	420	4




195
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170
165
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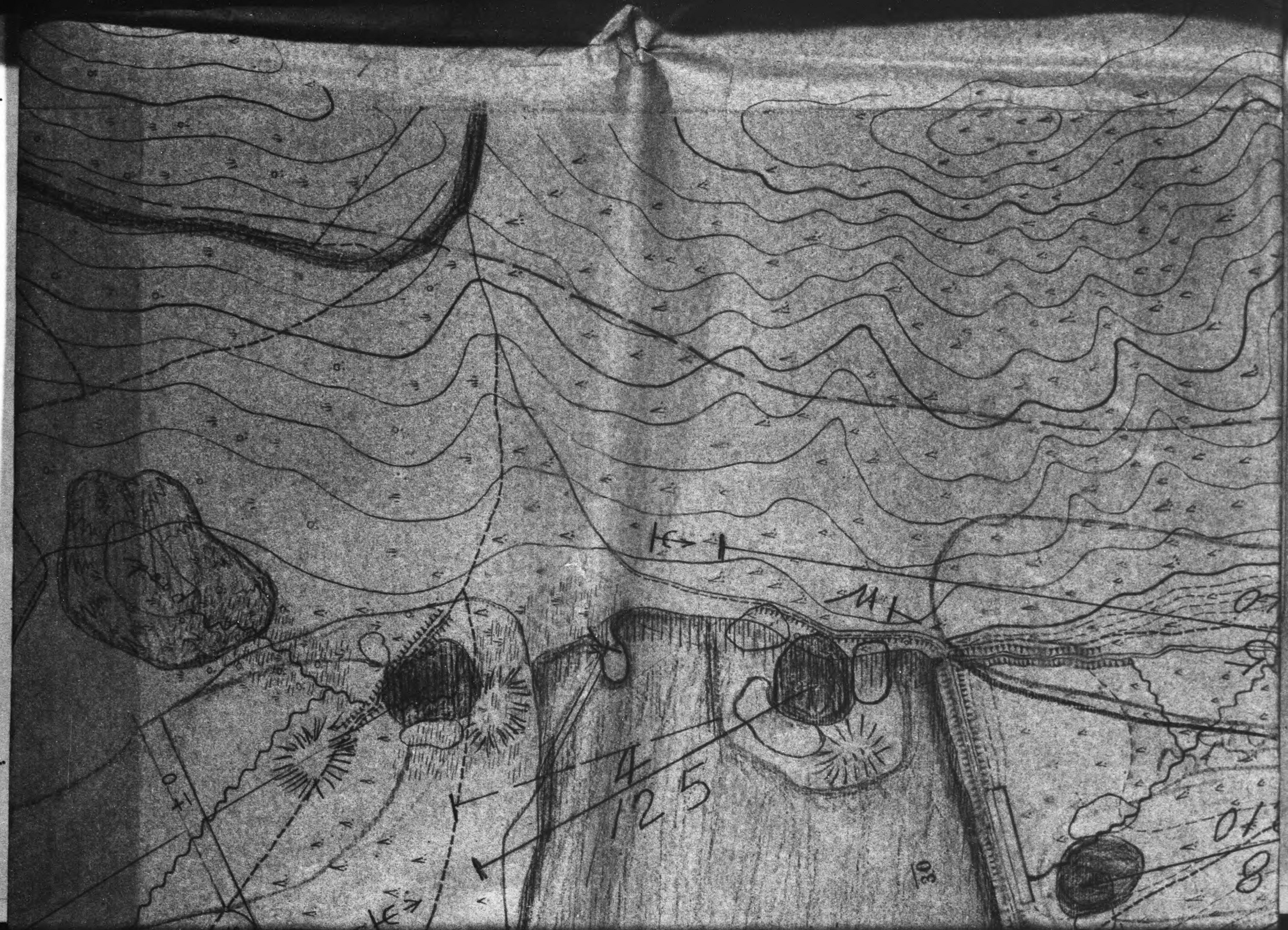
155
150
145
140
135
130
125

