

OPEN FILE 84-14

ESTIMATED OIL AND GAS RESERVES FOR MESA COUNTY, COLORADO

Compiled by
A. H. Scanlon

Funded by the Department of Local Affairs--
Division of Commerce and Development



Colorado Geological Survey
Department of Natural Resources
State of Colorado
Denver, Colorado
1964

OPEN FILE 84-14

ESTIMATED OIL AND GAS RESERVES FOR MESA COUNTY, COLORADO

Compiled by
A. H. Scanlon

Funded by the Department of Local Affairs--
Division of Commerce and Development



Colorado Geological Survey
Department of Natural Resources
State of Colorado
Denver, Colorado
1984

Acknowledgments

I would like to thank the staff of the Colorado Oil & Gas Conservation Commission (C.O.G.C.C.) who provided considerable assistance during the course of this compilation, and the staff of the Colorado Geological Survey, who assisted in the manuscript preparation.

However, I assume full responsibility for any errors or omissions in these tabulations. Users of this OPEN-FILE REPORT could provide a significant service if they would inform the Colorado Geological Survey of any misinformation or omissions.

This project was completed by the staff of the Colorado Geological Survey as part of a grant from the Department of Local Affairs - Division of Commerce and Development.

A. H. Scanlon
Senior Geologist

Contents

	<u>Page</u>
Introduction	1
Method of Approach.....	3
Oil Reserve Calculations	3
Gas Reserve Calculations	3
Results	4
Reference List	9

Tables

Table I Reserve Data for Mesa County	5
--	---

Figures

Fig 1. County Location Map	2
----------------------------------	---

Appendix I- Field-Horizon Historical Production Decline Curves for Mesa County	10
--	----

ESTIMATED OIL AND GAS RESERVES FOR MESA COUNTY, COLORADO

Introduction

This report is the twelfth* in a series of oil and gas reserve investigations undertaken for those counties in which oil and/or gas is currently being produced.

This study involves Mesa County, located on the central western edge of Colorado, partially bordering the Piceance Basin. Mesa County covers 3,334 square miles. In this county, oil and/or gas are produced from, in descending order of age, the Rollins Sandstone, Cozette Sandstone, Corcoran Sandstone, Mesaverde Sandstone, Frontier Sandstone, Mancos Shale, Dakota Sandstone, Buckhorn Sandstone, Cedar Mountain Shale, Morrison Sandstone, Saltwash Sandstone, and Entrada Sandstone.

There are 23 fields considered active producers as of December 31, 1983. Of these, one is classified as an oil field (based on cumulative gas-oil ratio (GOR) of <15:1), and the remaining 22 are classified as gas fields (based on cumulative GOR >15:1).

* Refer to:

- OPEN-FILE REPORT 84-3: Estimated Oil and Gas Reserves for Washington County, Colorado;
- OPEN-FILE REPORT 84-4: Estimated Oil and Gas Reserves for Rio Blanco County, Colorado.
- OPEN-FILE REPORT 84-5: Estimated Oil and Gas Reserves for Adams County, Colorado;
- OPEN-FILE REPORT 84-6: Estimated Oil and Gas Reserves for Weld County, Colorado;
- OPEN-FILE REPORT 84-7: Estimated Oil and Gas Reserves for Arapahoe County, Colorado;
- OPEN-FILE REPORT 84-8: Estimated Oil and Gas Reserves for Baca County, Colorado.
- OPEN-FILE REPORT 84-9: Estimated Oil and Gas Reserves for Cheyenne County, Colorado.
- OPEN-FILE REPORT 84-10: Estimated Oil and Gas Reserves for Garfield County, Colorado;
- OPEN-FILE REPORT 84-11: Estimated Oil and Gas Reserves for La Plata County, Colorado;
- OPEN-FILE REPORT 84-12: Estimated Oil and Gas Reserves for Moffat County, Colorado; and
- OPEN-FILE REPORT 84-13: Estimated Oil and Gas Reserves for Elbert County, Colorado.

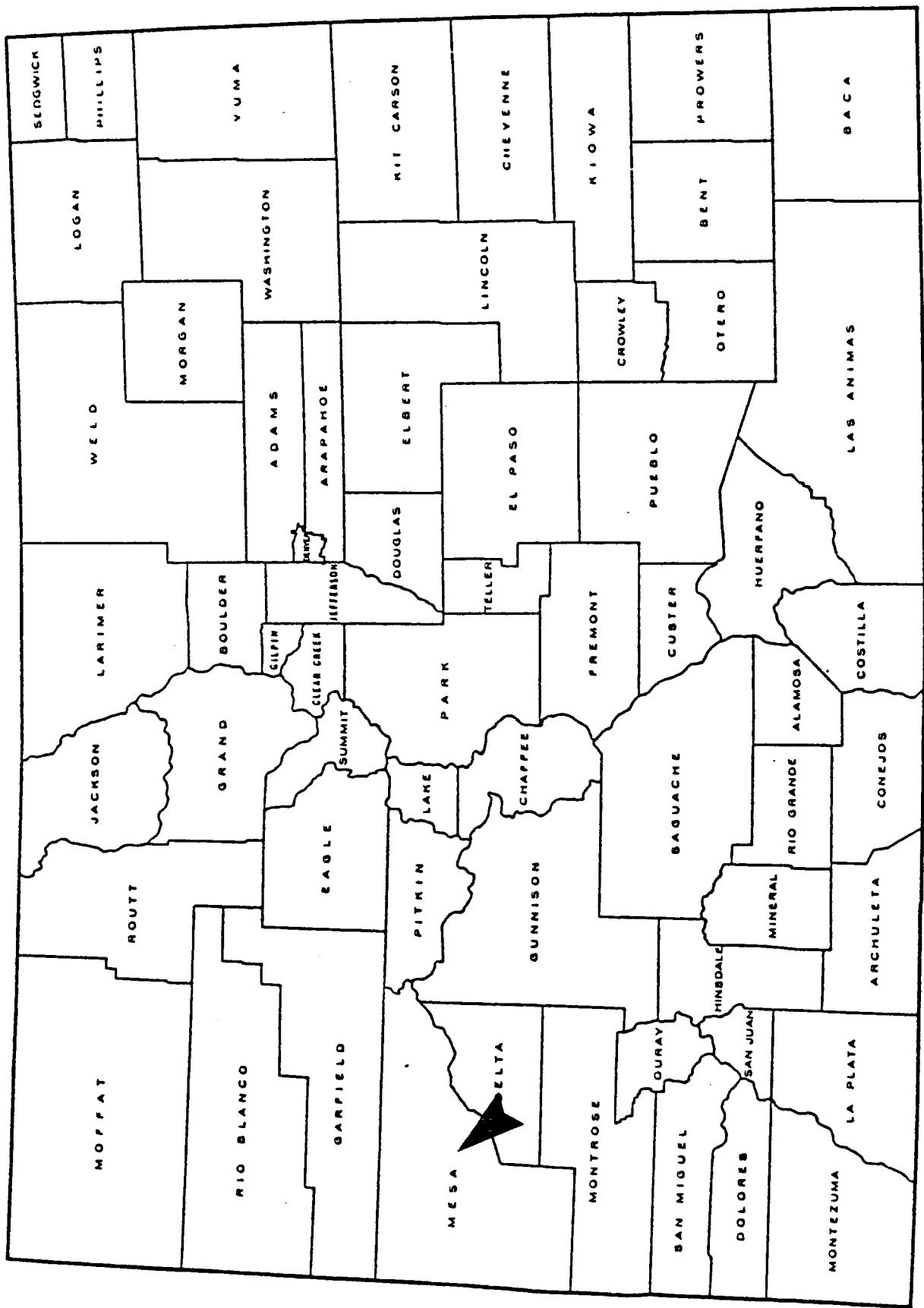


Figure 1. County Location Map

Method of Approach

Production decline curves are plotted for each currently producing horizon within each field, hereafter referred to as a field-horizon. There are 36 production decline curves plotted, one for each field-horizon. Production data were obtained from the C.O.G.C.C. annual production books. These books contain records of yearly production data, dating back to 1952. All production decline curves are plotted as rate (annual production in barrels of oil or MCF of gas) versus time (in years). The rate scale was adjusted to accommodate each field-horizon.

Oil Reserve Calculations

There is one oil field-horizon. This field-horizon, the White Water-Dakota, has only produced in 1982 and 1983. This short production history does not allow for a decline rate to be inferred, therefore no reserve estimates were made for this field. Several gas field-horizons have associated oil production. Only one of these (Bar X-Dakota/Morrison/Saltwash) has a long enough production history to obtain a reasonable decline rate. This decline rate was applied to the equation:

$$Rr = \frac{q_1 - q_f}{-\ln(1-dy)}$$

where: Rr = remaining reserves

q₁ = current annual production

q_f = final economic production rate
(see note below.)

-ln = negative natural log

dy = yearly decline rate (in percent)

The ultimate recoverable was then determined by adding the estimated reserves to the cumulative production. These values are listed in Table I.

Note: the final economic production rate used was one barrel of oil per day per well, for one year; therefore 365 barrels, multiplied by the number of wells needed to keep field production economic. In most cases this was one well. The number of wells used was determined at the discretion of the author.

For associated gas production, estimated reserves were calculated in the same manner as that described in the Gas Reserve Calculations section.

Gas Reserve Calculations

There are 35 gas field-horizons. Production histories have allowed for decline rates to be calculated for 8 of these. The remaining 27 gas field-horizons have not produced for a long enough time (less than 5 years) to determine reliable decline rates. Decline rates were determined for the previously mentioned 8 gas field-horizons (see Table I), and applied to the equation:

$$S = \frac{a(1-r^n)}{1-r}$$

Where: S = gas reserves

a = current annual gas production

r = (1-dy) where dy = annual decline rate

n = number of years -- 20 years was used
in all cases except where noted in
the remarks column of Table I.

Results can be found in Table I.

For the associated oil production, there this production was significant, the same method to determine estimated oil reserves was used, as discussed in the previous section. Whether oil production was considered significant or not was determined by the author. In all cases, if oil production indicated any kind of trend, reserves were calculated. A few cases arose where oil production, though a trend was indicated, did not exceed the economic limit (as discussed previously) of one barrel of oil per day per year, and therefore no reserve estimate was calculated, or an economic limit of zero was used.

Results

The following figures are for those field-horizons for which reserves could be calculated. Estimated oil reserves for Mesa County totaled 4,230 barrels, from Bar X-Dakota/Morrison/Saltwash Production. Estimated gas reserves for Mesa County totaled 46,360,284 MCF. Note that the gas reserve calculations are based on a 20-year projection, therefore they do not account for gas production after the year 2003.

These figures also do not account for production increases due to secondary and/or tertiary recovery not already in progress, or account for undiscovered reserves, nor do they reflect changes in economics or demand.

In six to seven years, roughly half of the estimated oil reserves in Mesa County will have been produced. Roughly one half of the estimated gas reserves for the next 20-year period are expected to be produced in seven to eight years.

In this county there are two classes of field-horizons: I) those with a long enough production history to calculate reserves with confidence, and II) those new field-horizons with essentially no production history, or for other reasons, reserves cannot be calculated.

To be able to calculate total county oil and gas reserves, it was necessary to apply the overall decline rates (11.4 percent per year for oil and 6.1 percent per year for gas) obtained from class I field-horizons to the current production from Class II field-horizons.

Using this approach on current production from Class II field-horizons (4,029 Bbls. of oil and 3,208,555 MCF of gas) additional reserves of 33,287 Bbls. of oil and 37,661,295 MCF of gas were obtained. This gives total county reserves (Class I and II) of 37,517 Bbls. of oil and 84,021,579 MCF of gas.

To insure that the reserve figures calculated for Class II are reasonable using this method, a comparison was made between the sources (producing horizons) of the Class I and Class II field-horizons. It was determined that there were significant differences in the sources of the gas production for the two groups. So many Class II field-horizons began producing within the last five years, it is difficult to apply the Class I decline rate to the Class II production with confidence. The reserve figures for Class II field-horizons are considered quite optimistic.

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS USED IN TABLE OF RESERVE DATA

'a'	annual gas production
ABD.	abandoned
Approx.	approximate, approximately
Avg.	average, averaged
Bbls.	barrels
B.W.E.	Bottom Water Encroachment
calc.	calculate, calculated
Co.(s)	county (counties)
cond.	condensate
ck.	Creek
Cum.	cumulative
Dak.	Dakota Sandstone
Deplet.	Depletion
dy	annual decline rate
Econ.	Economic
Est.	Estimated
Exp.	Expansion
g	gas
Gas Exp.	Gas Expansion
G.C.E.	Gas Cap Expansion
G.E.	Gas Expansion
GOR	Gas-Oil Ratio
Inc.	Increase, increasing, increased
Inj.	Injection, injected
Lmted.	Limited
MCF	Thousand cubic feet
Miss.	Mississippian
Mos.	Months
Mtn.	Mountain
N	North
N.P.	New Production or less than five years production, therefore, no reliable annual decline rate could be calculated to apply to the equations to calculate reserves.
No.	number, numbers, North
o	oil
P and A	Plug (ged) and Abandon (ed)
Poss.	Possible
Prod.	Production, produced
Proj.	Projection, projected
q	current annual production of oil
qf	final economic production of oil
react.	reactivated
Rr	Remaining reserves-oil
S	Remaining reserves-gas
S.G.D.	Solution Gas Drive
S.I.(SI)	Shut-in
So	South
W	West
W.D.	Water Drive
Yr or Yrs	Year or years

TABLE I
OPEN FILE 84-14
RESERVE DATA FOR MESA COUNTY

FIELD NAME/ PRODUCING HORIZON	LOCATION	DATE OF DISCOVERY	TYPE OF DRIVE	DY	CUMULATIVE PRODUCTION 12/31/83	ESTIMATED RESERVES	ULTIMATE RECOVERABLE	REMARKS
					OIL (Bbls.) (1)Condensate (Bbls.)	OIL (Bbls.) GAS (MCF)	OIL (Bbls.) GAS (MCF) (1)Condensate (Bbls.)	
1. Bar X/Entrada	8S-104W	1953	W. D.		(598)	1,172,527	Prod. '80; '81-'82; SI '83. N.P.	
2. Bar X/Dakota- Morrison-Saltwash	8S-104W	1953	Depletion	11.4 -0 3.8 -g	21,978	4,617,169	4,230	1,224,110
3. Bar X/Morrison	8S-104W	1953			1,511	493,513	0	26,208
4. Bronco Flats/ Cedar Mountain	9S-99W	1979			155,919		Prod. '79-'83	5,841,279
5. Bronco Flats/ Dakota	9S-99W	1979			523,131		N.P.	
6. Bronco Flats/ Dakota-Morrison	9S-99W	1979			676,049		" N.P.	
7. Buzzard/Mesa- Verde-Cozette- Corcoran	9S-94W	1958		10.9 -g	1,577,036	451,710		2,028,746
8. Buzzard Creek/ Cozette-Corcoran	9S-93W	1955	Gas		49,600		Prod. '81- '83. N.P.	
9. Buzzard Creek/ Mesaverde	9S-93W	1955	Gas		4,873,749	2,178,269	7,052,018	
10. Cameo/Dakota	9S-99W	1961	Gas Exp.	3.5 -g	143,311		Prod. 1961, 1982-'83.	
11. Coal Gulch/ Dakota	8S-101W	1966			33,016		N.P.	
12. Coal Gulch/ Mesaverde	8S-101W	1966			139,429		Prod. 1983 N.P.	252,872
13. Coon Hollow/ Mesaverde	8S-98W	1958	W. D. & Gas Exp.	7.5 -g	188,541			
14. Coon Hollow/ Rollins-Cozette	8S-98W	1958			135,692		Prod. '81- '83. N.P.	
15. Coyote Wash/ Dakota-Morrison	8S-102W	1982			209,415		Prod. '82. '83. N.P.	
16. DeBeque/ Mesaverde	8S-97W	1902			423,271		N.P.	
17. Divide Creek/ Mesaverde	8S-91W	1956	Gas Exp.	5.0 -g	46,080,307	13,027,983	Prod. 1980- 1983. N.P.	59,108,290
18. Hancock Gulch/ Dakota	8S-99W	1979			5,537		Prod. in Garfield Co. '83. N.P.	