PAR

PARKING
320

Kō-ike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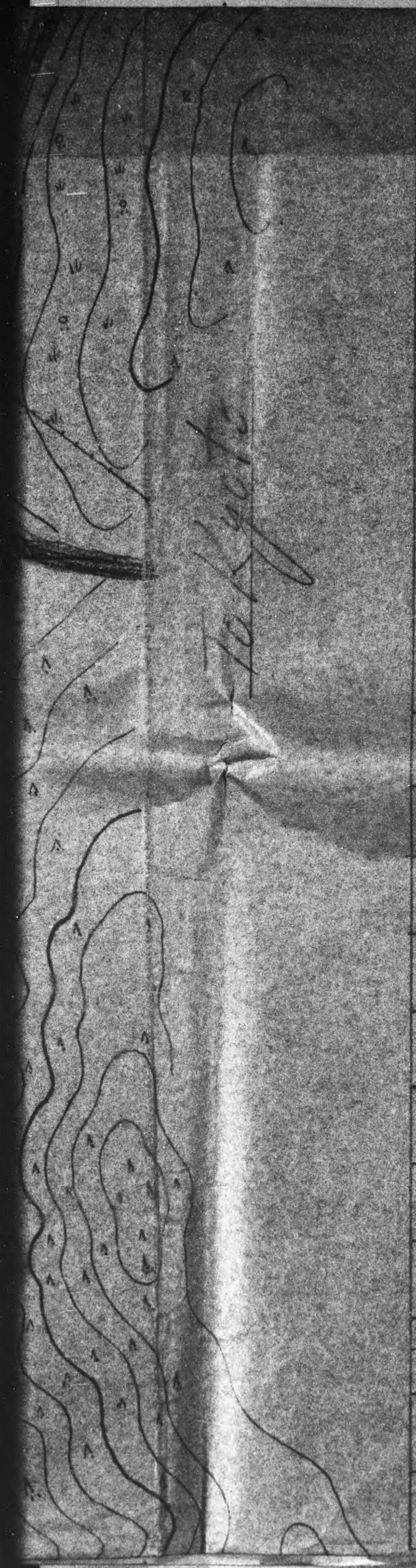
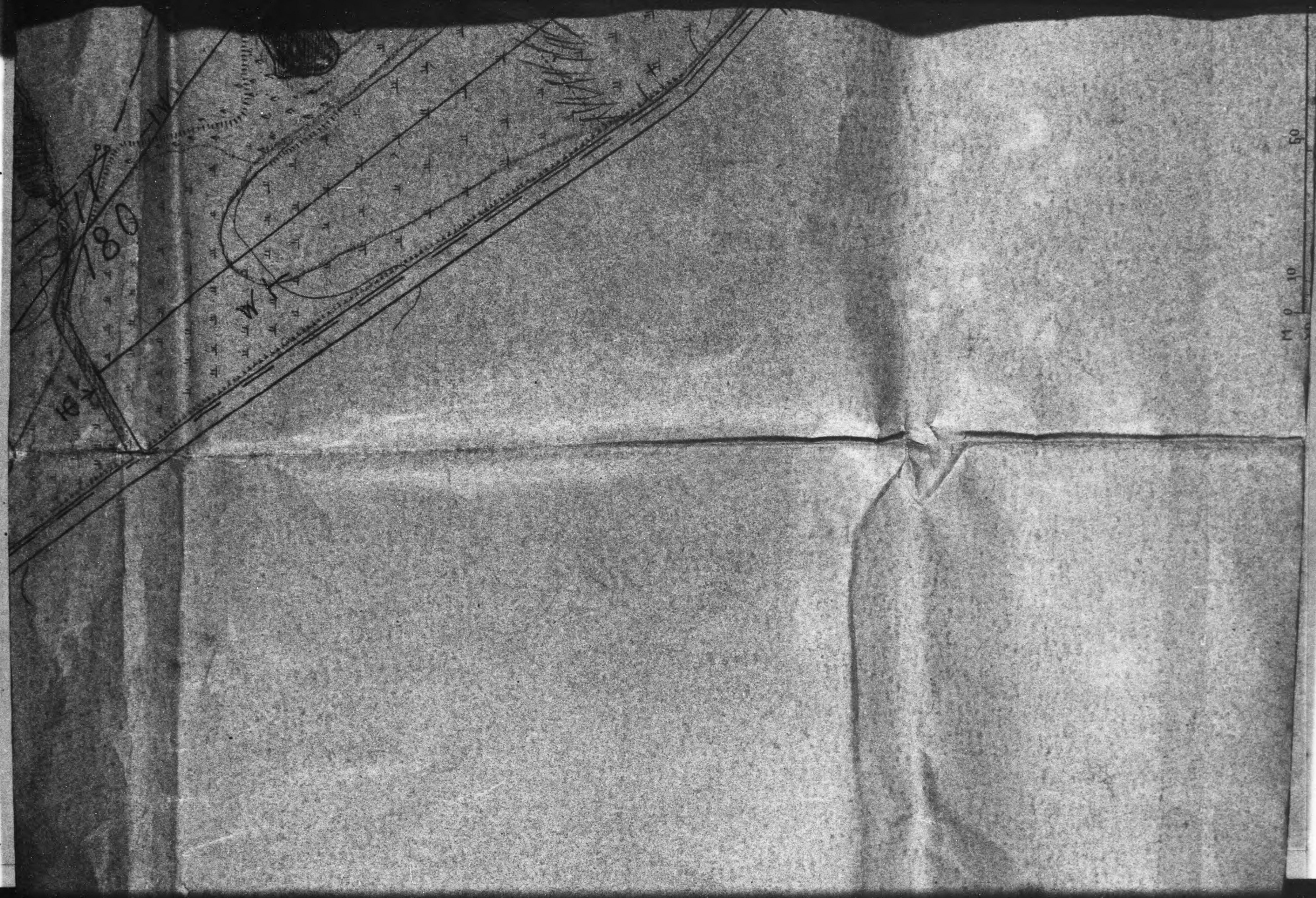