OPEN FILE 84-14
MESA COUNTY

FIELD NAME/ PRODUCING HORIZON	LOCATION	DATE OF DISCOVERY	TYPE OF DRIVE	By	CUMULATIVE PRODUCTION			ESTIMATED RESERVES	ULTIMATE RECOVERABLE	REMARKS
					OIL (Bbls.)	GAS	MCF			
19. Hunters Canyon/Dakota	8S-100W	1955			371,588				Prod. '81- '83. N.P.	
20. HuntersCanyon/ Mesaverde	8S-100W	1955			2,764,317			4,590,102	7,354,419	Prod. 1982, '83. N.P.
21. Lipan Wash/ Dakota	2N-2W	1973			5.4 -g	(79)	175,520			Tested in 1983. N.P.
22. Peachtree/ Dakota-Morrison	9S-103W	1979					825			Prod. '82, '83. N.P.
23. Persigo Wash/ Buckhorn-Dakota- Morrison-Saltwash	10S-100W	1972				(2)	31,070			
24. Plateau/Mesa- verde-Dakota- Cozette-Corcoran	10S-96W	1958		Gas Exp.	6.9 -g	(2,684)	15,374,820	24,376,623	39,751,443	
25. RobertsCanyon/ Dakota	9S-98W	1960				472,995				
26. Sheep Creek/ Cozette-Corcoran	9S-92W	1958			10.5 -g	66,680				
										Prod. 1963. P and A 10/64; Prod. in 1983; N.P.
27. Shire Gulch/ Corcoran	10S-96W	1960		Gas Exp.			984,629			N.P.
28. Shire Gulch/ Dakota-Morrison	10S-96W	1960					1,903,371 (Dakota Only)	745,061		Prod. 1978-1983. Prod. 1964- '65; P and A 12-65; Prod. 1981-83;
29. Shire Gulch/ Dakota-Frontier	10S-96W	1960						89,688		N.P.
30. Shire Gulch/ Mancos	10S-96W	1960		Gas Exp.			34,257		Prod. 1981- '83. N.P.	Prod. 1980- '83. N.P.
31. Shire Gulch/ Mesaverde	10S-96W	1960					747,366		Prod. 1981- '83. N.P.	Prod. 1981- '83. N.P.

OPEN FILE 84-14
MESA COUNTY

FIELD NAME/ PRODUCING HORIZON	LOCATION	DATE OF DISCOVERY	TYPE OF DRIVE	CUMULATIVE PRODUCTION			ESTIMATED OIL (Bbls.)	RESERVES GAS (MCF)	ULTIMATE RECOVERABLE OIL (Bbls.) GAS (MCF) (Condensate (Bbls.))	REMARKS
				Dy	OIL (Bbls.)	GAS (MCF) (Condensate (Bbls.))				
32. South Canyon/ Dakota	6S-104W	1957	Gas Exp. & W.D.			14,981				Prod. 1981- '83; Also Prod. in Garfield Co. N.P.
33. South Canyon/ Dakota-Morrison	6S-104W	1957			84,787					Prod. '81- '83; Also Prod. in Garfield Co. N.P.
34. Vega/Cozette	10S-93W	1977				189,597				315,575
35. White Water/ Dakota	12S-98W	1974				14.4 -9	1,636	11,637		Prod. '82- '83. N.P.
36. Winter Flats/ Dakota	9S-100W	1982						7,547		Prod. 1982, Book has Est. Prod. for 1983. N.P.
							(thru 12/82)			
COUNTY TOTAL OF ESTIMATED RESERVES										
								4,230 Bbls		
									46,360 ,284 MCF	

Reference List

Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission Production Records and Injected Fluids - Water and/or Gas-File.

Crouch, M.C., III, editor, 1982 Oil and Gas Fields of Colorado, Nebraska and Adjacent Areas: Rocky Mountain Association of Geologists, vols. I and II, 791 pp.

Haun, J.D., Cardwell, A.L., Herrod, W.H. and Cronoble, J.M., 1976. Oil and Gas Reserves of Colorado in Colorado School of Mines Research Institute, Mineral Industries Bulletin, v. 19, #5.

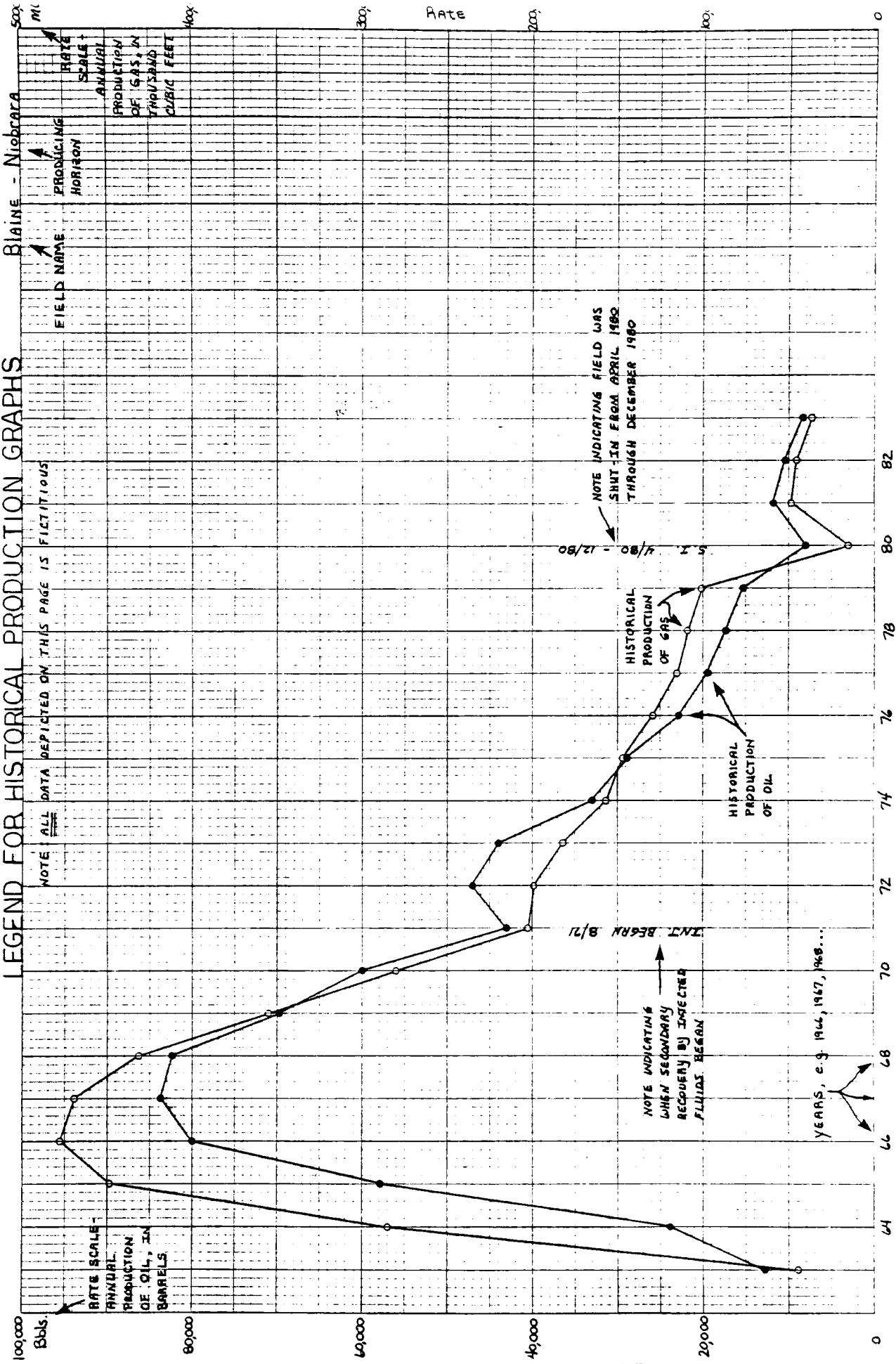
Parker, J.M., editor, 1961 Oil and Gas Field volume: Colorado-Nebraska: Rocky Mountain Association of Geologists, 389 pp.

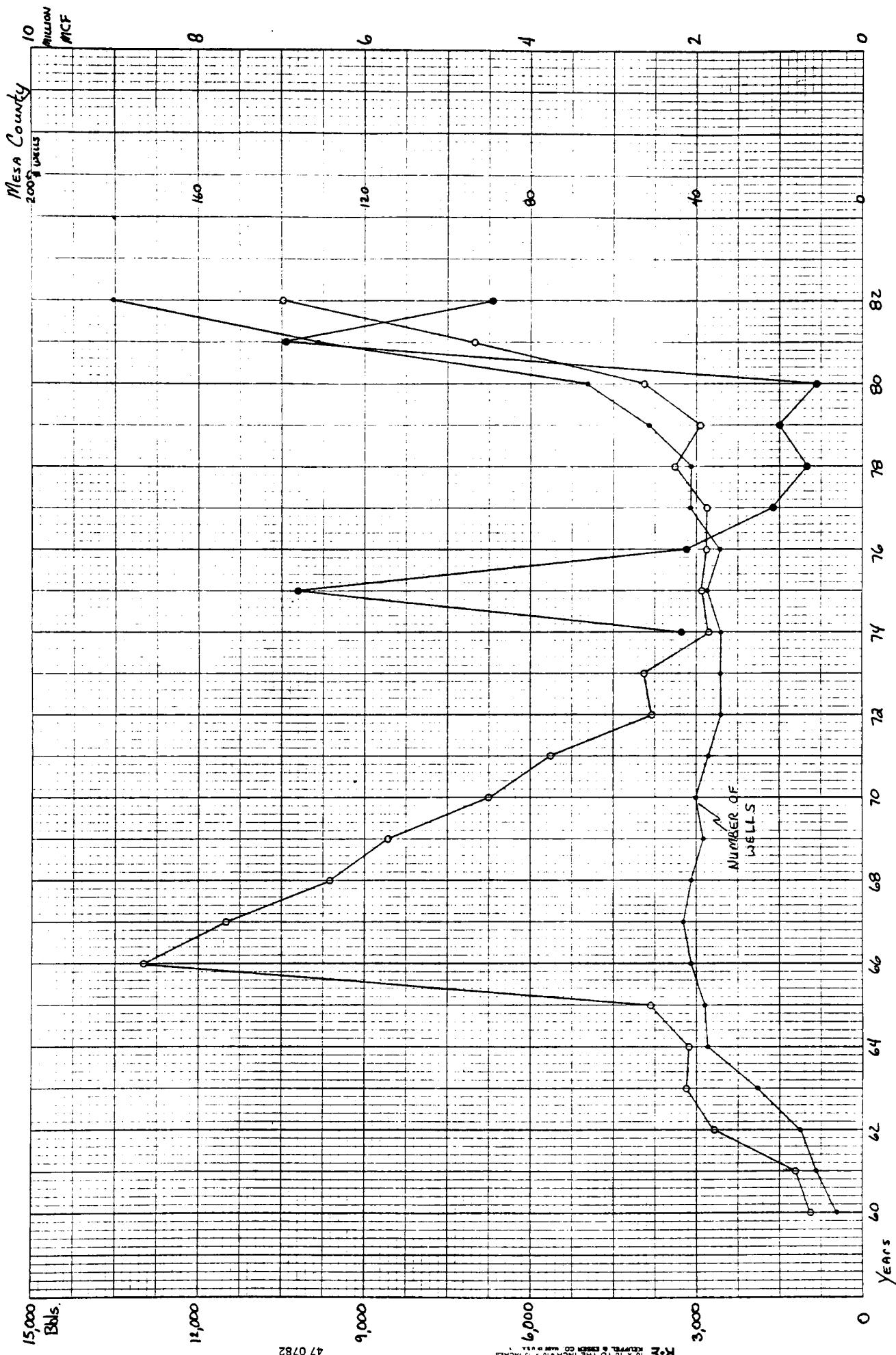
Appendix I

Historical production decline curve graphs for Mesa County. These graphs are presented in alphabetical order by Field name and then by producing horizons within each field.

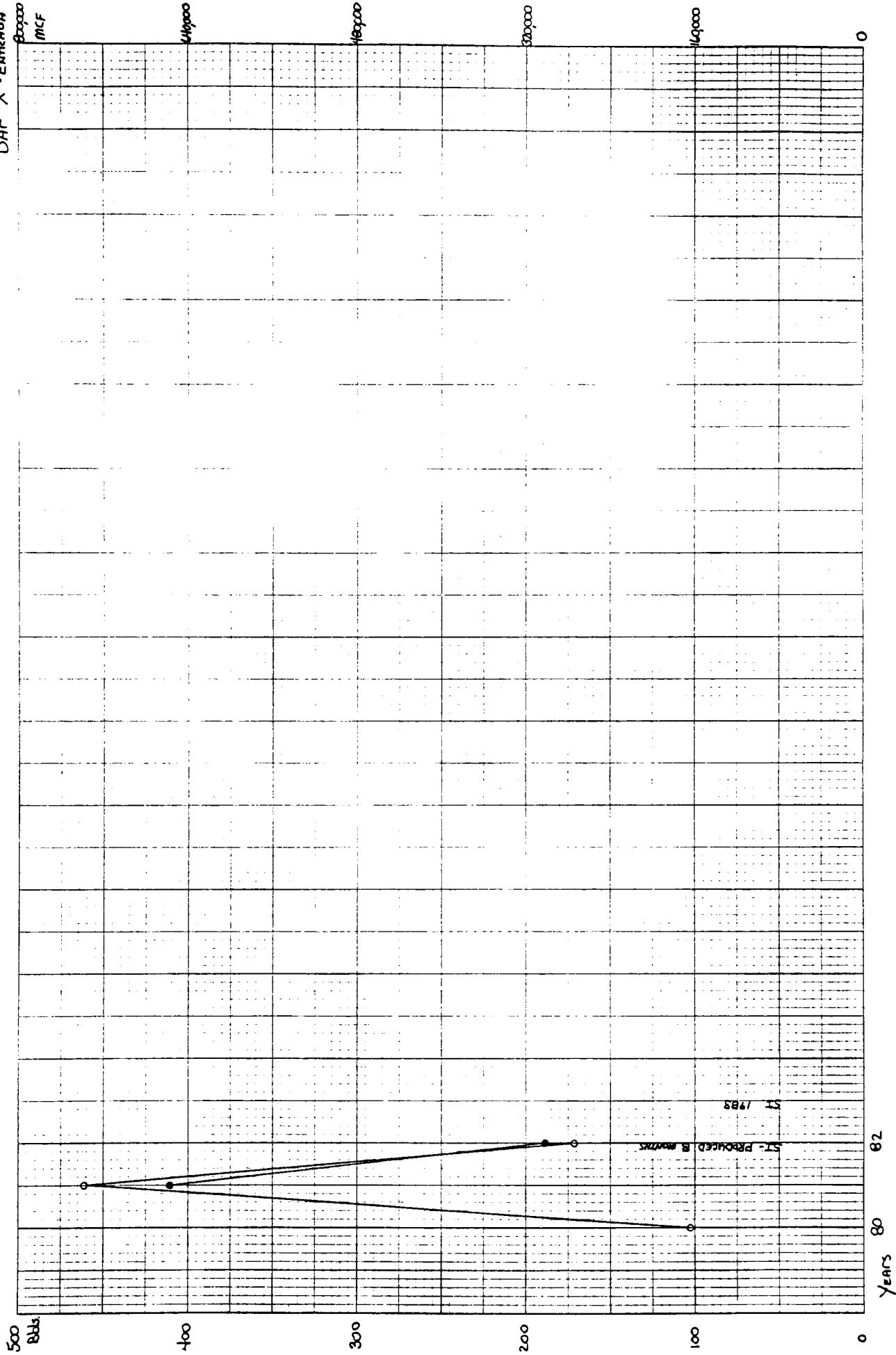
Note that only those fields actively producing as of 12-31-83 are included. Abandoned fields or field-horizons are not included.