3	445	470	370
4	125	160	190
5	540	560	490
6	490	510	410
7	390	420	390
8	210	250	175
9	320	320	285
Out	3290	3540	2980
10	510	510	510
11	180	200	150
12	530	555	480
13	400	445	400
14	340	375	340
15	145	175	90
16	370	395	275
17	380	430	380
18	435	470	395
In	3290	3555	3020
Total	6580	7095	6000

3	445	470	370	4
4	125	160	190	3
5	540	560	490	5
6	490	510	410	5
7	390	420	390	4
8	210	250	175	3
9	320	320	285	4
Out	3290	3540	2980	36
10	510	510	510	5
11	180	200	150	3
12	530	555	480	5
13	400	445	400	4
14	340	375	340	4
15	145	175	90	3
16	370	395	275	4
17	380	430	380	4
18	435	470	395	4
In	3290	3555	3020	36
Total	6580	7095	6000	72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M 0 10 50

1250
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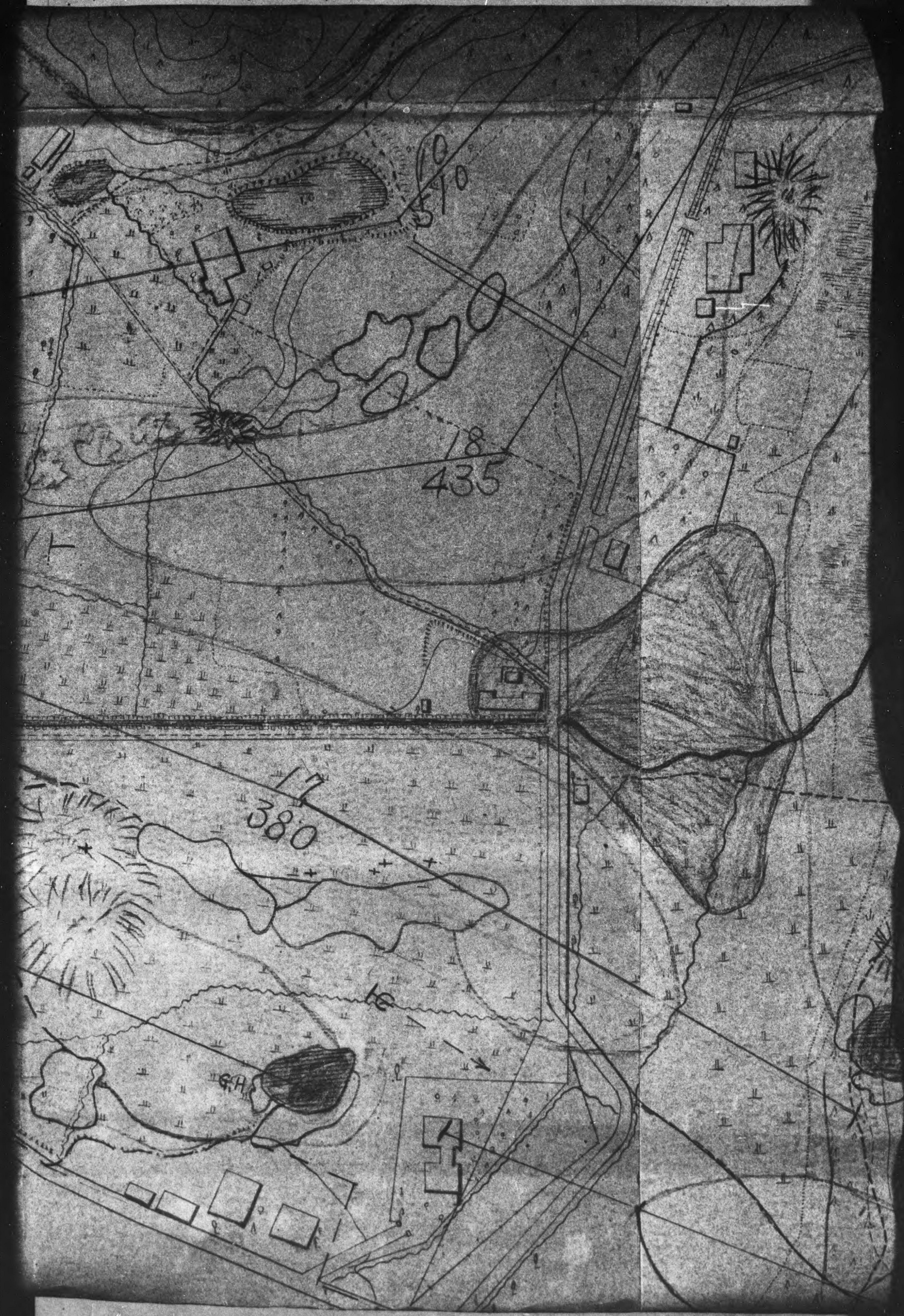

10
10
435
380

AMANOHASHIDATE

Orega-ike

16
3-10

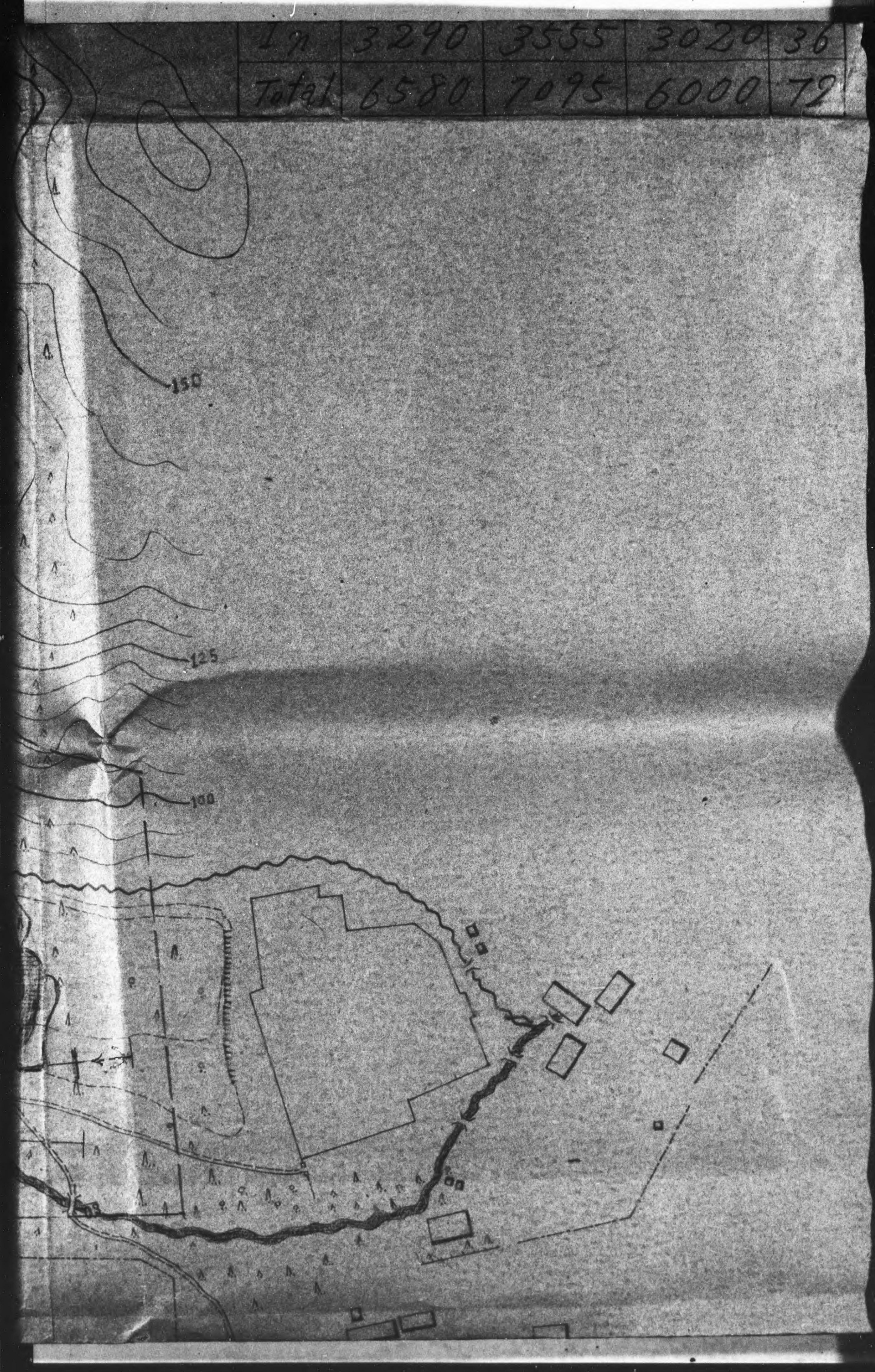
150

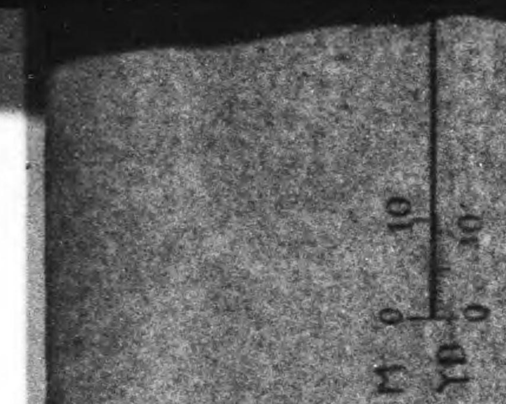
145

140

150
125
100
+50

In	3290	3555	3020	36
Total	6580	7095	6000	72