LEGEND FOR HISTORICAL PRODUCTION GRAPHS

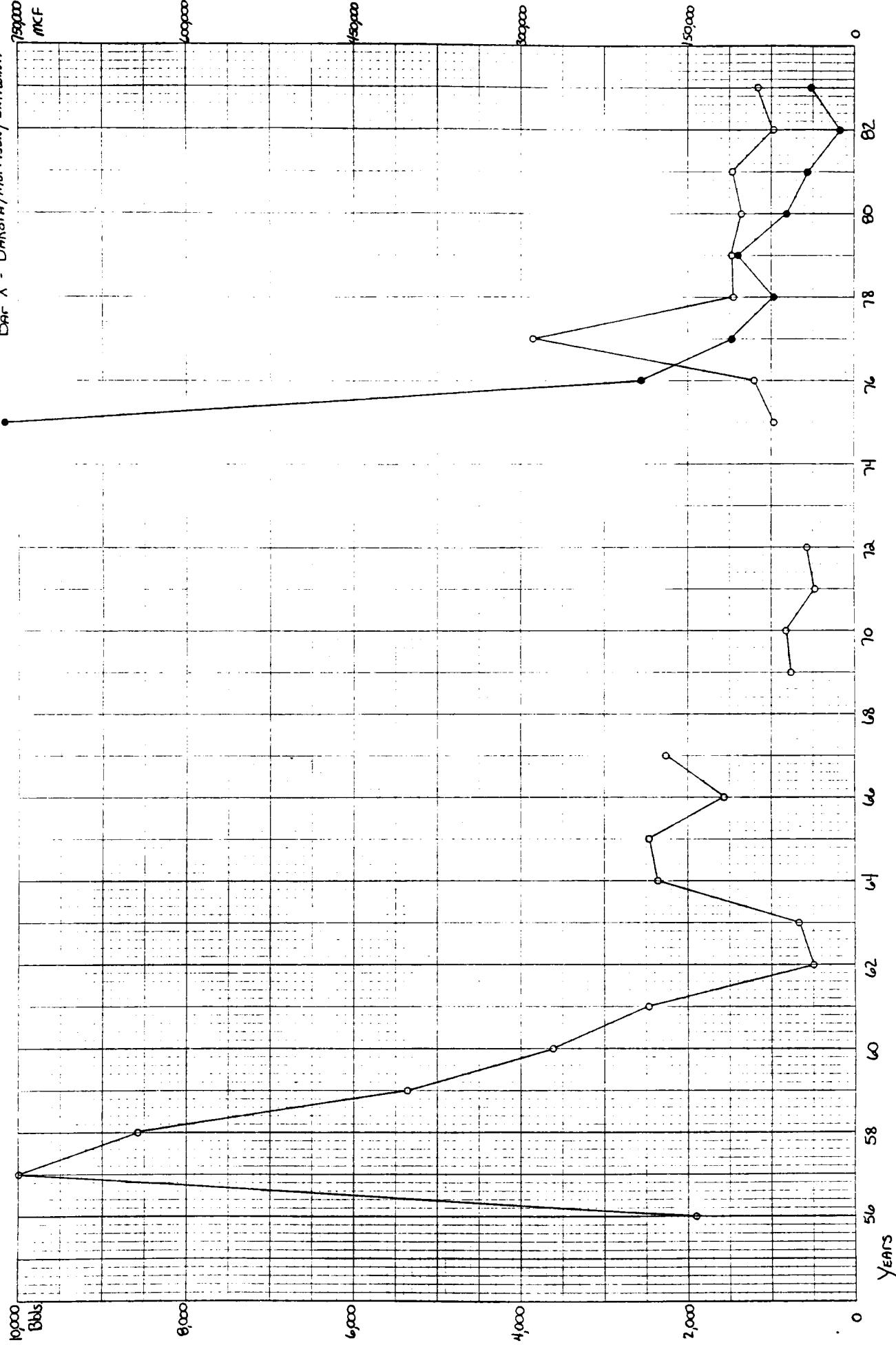




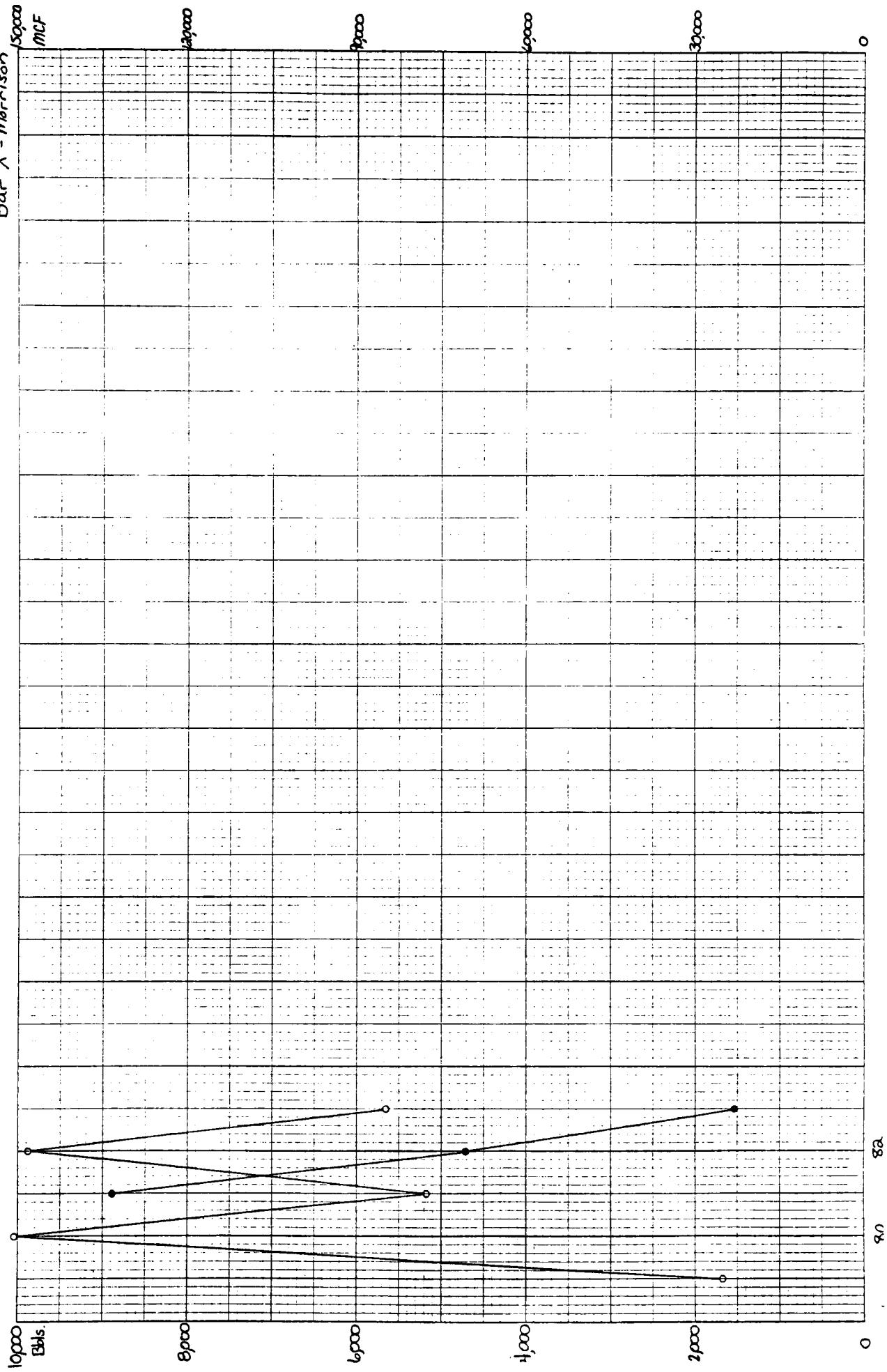
Bar X - Entanda
ft.
mcf



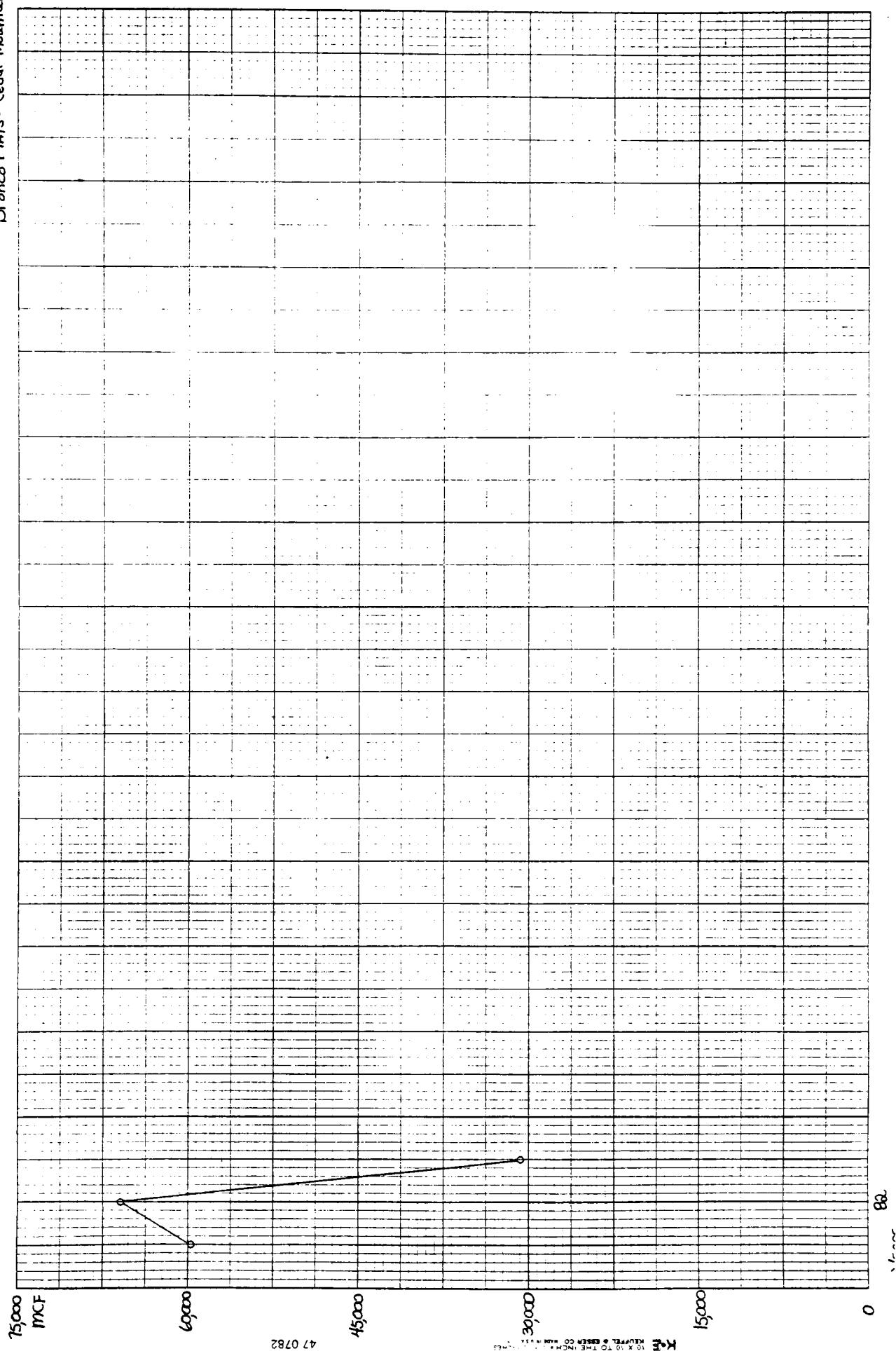
Bar X - Dakota/Morrison/Saltwash
MCF



Bar X - Morrison
mcf



Bronco Flats - Cedar Mountain



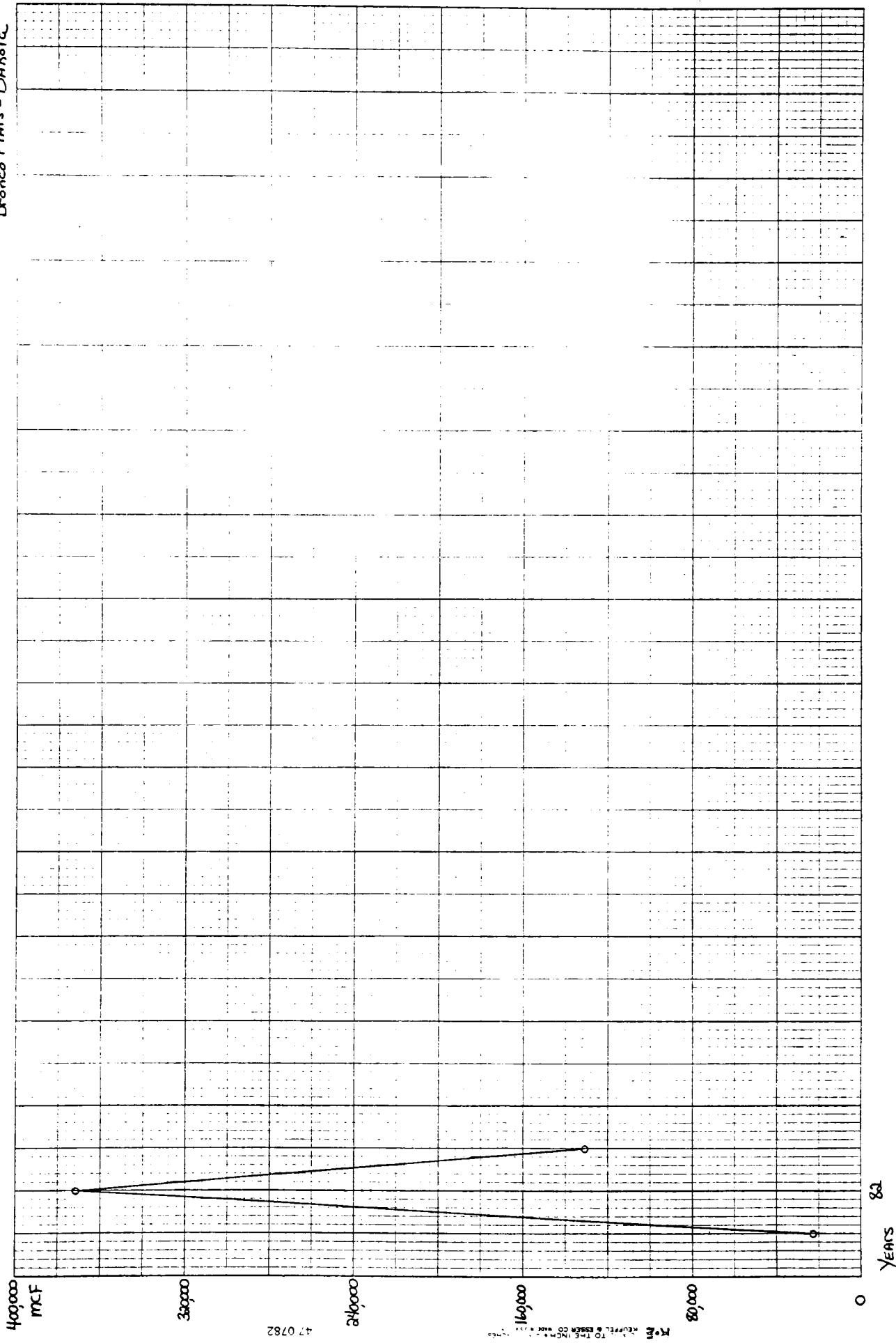
47 0782

47 0783

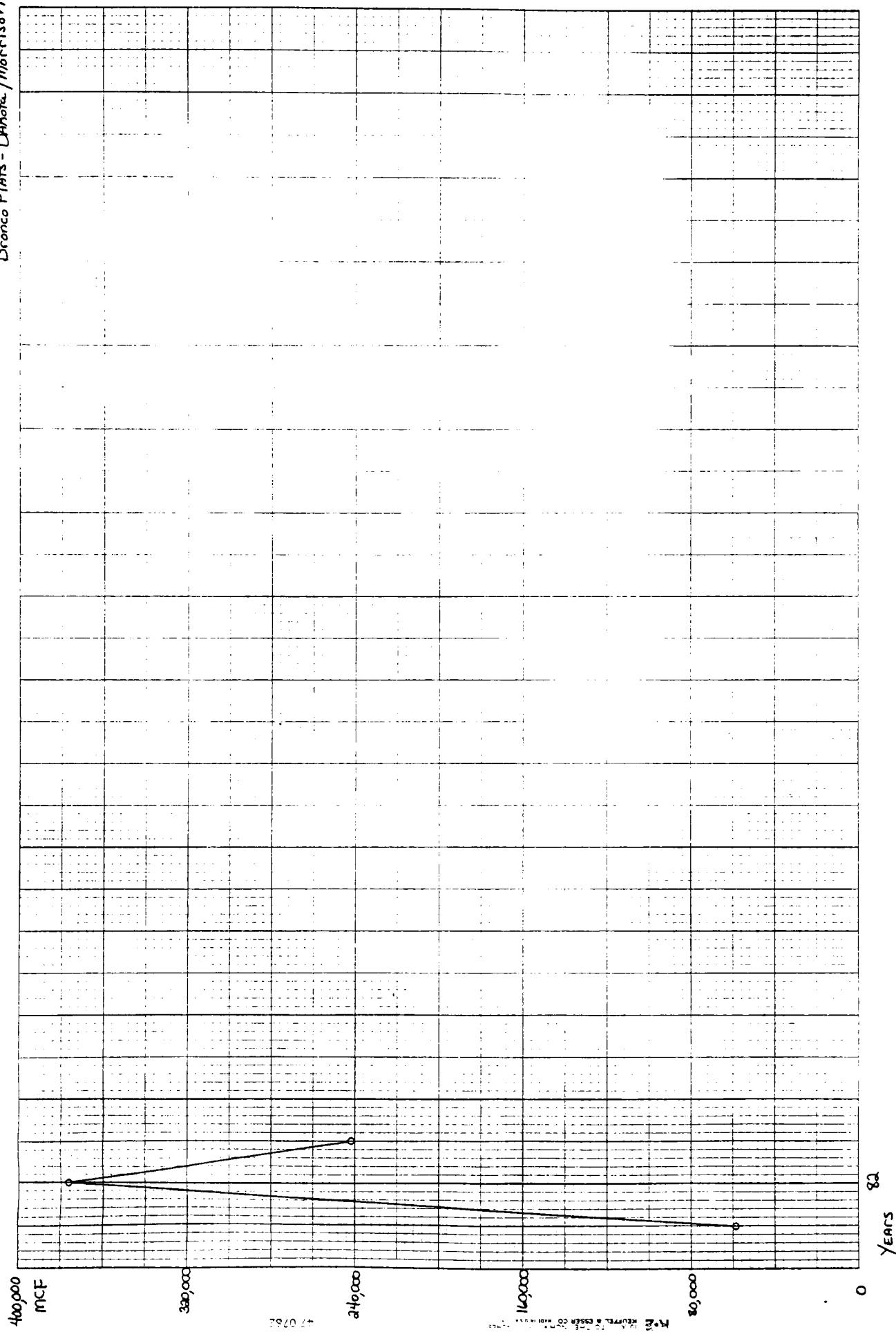
0

47 0782

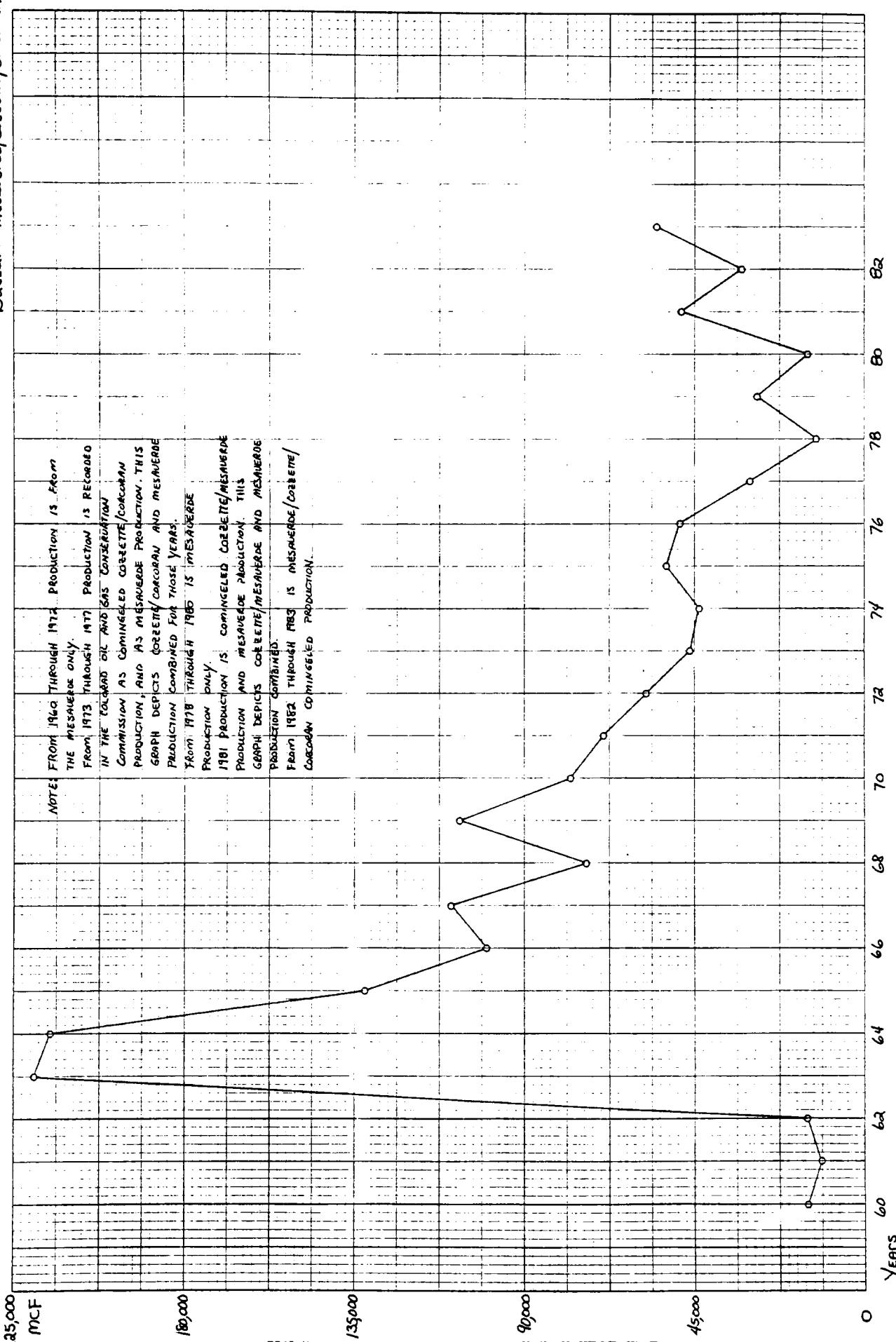
Bronco Flats - Dakota



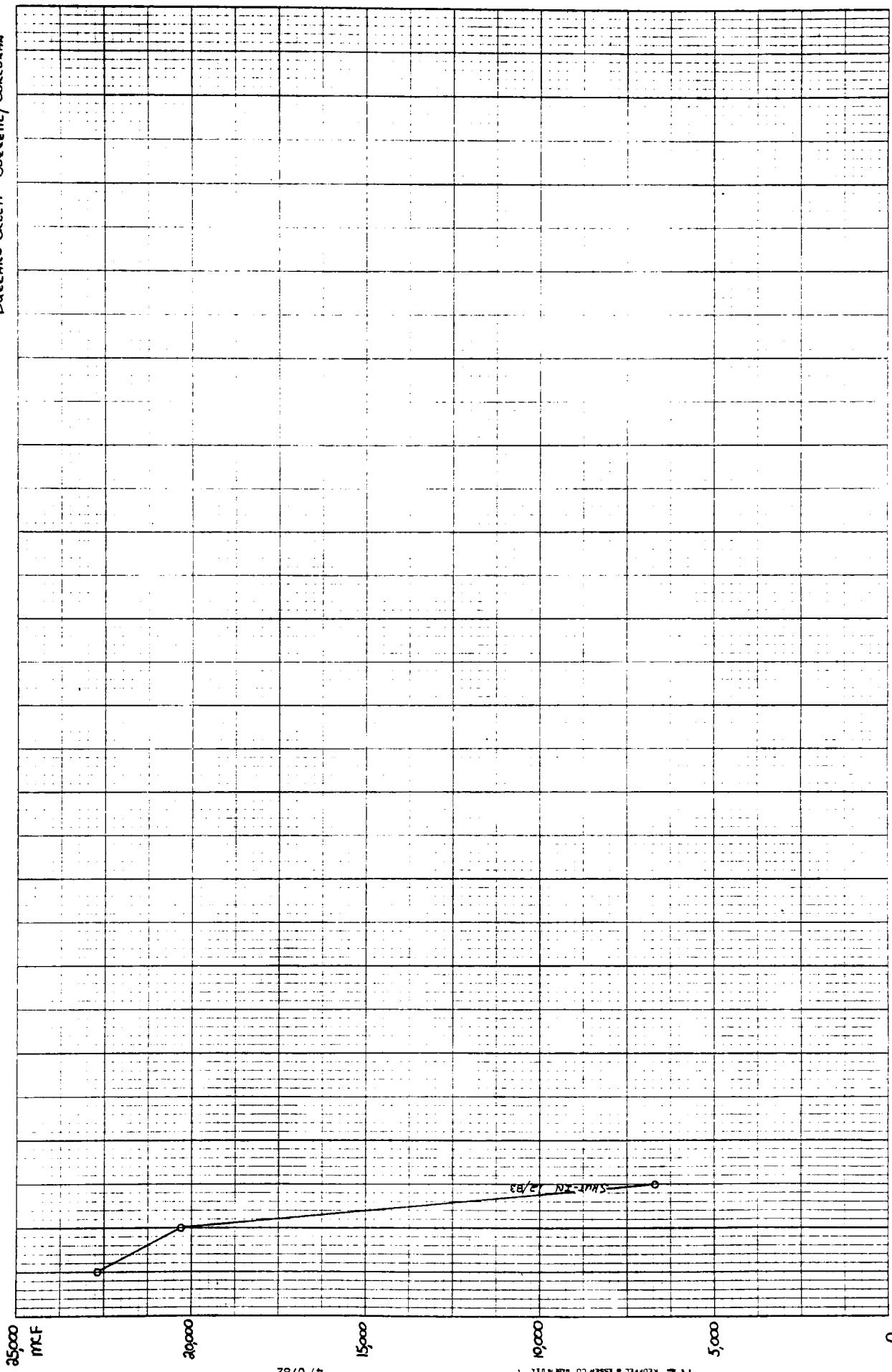
Bronco Flats - Dakota/Morrison



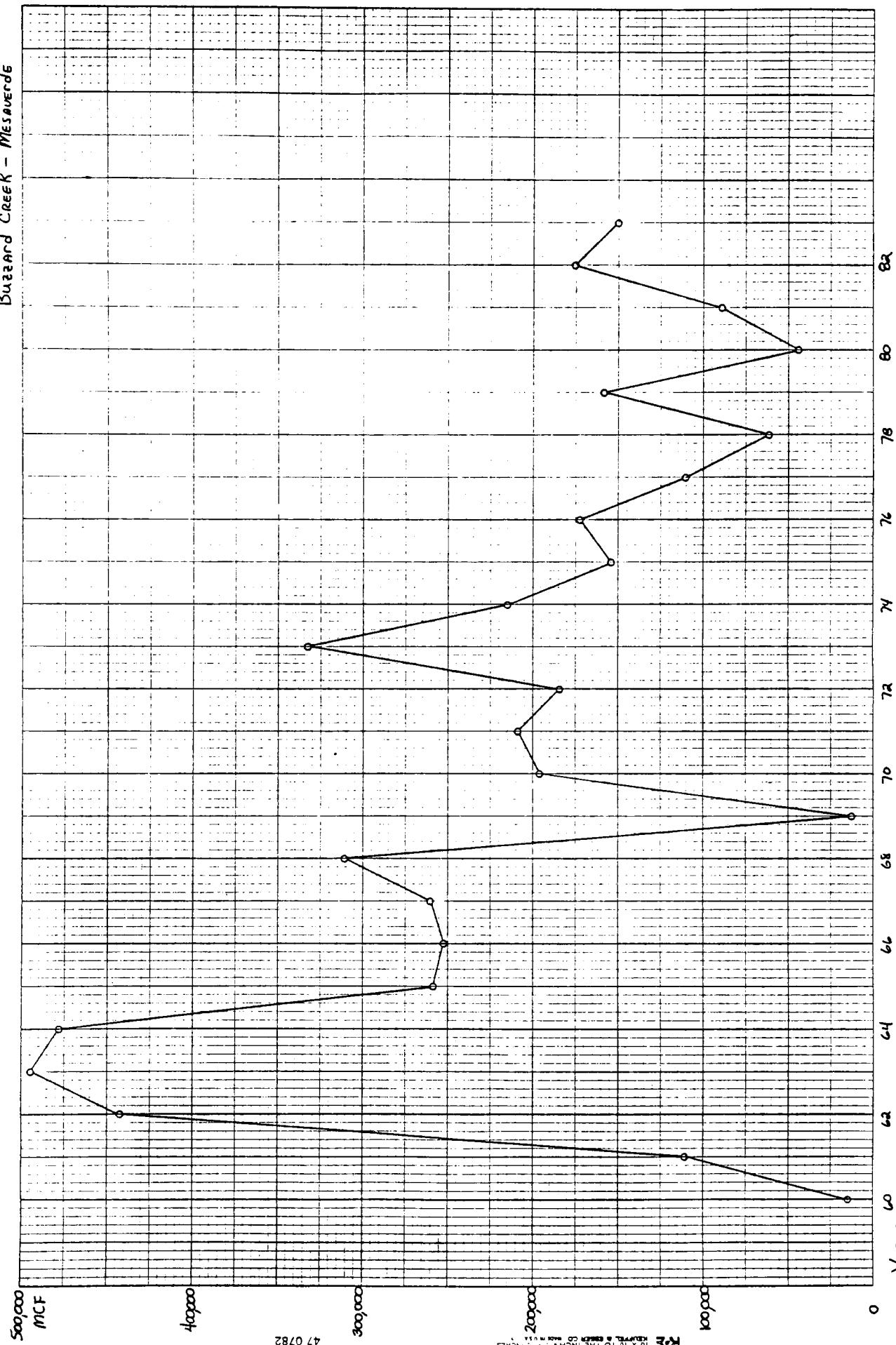
Buzzard - Mesaverde/Corvette/Corcoran