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M

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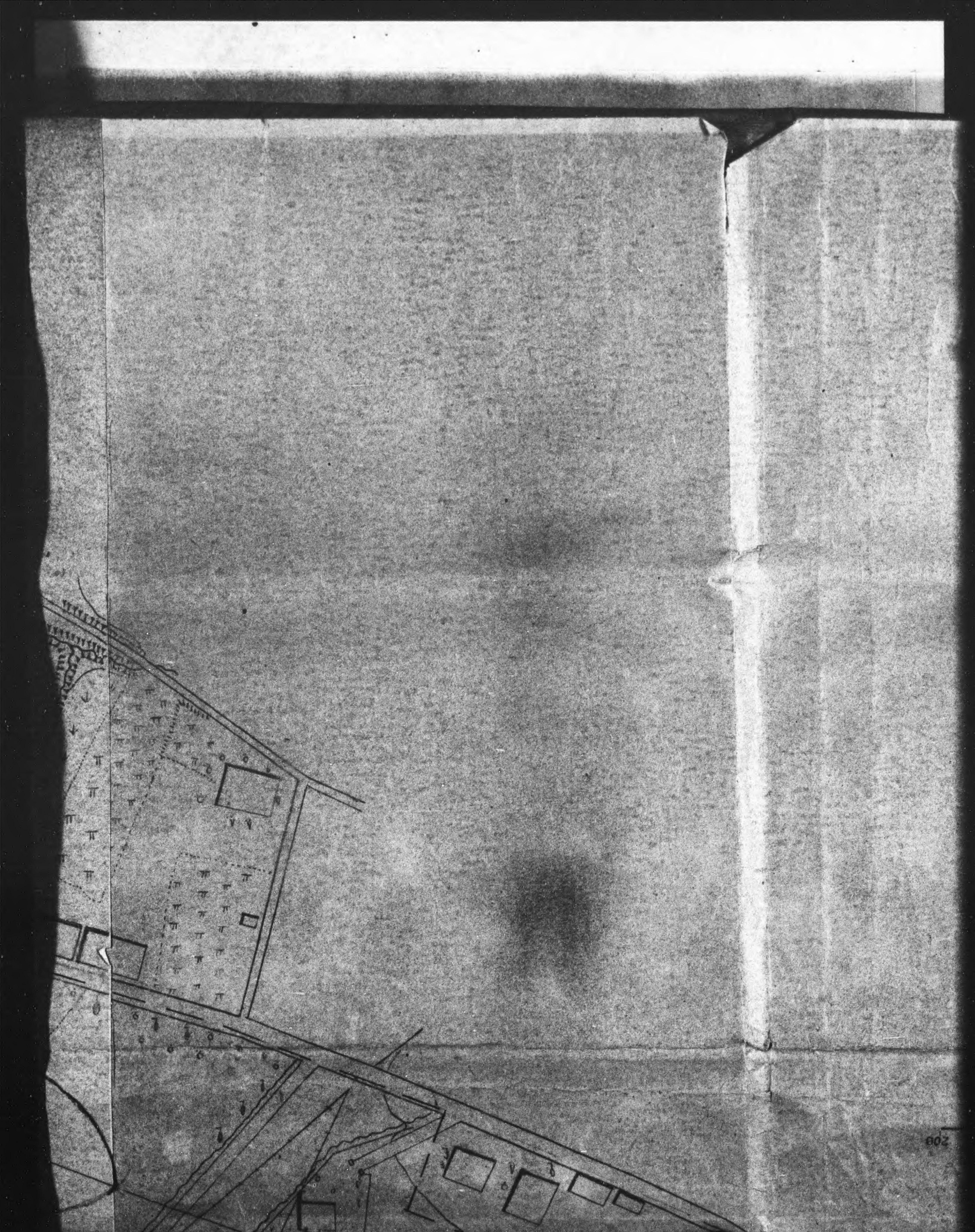
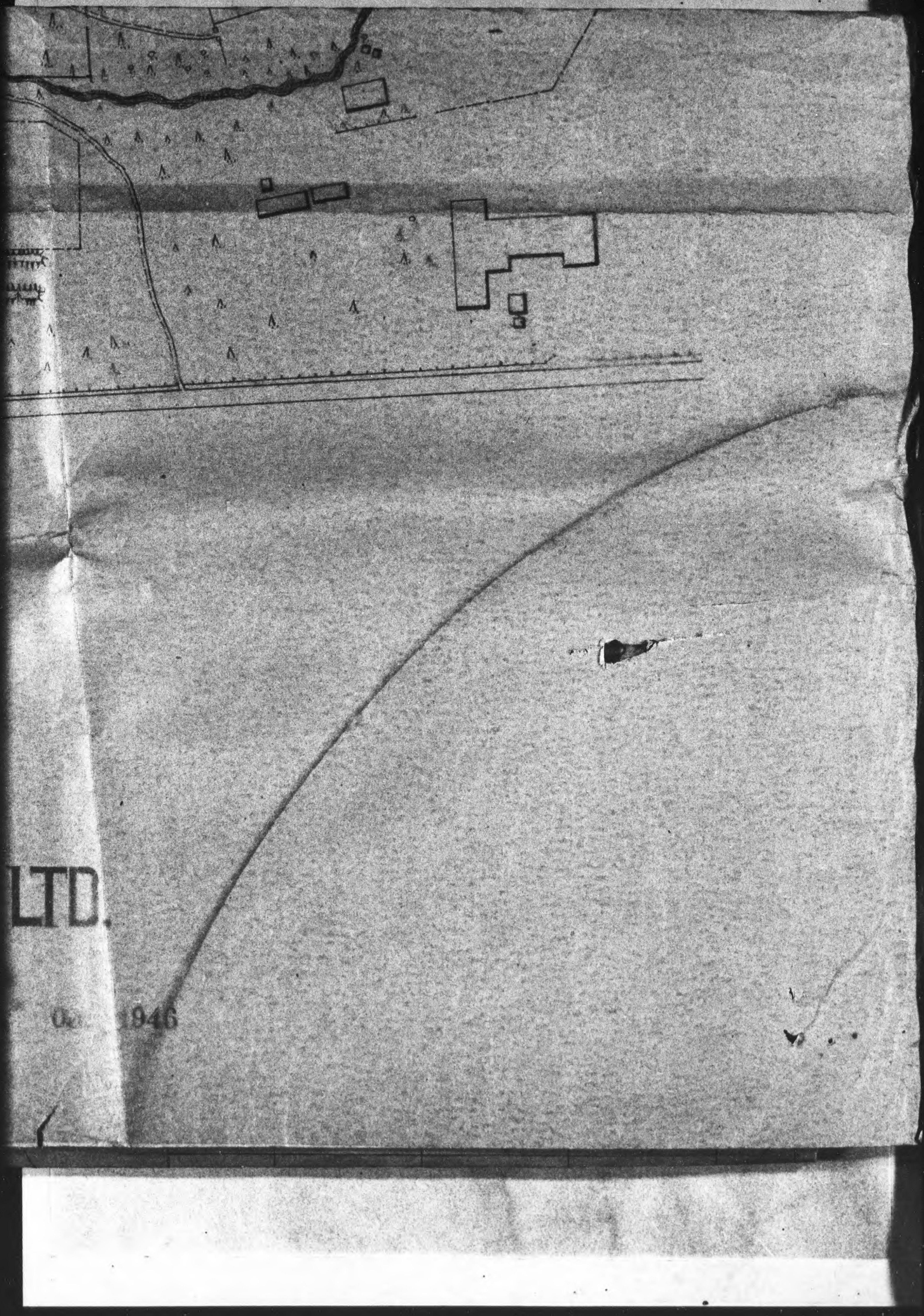