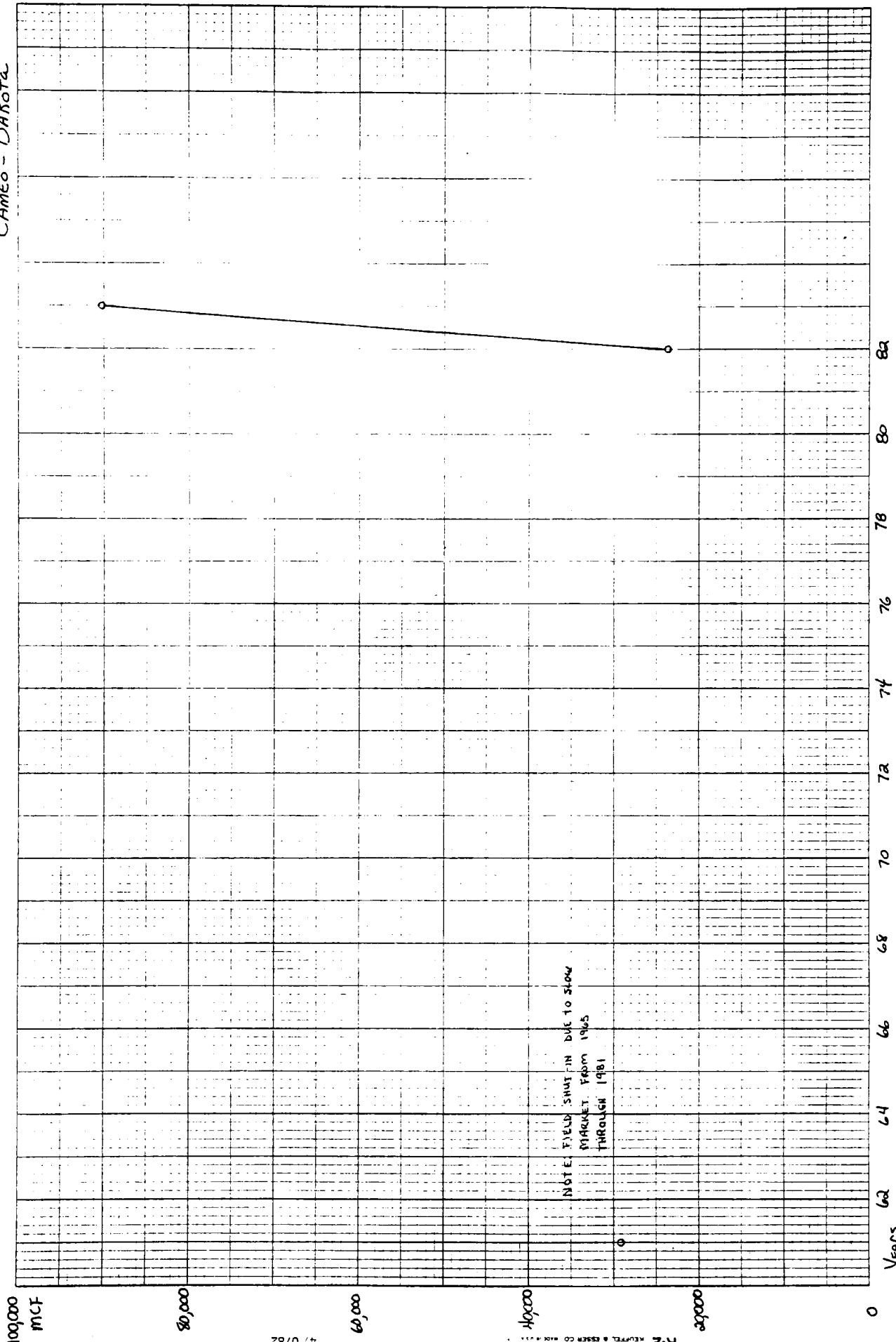
Buzzard Creek - Cozzette / Corcoran



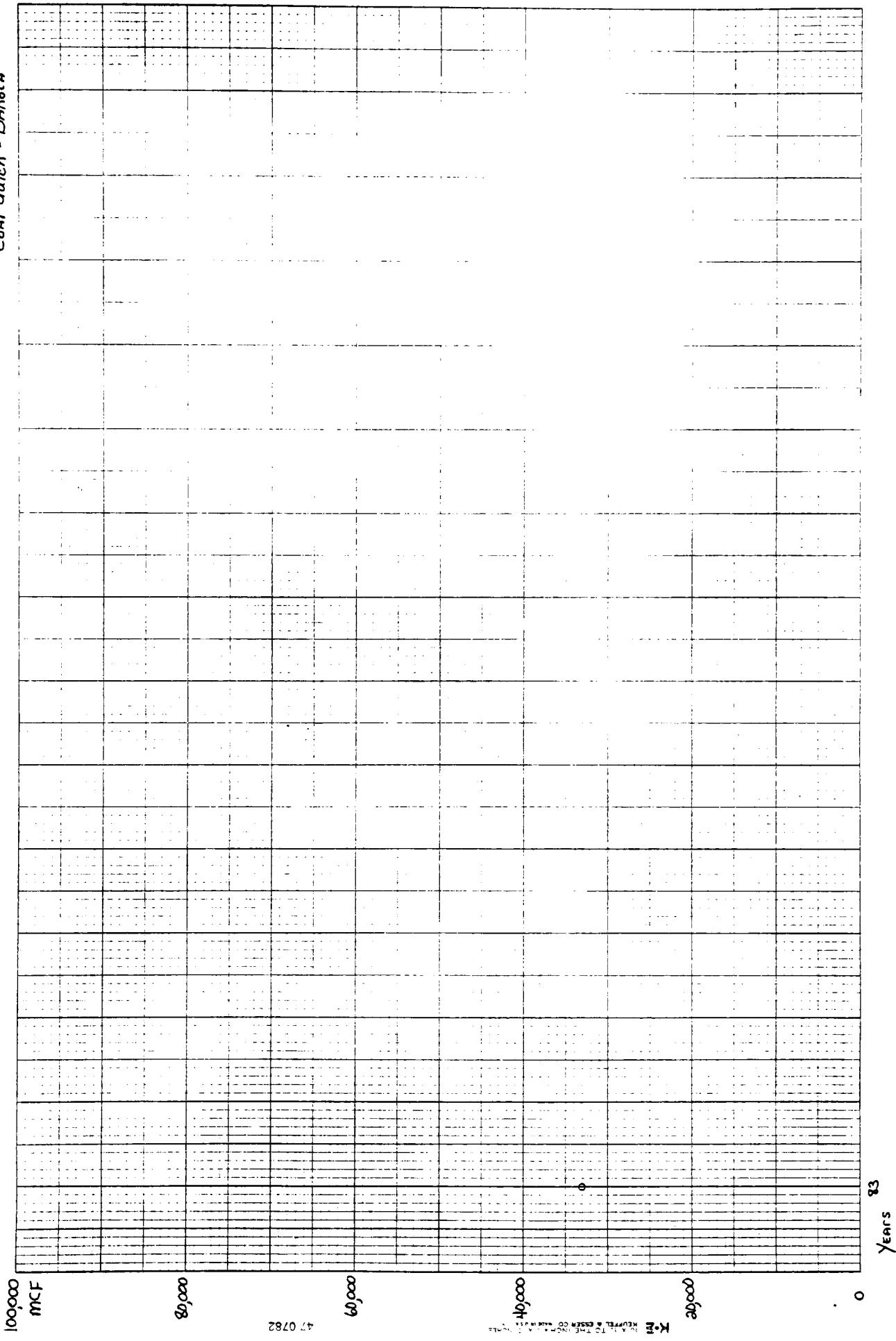
Buzzard Creek - Measured



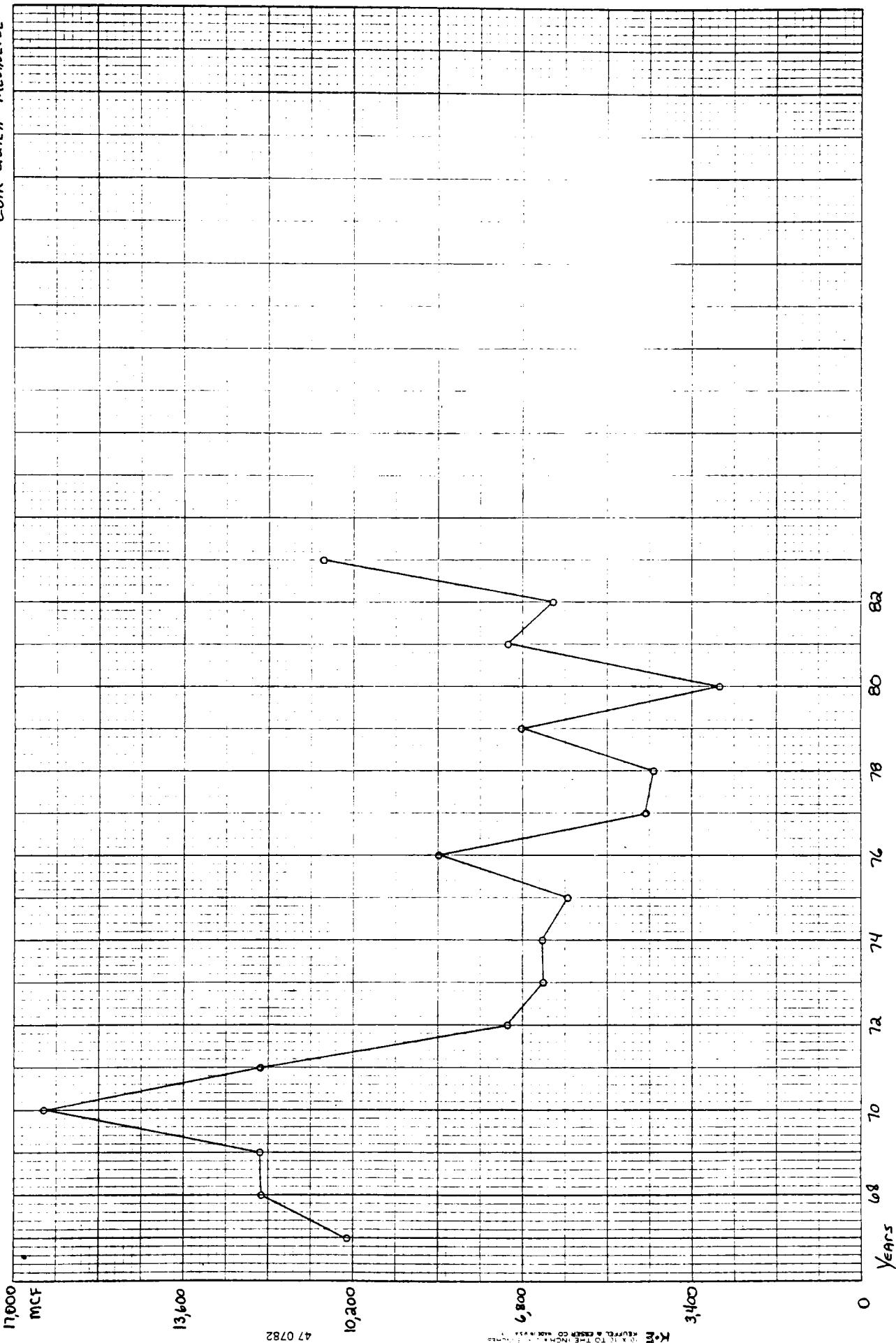
Cameo - Dakota



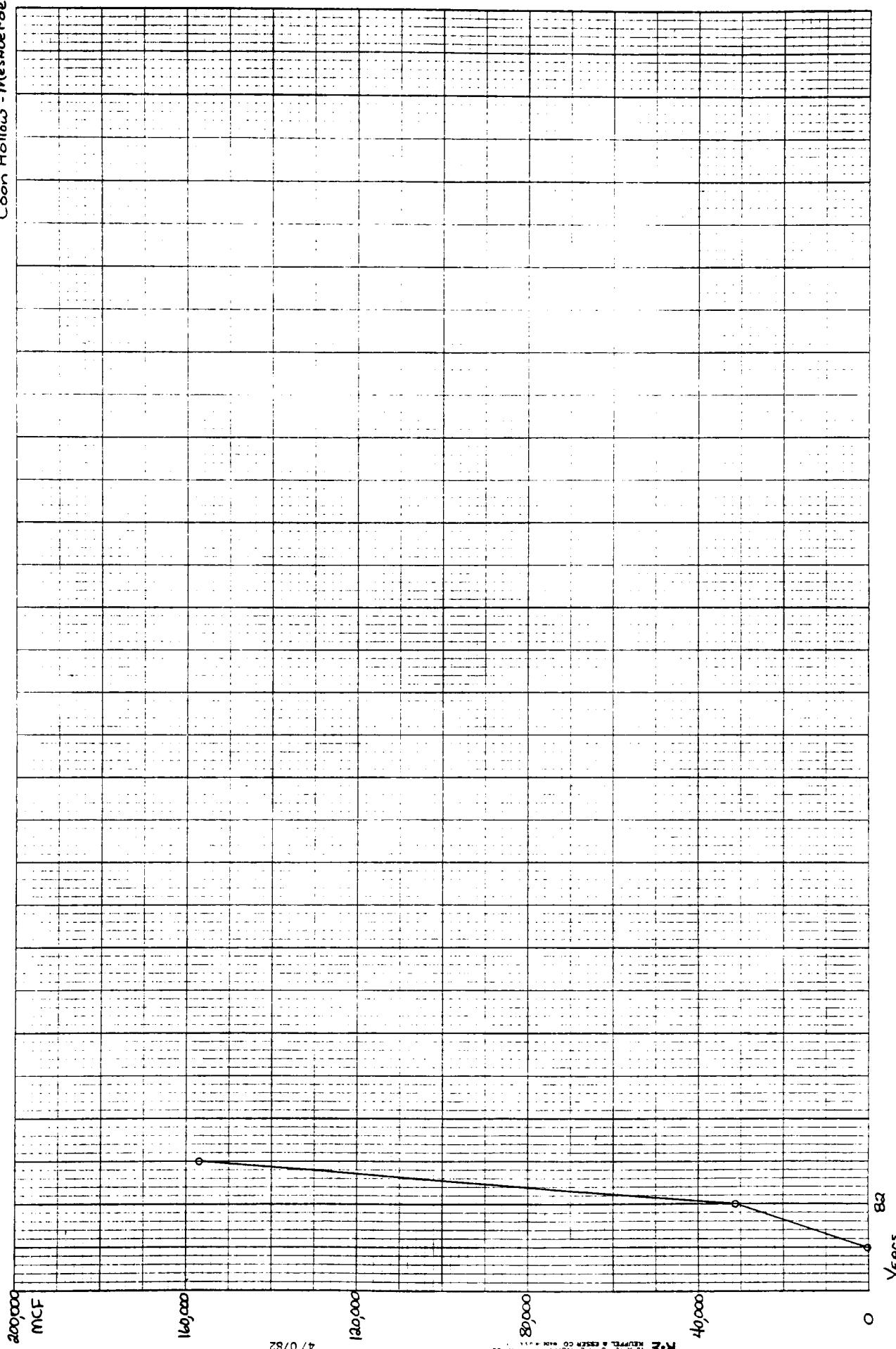
Coal Gulch - Dakota



Coal Gulch - Mesaverde



Coon Hollow - Mesaverde



200,000
MCF