18
400
42

120
115
110
105
100
95

100
95
90
KAJIMAGUN

GUMI CO. LTD.



LTD.

Oct 1946

618.2 - KAMIGAMO GOLF COURSE PROJECT

1. 10/1/47 - To Kansai Const Engr Com - New est of Kamigamo Golf Course Proj

3 July 1947

Major General R. B. Woodruff
Commanding General, I Corps
APO 301

Your Excellency:

We have the honor of expressing our profound gratitude and highest respect to your Excellency for the most extraordinary efforts that have been and are being rendered by your Excellency for the reconstruction of this country and the remarkable results that have been achieved in so short a period. It is also our wish to state here that we sincerely desire all undertakings that are intended by your Excellency to be materialized in satisfactory circumstances and to this end, we are endeavouring to the best of our ability to resuscitate ourselves, as soon as possible, into a truly peace-loving nation.

Kyoto City, of Kinki District, in which we live at present, has been known to the world with its established fame as the greatest cultural center of Japan. It fortunately survived the war with all its rich cultural inheritances undamaged. Every piece of these inheritances is an old precious item which no human effort can restore when once lost. Naturally, we pride ourselves to the world on the fact that we possess these properties. However, it is our cherished desire and the object of the present letter to solicit your Excellency's generous considerations with regard to more modern tourist facilities.

The construction of a golf course in Kamigamo area of Kyoto City, which was planned by the Headquarters of I Corps last Fall was, in the above sense, a great welcome to us, and we put sincere and fervent hope on the realization of the scheme. Later, we heard, to our great regret, that the plan was dropped for the reason of an extravagant estimation of the construction expenses. We were not disappointed, however, and, after prudent investigation and frequent on-the-spot checks, we have reached the conclusion that we can build a golf course of a fairly large scale at a cost of one-tenth of the original estimation. We hear that two or three golf courses are being constructed by the Occupation Forces at different locations. It is a matter of regret that Kyoto has not a single course within 40 kilometers of the city. It is certain that the existence of an attractive, refreshing golf course in Kyoto would not only be of great service to the Occupation personnel for their recreational and leave purposes, but would also bring happiness and prosperity to this country after the Occupation Forces are evacuated.

It is for the following reasons that we so ardently desire the construction of the Kamigamo Golf Course by the Occupation authorities:

(1) As a residual product of the construction, we can yield about 4,500 koku of lumber which is most critically needed as building material for reconstructing war-damaged houses and other establishments. The quantity is sufficient for supplying a substantial part of the demand of the whole Kinki District, including Kyoto.

(2) Direct from this construction will result production of approximately 100,000 kan (about 800,000 lbs.) of firewood which will be a great help for covering the shortage of fuel not only in Kyoto but in the whole Kinki District in the coming winter.

(3) By realising this project, approximately 3,500 laborers per day will be employed, which would contribute largely to the solution of employment problem of the jobless people, particularly of ex-service men and the repatriates.

(4) Most of the cost of this construction is for labor and the project requires almost no critical materials which are necessary for the economic rehabilitation of this country.

(5) The survey, plan and technical calculation which are necessary for the construction are completely prepared in the P.D. which was cancelled last year and this project can be immediately started by utilising these data.

(6) The construction, in its course, will cause improvement of the two ponds and the waterways in the area, which will greatly benefit the farmers in the lower reaches by utilising them for irrigation and, consequently, raise the productive capacity of their lands.

(7) This project, when completed, is believed to be a new recreational center to the Occupation personnel in Kyoto, who, heretofore, have had to be contented with extremely poor recreation facilities.

The Kamigamo Golf Course, in our plan, will be located to the northeast of Kyoto City, over an area 6 kilometers from the center of the city which has adequate undulation of the terrain and two ponds in it. The elevated lands, which are more hills than mountains, are grown over by pine, cedar and other inferior trees and add beautiful configuration to the complicated ground. The occasional chirp of birds, the charming wild flowers and most of all, the prevailing quietness lure one's heart far away from the fact that, close to the area, there is a city of 1,000,000 population. We do not hesitate to assert that the ground has natural features comparable with any renowned golf course of the world. 80% of the whole area, which extends over 162 square acres, is covered with forests and ponds, most of the forests being either state-owned or properties of shrines or temples which are scheduled to be nationalized shortly. Therefore, our plan, if practiced, would make little sacrifice of individuals. As a matter of course, the present food conditions of Japan forbid making anything at the sacrifice of fields. But the fields included in the planned area are negligible and we have plans ready to practice in compensation for grating them.

Besides the aforementioned outstanding advantages, the project to construct Kamigamo Golf Course will also contribute greatly to the improvement of preparations for receiving the foreign tradesmen and other guests to follow. For Japan which is deficient in natural resources, the sight-seeing enterprise has always been one of the most important trades as a means to get foreign money. It is, of course, difficult, in view of the particular nature of the enterprise, to show its actual results with correct figures as in other enterprises. But it is estimated that at the peak period of

the enterprise, that is, around 1936 and 1937, the average number of 40,000 foreign tourists visited Japan and dropped approximately ¥ 100 million each year. This amount holds a very high post in the list of trade proceeds of this country. Needless to say, Kyoto tops over all other scenic spots in the country in the number of visitors it attracts. It is estimated, in the same period, that half of the tourists in Japan spent 30% of their tour, from 3 to 4 days, in this city, dropping the total amount of ¥ 13 million per year on the citizens. Today, the necessity to develop this city as a scenic center is greater than ever. But whether the city can forever retain its predominant fame or not requires a careful consideration from the standpoint of the national policy.

Recently, a certain change has been seen in the value of Kyoto as the cultural center. The commonly accepted advantages of the city are (1) that the city represents old Japan with its cultural inheritances, and (2) that it has a promising future in the commercial world as a producing area of collateral goods. But the city has one serious drawback which even these two outstanding advantages cannot redeem, and the handicap is obviously becoming a destructive factor to the future of this city. That is, the city lacks in facilities that are advanced enough to satisfy the modern people - particularly a golf course. The recent rapid development of the international traffic facilities has greatly shortened the distance of the world, resulting in the increase of tourists who make their trip with less expense and time than before. This tendency is naturally causing general decrease of the period of stay of these tourists. And, to cope with this tendency. It has become absolutely necessary to have a golf course that is attractive enough to detain even a casual visitor to this city. We believe that this matter is not only of great concern to Kyoto, but it also has an important bearing upon such satellite cities as Nara, Osaka and Kobe, and it is our wish to submit this belief of ours to your sound judgment.