160,000

130,000

80,000

40,000

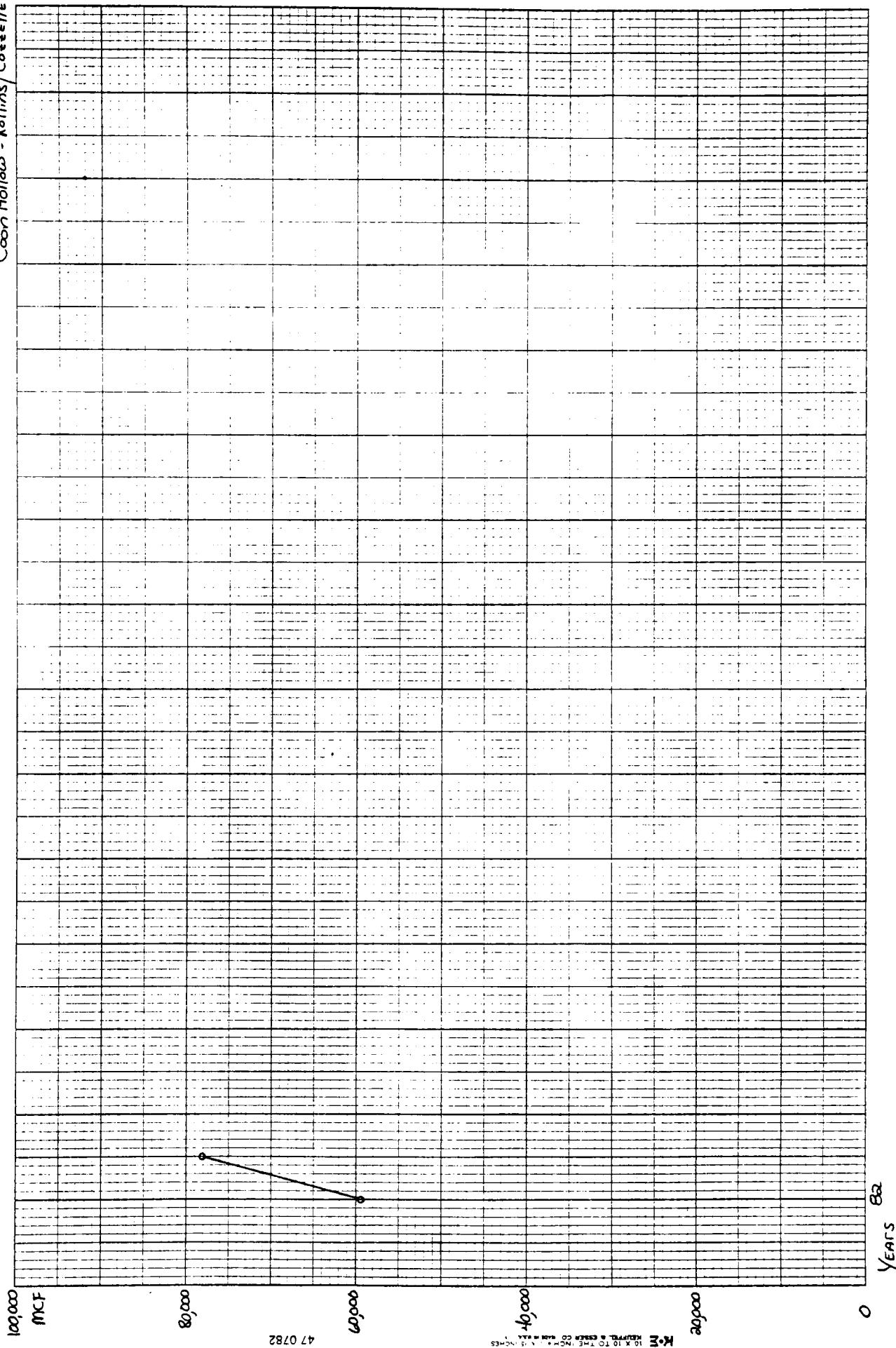
0

Years

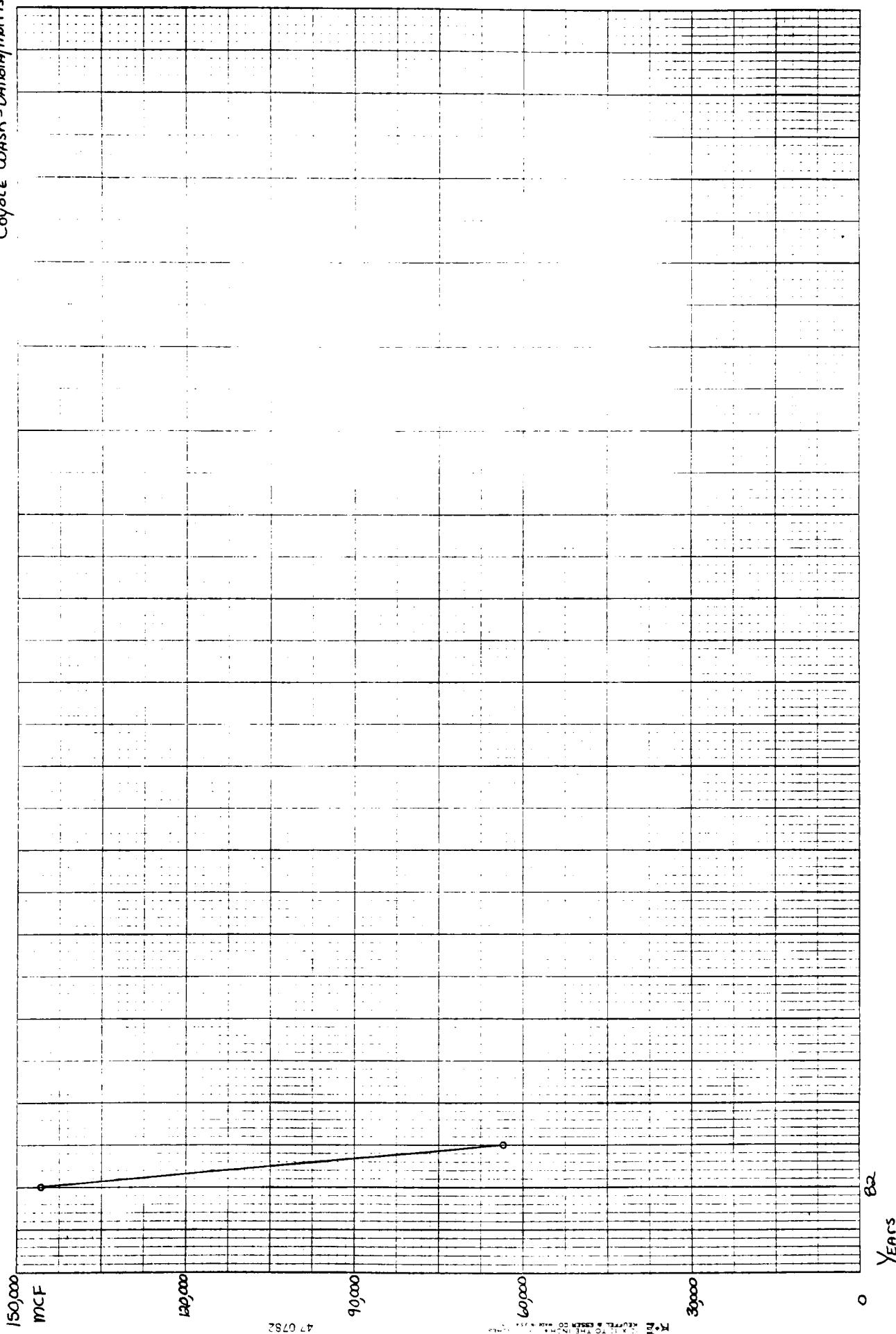
47 0782

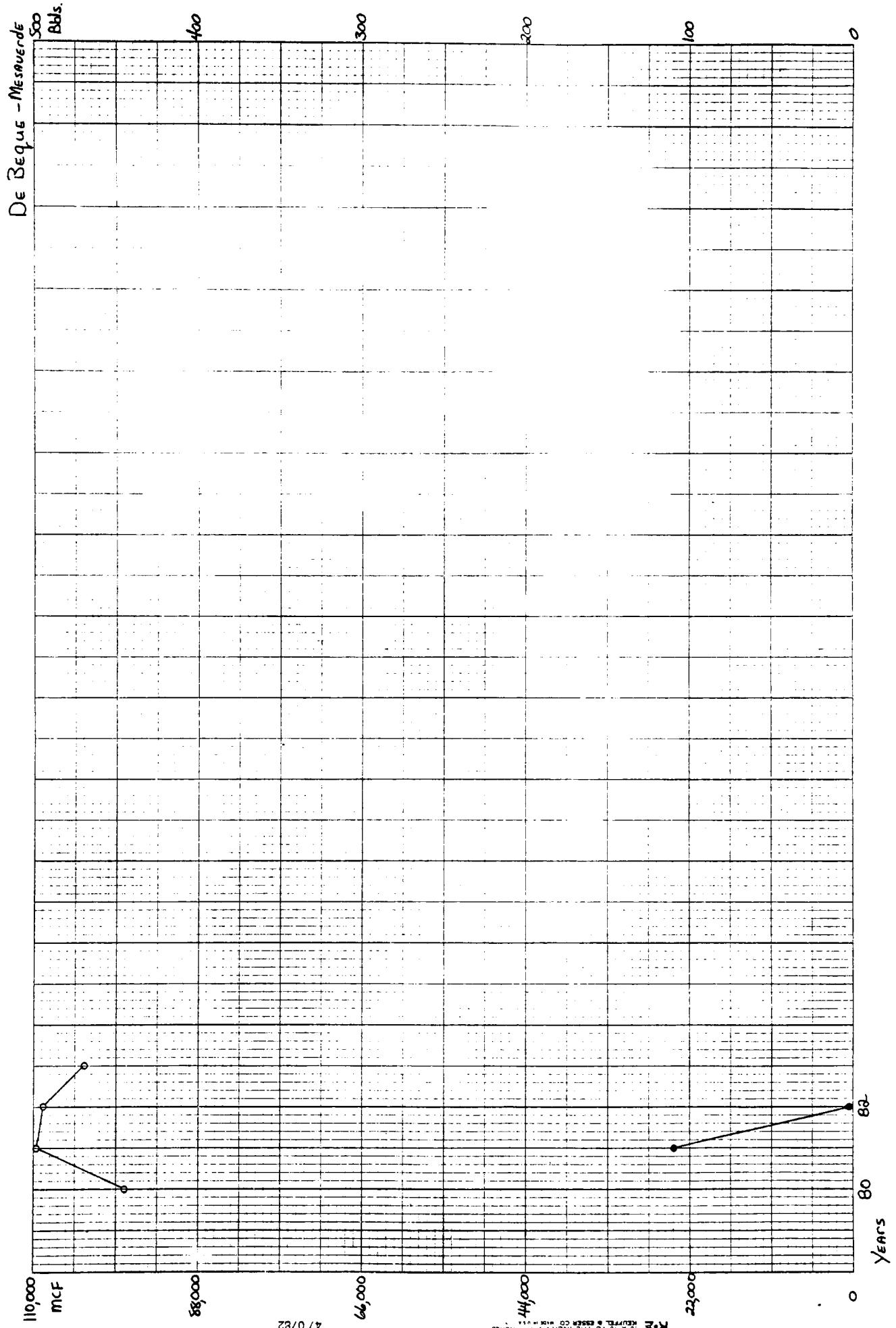
K-E 10 X 16 TYPE INCHES 26 420 440 460 480 500 520 540 560 580 600 620 640 660 680 700 720 740 760 780 800 820 840 860 880 900 920 940 960 980 1000