Lastly, we should like to mention a few words on the important role Kyoto is expected to assume with the arrival of American and other foreign businessmen. How to welcome these people is our great concern. And we believe that these persons will most probably place their base of business and recreation in Kyoto. To provide these persons with wholesome, tasteful recreational facilities will doubtlessly surpass any bombastic publicity in showing our good will with effect. It will be our great pleasure if we can attract foreign tourists from all parts of the world with these facilities and contribute to the rehabilitation of this country.

With sincere gratitude for your Excellency's tolerance in reading this lengthy letter and praying for your Excellency's good health.

We remain, your Excellency, yours faithfully,

KANEKI HATSUJI, President
Kyoto Tourist Facilities
Developing Committee

Representing the following as the members of the Committee:

Kozo Miyabe, Director
Japan Tourist Bureau
Kyoto Branch

Jinichiro Nakabayashi,
Vice-President
Kyoto Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Akira Kikuchi, Chief
Kinki Civil Engineering Branch

Suichiro Nakano, President
Kyoto Chamber of Commerce & Industry

Moritsugu Iwai, President
Kyoto Trade Association

Tokuji Kamiuchi, Chief
Kyoto Pref. General Affairs Dept.

Yoshijiro Ishikawa, President
Kyoto-Fukushiyama Electric Line Co.

Ukyo Shiraishi, President
Kyoto Newspaper

Yosuke Suzuki, President
Shimazu Co.

Shuzo Miwa
Shotaro Nakamura
Chairman of Kyoto Pref. Assembly

Yasuhiko Kuroda, President
Yasuda Bank, Kyoto Branch

Shiro Otagaki, President
Kyoto-Osaka Electric Line Co.

Kunio Fukui, President
Nara Electric Line Co.

Tojiro Takegami, President
International Tourist Co., Ltd.

Shiga Matsudaira, Chief Priest
Kamikamo Shrine

Risaburo Torigai, President
Kyoto Imperial University

Toranosuke Ogata, Chief
Kyoto Pref. Engineering Dept.

Sakae Taibara, Chief
Kyoto City Engineering Bureau

Haruichi Okura
Yoshijiro Tomiyori
Chairman of Kyoto Municipal Assembly

Jiro Takegawa, Chief
Kyoto Pref. Forestry Station

Senshara Hashimoto, Chief
Osaka Financial Bureau
National Property Dept.

Hitoshi Kihara, President
Kyoto Physical Training Association

Genyu Nakatani, Chief
General Affairs Dept.
Higashi Honganji Temple

Advisors to the Committee

Atsushi Nimura, Governor
Kyoto Prefecture

Masao Kanbe, Mayor
Kyoto City

Moritake Yoshioka, Chief
Kyoto Liaison Office

618.2 -
Kamigamo
Golf Course
Project

KYOTO MILITARY GOVERNMENT TEAM
APO 713 (Kyoto, Honshu)

HCS/LH
10 January 1947

Kansai Construction Engineering Commission
(Kansai Kensetsu Gijutsu Unei Iinkai)
Osaka, Japan

Gentlemen:

You are thoroughly familiar with the attached information concerning the Kamigamo Golf Course Project for Kyoto. There is also attached hereto an estimate compiled from figures furnished by Kajimagumi and Shiraishi Foundation, showing an estimated total cost of some 98 million yen. It is to be observed that these figures are based on the employment of common laborers, at a salary of 100 yen per day and no use whatsoever of mechanical equipment.

In view of the recent directive to the Imperial Japanese Government, from SCAP, SCAPIN 1430, subject, Expenditures, dated 30 December 1946, it is believed that the project could be completed at one-half or less of the above estimated cost, with the employment of labor at a reasonable figure and with the help of such mechanical equipment as can be obtained.

Inasmuch as the largest part of the cost of this project is for labor expense and since a negligible amount of materials are involved, this project would be a very worthly one for benefiting the economy of the entire Kansai District, as well as the Kyoto area. As I have stated before, the employment of labor on this project would go a long way toward alleviating the unemployment in this area.

It is suggested that a study be made to determine a more accurate estimate of the cost of this project, in view of the above reconsiderations.

Very truly yours

HAROLD C. SHEFFIELD
Major, QMC
Commanding

3 Incls.
Incl. 1 - Kamigamo Golf Course Proj.
2 - Estimate of Expenditures
3 - SCAPIN 1430