Coon Hollow - Rollins / Coon Hollow

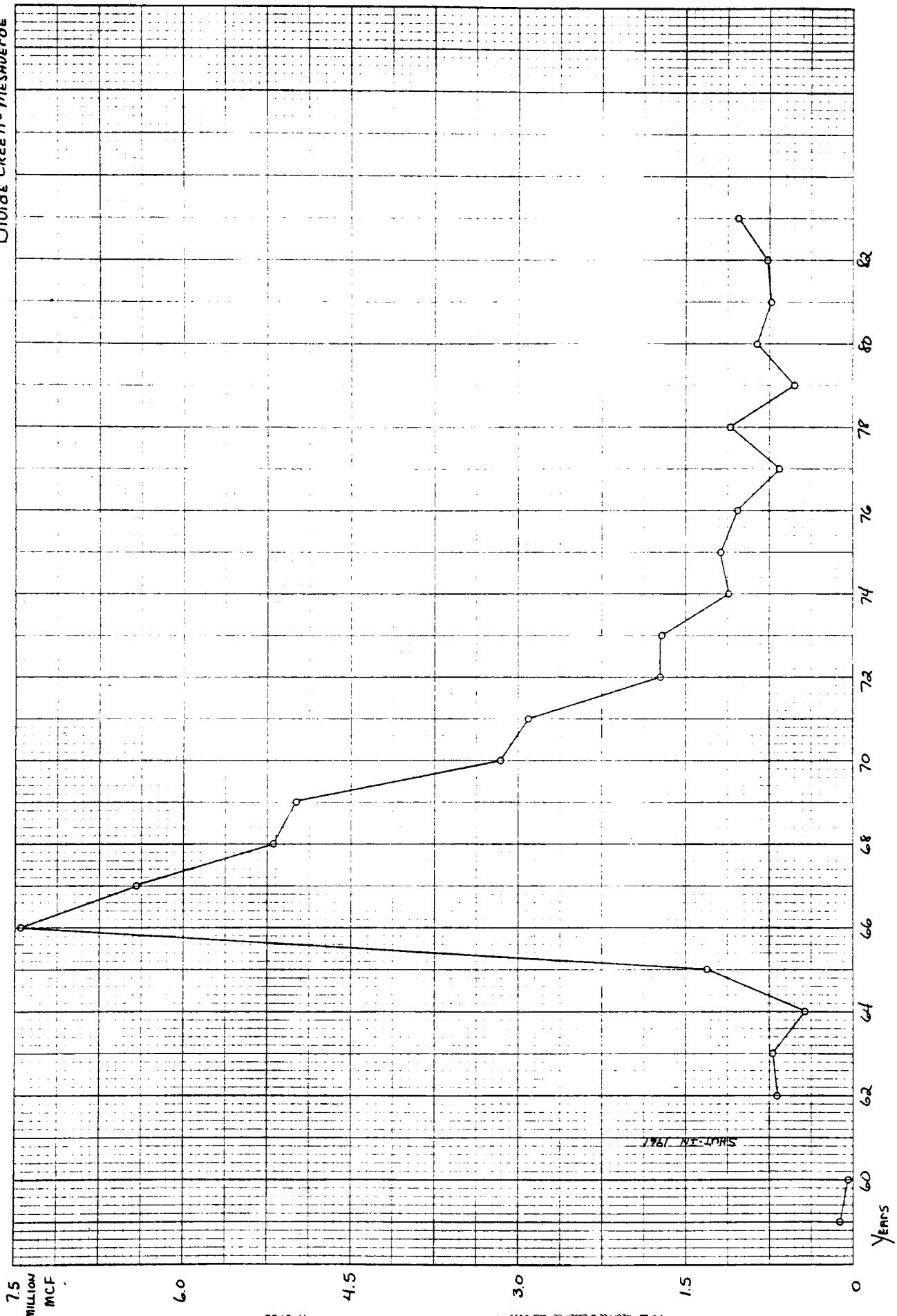


Coyote Wash-Dakota/Morrison

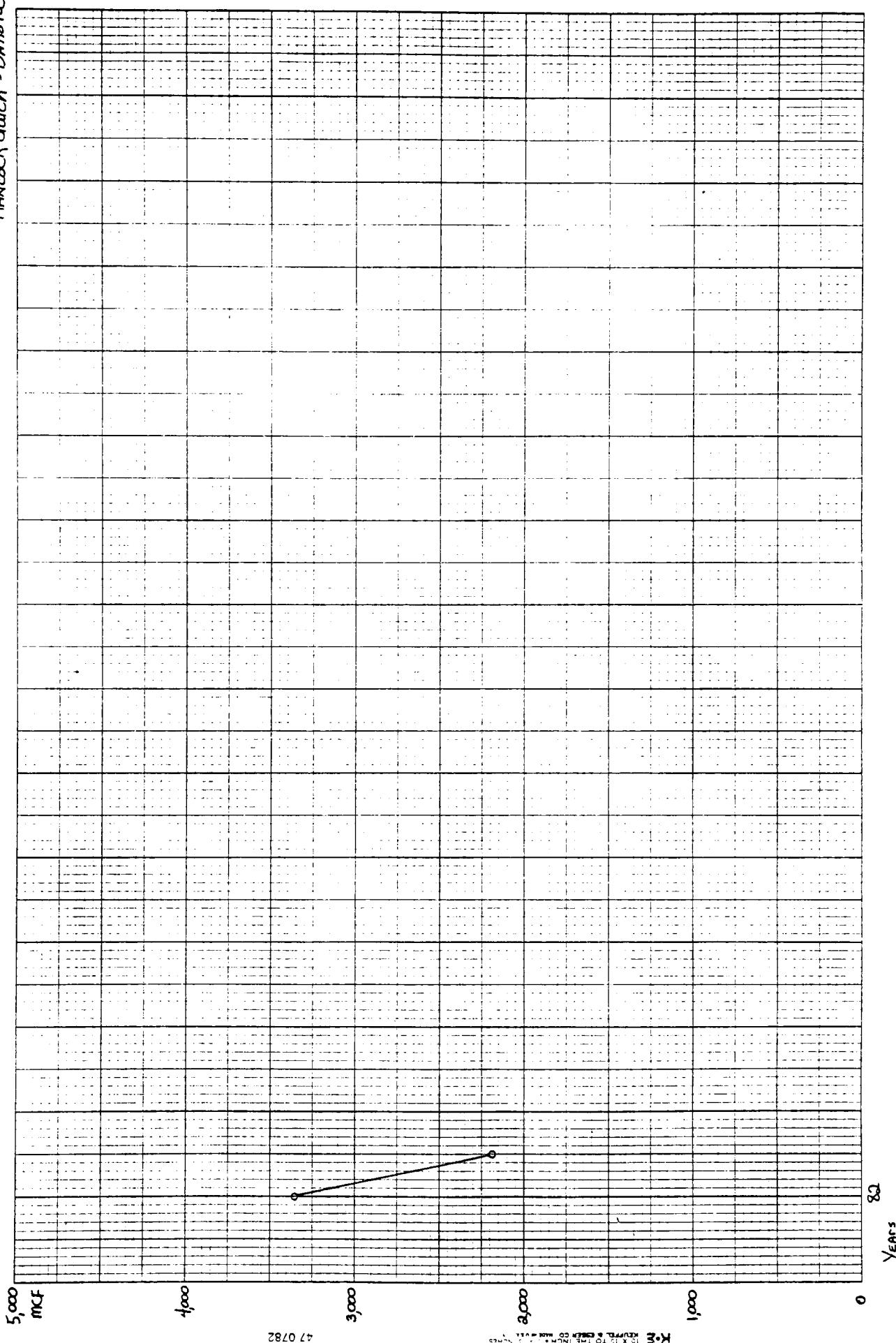




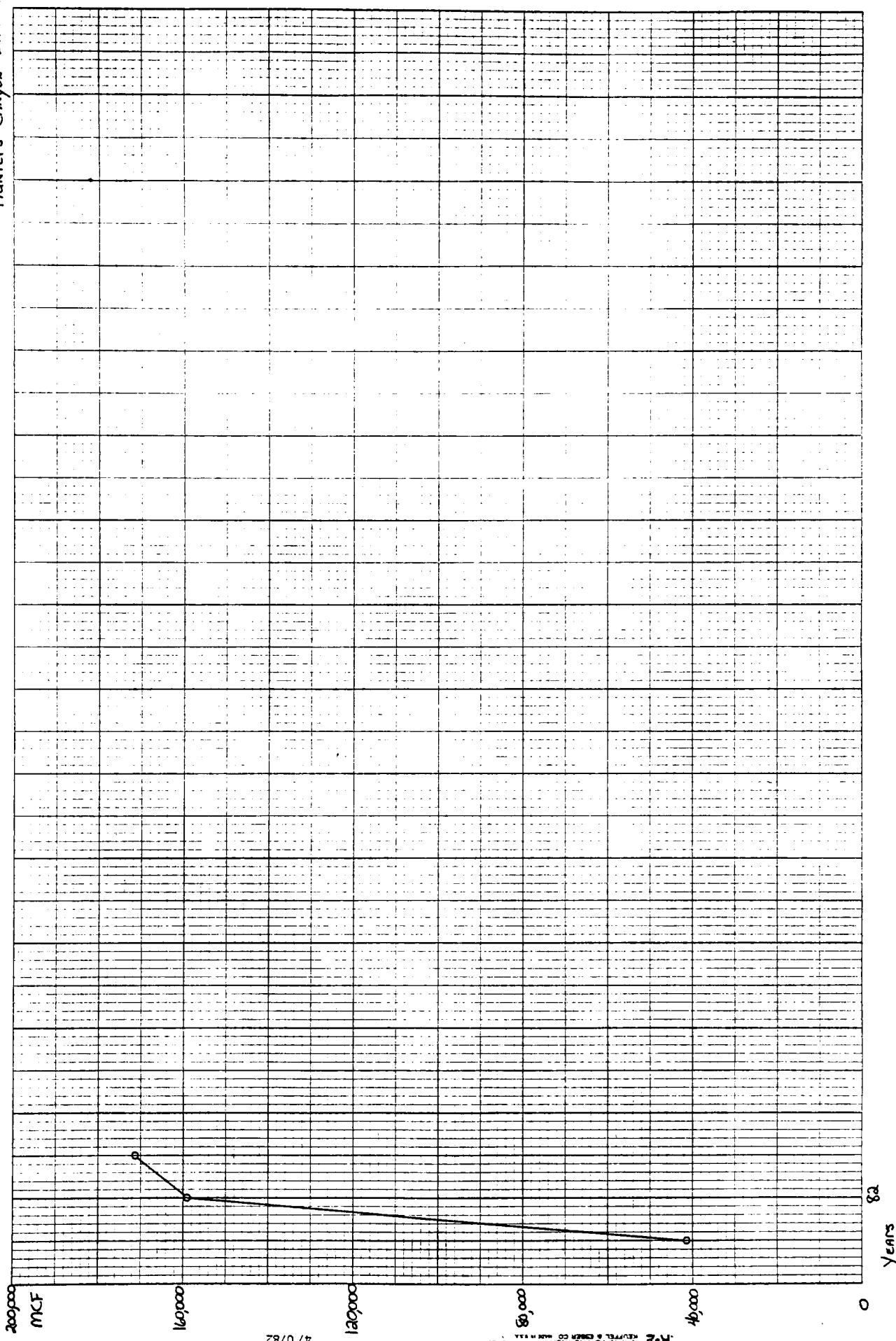
DIVIDE CREEK - MESAVERDE



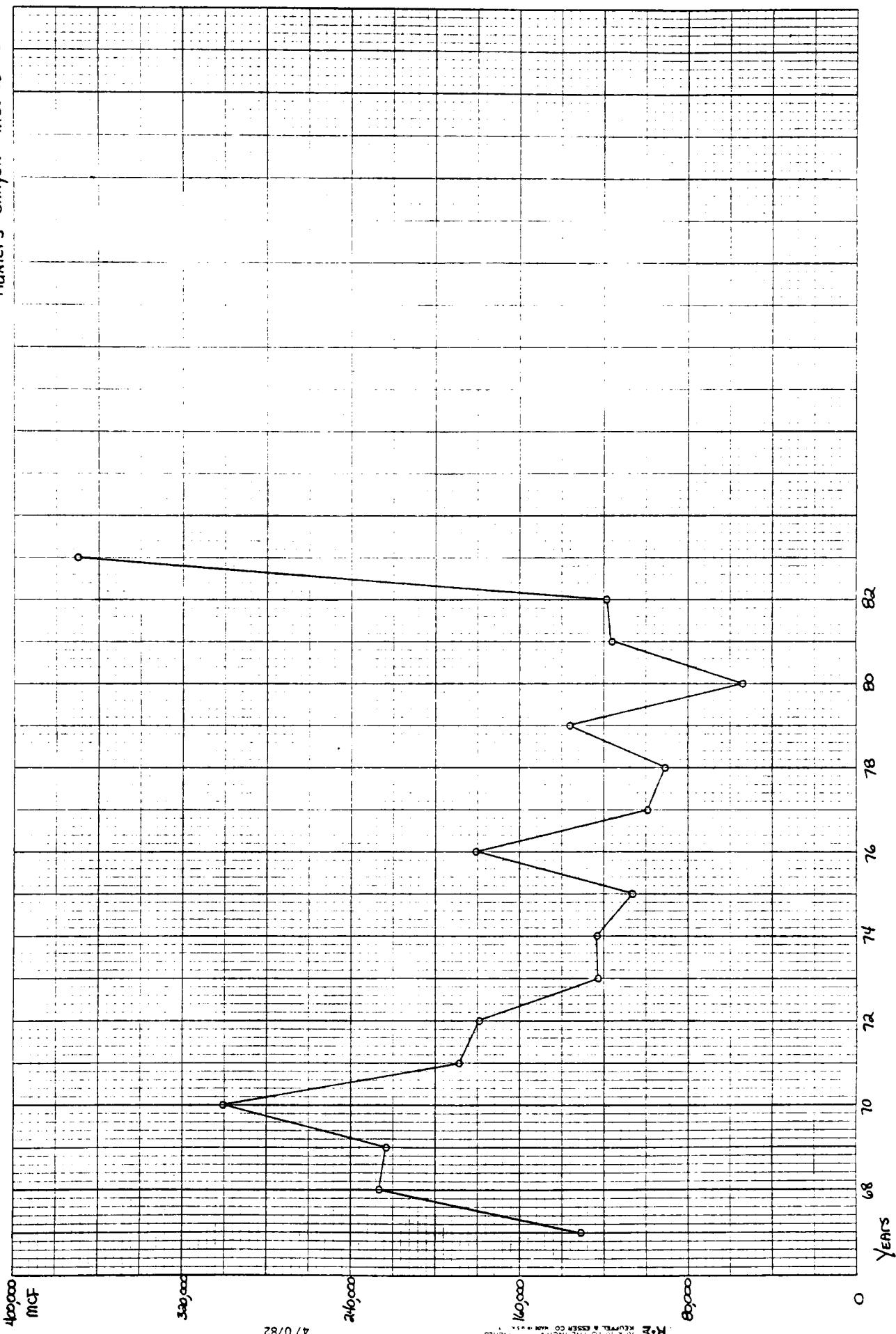
Hancock Gulch - Dakota

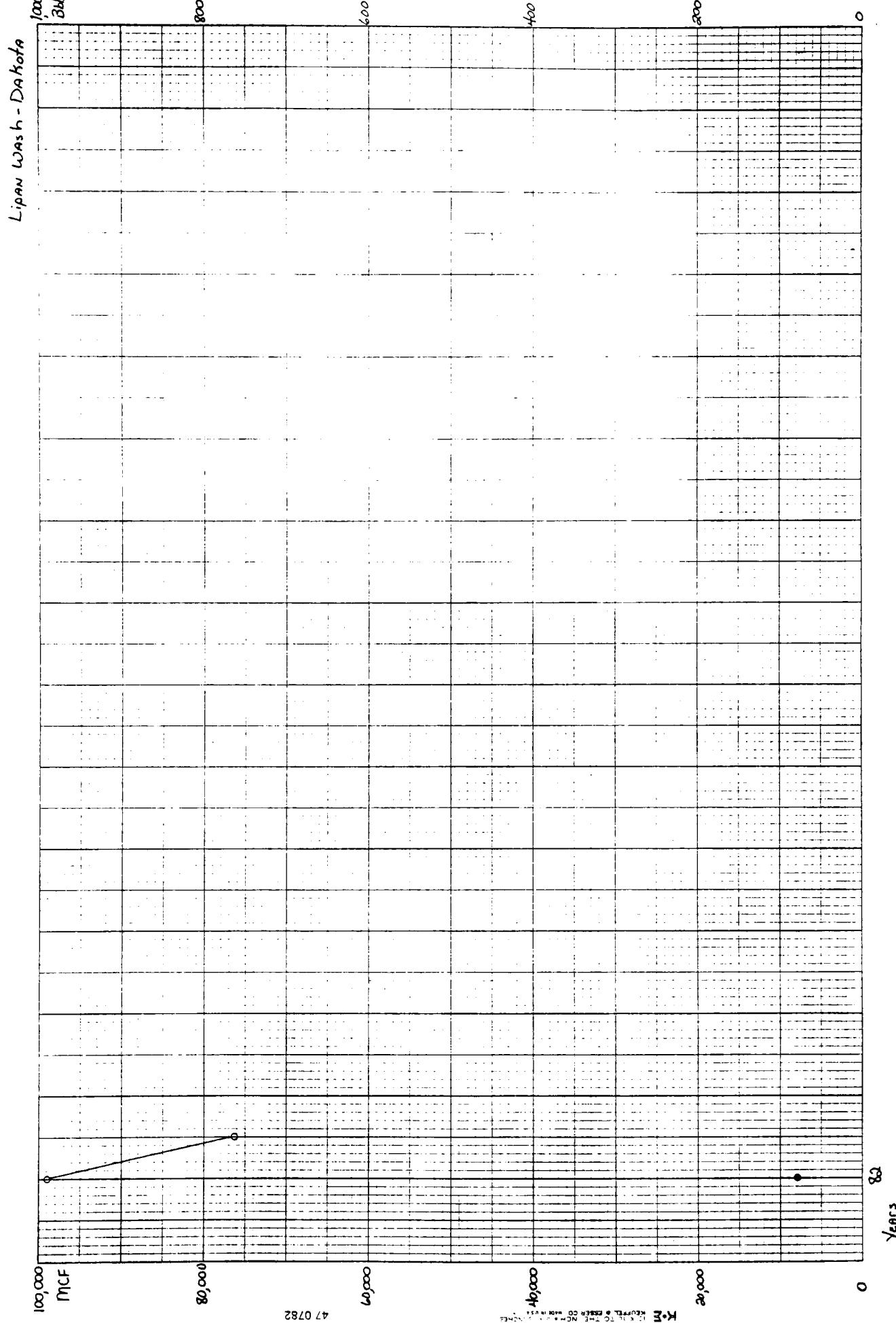


Hunters Canyon - Dakota

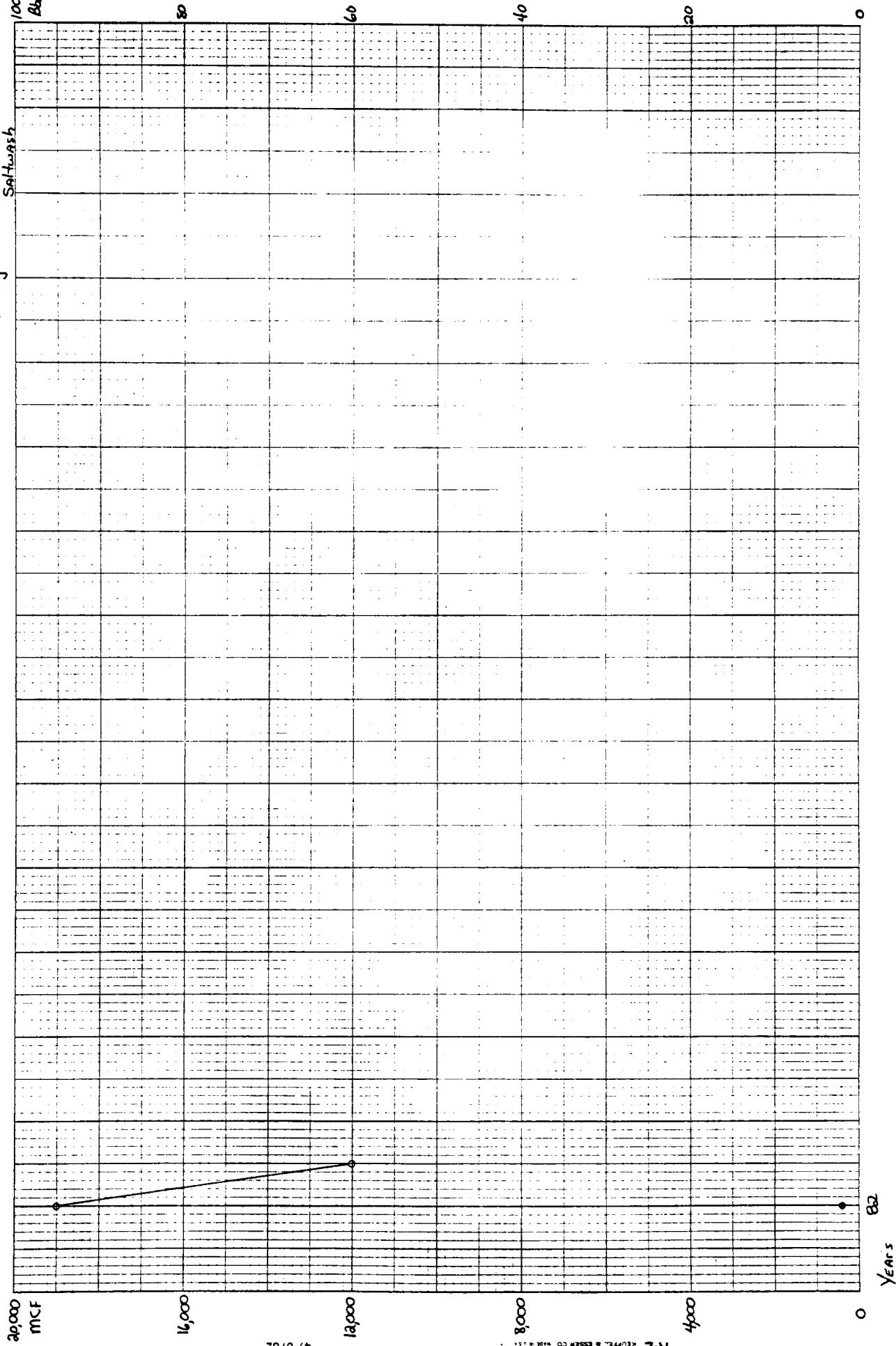


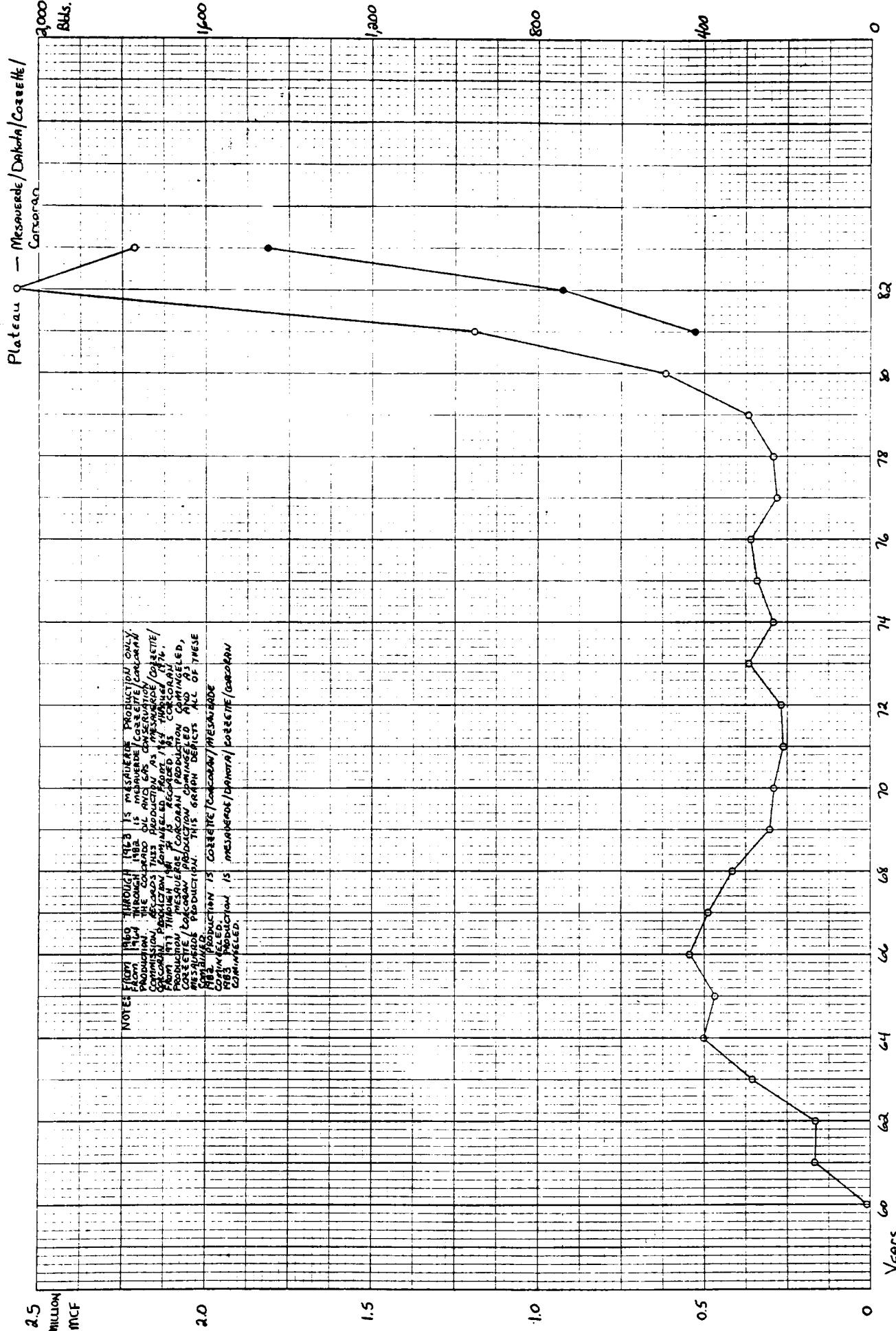
Hunter's Canyon - MEASURED



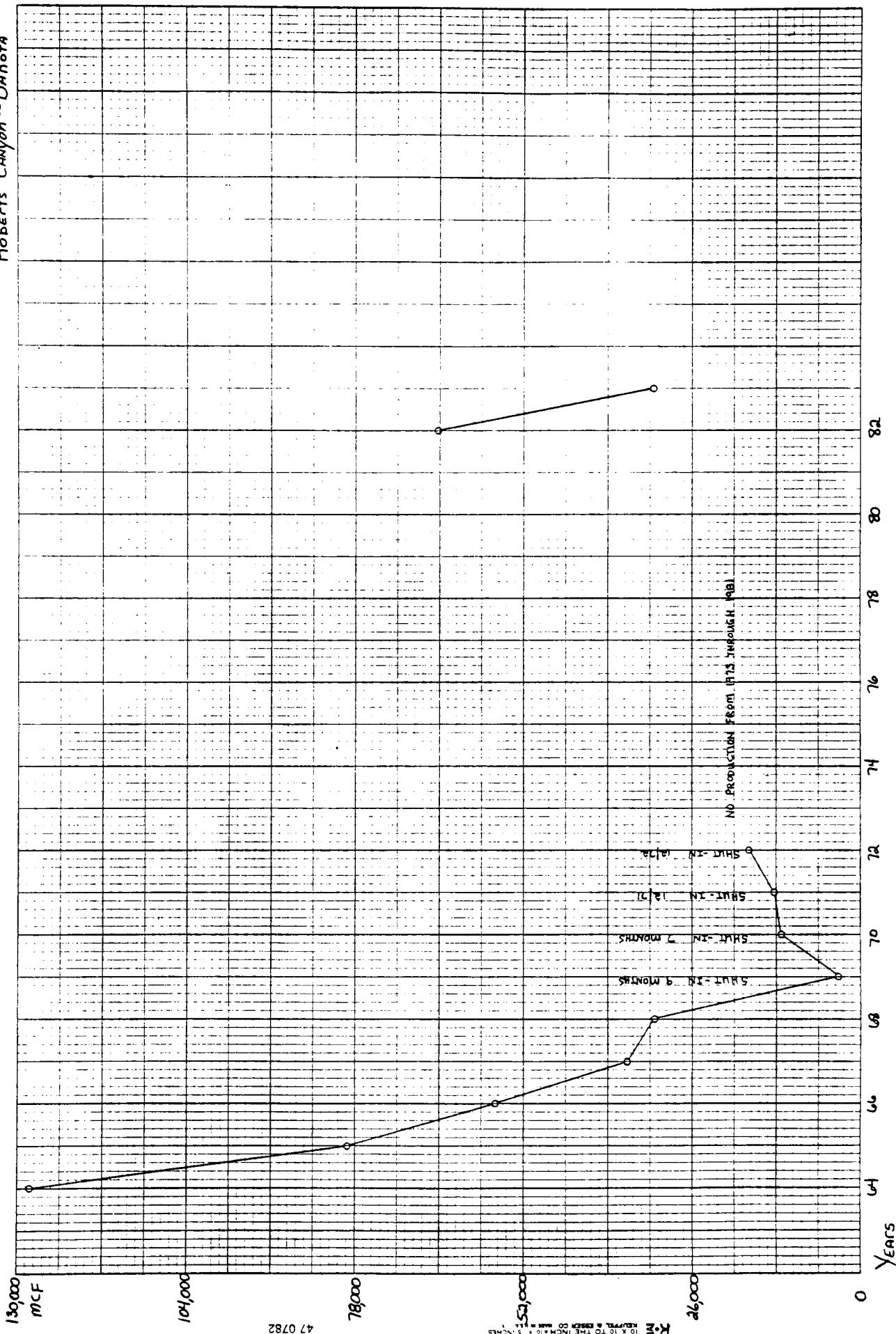


Persigo Wash - Buckhorn/Dakota/Marison
Salt Wash
100
Bbls.

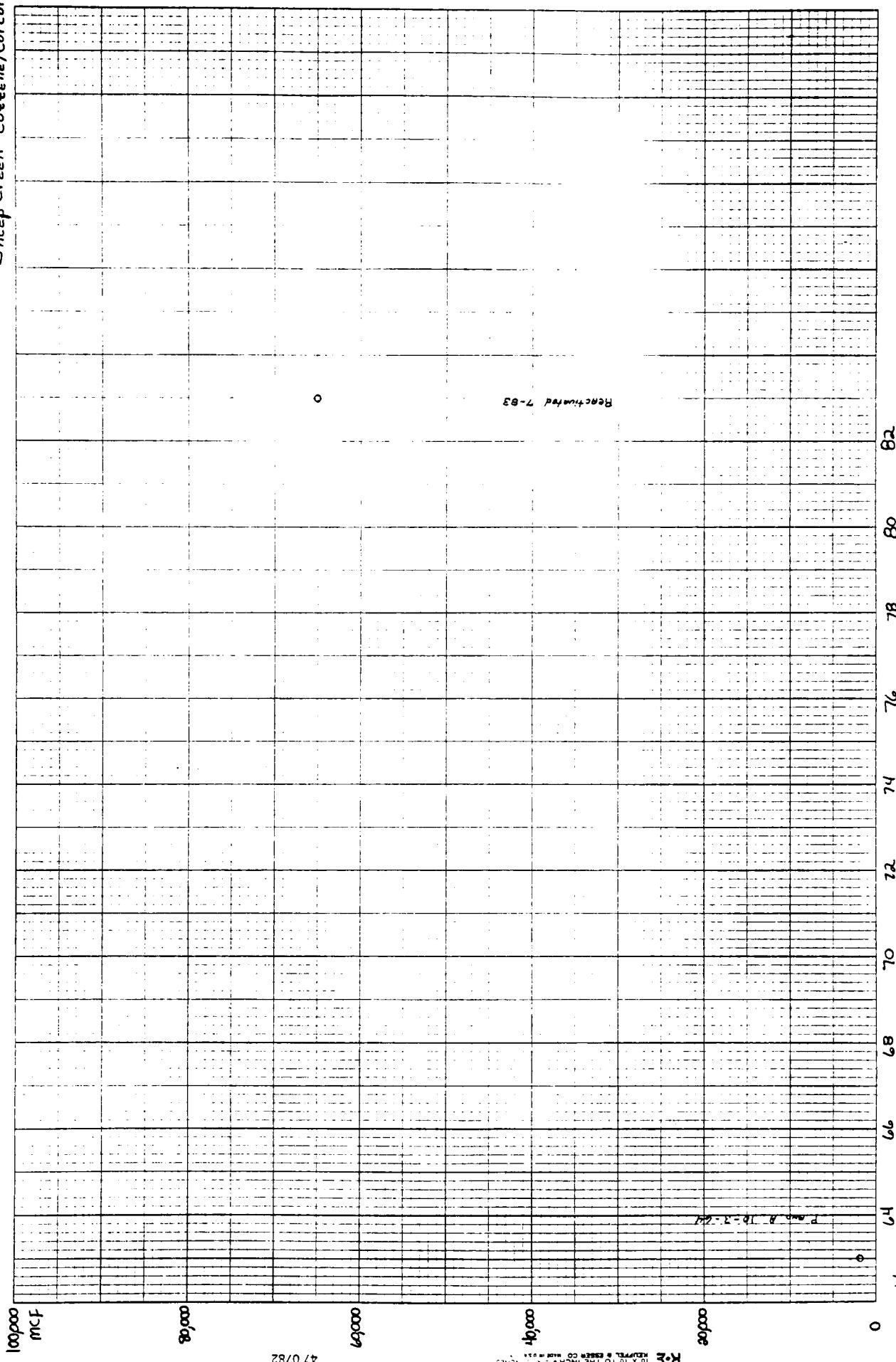


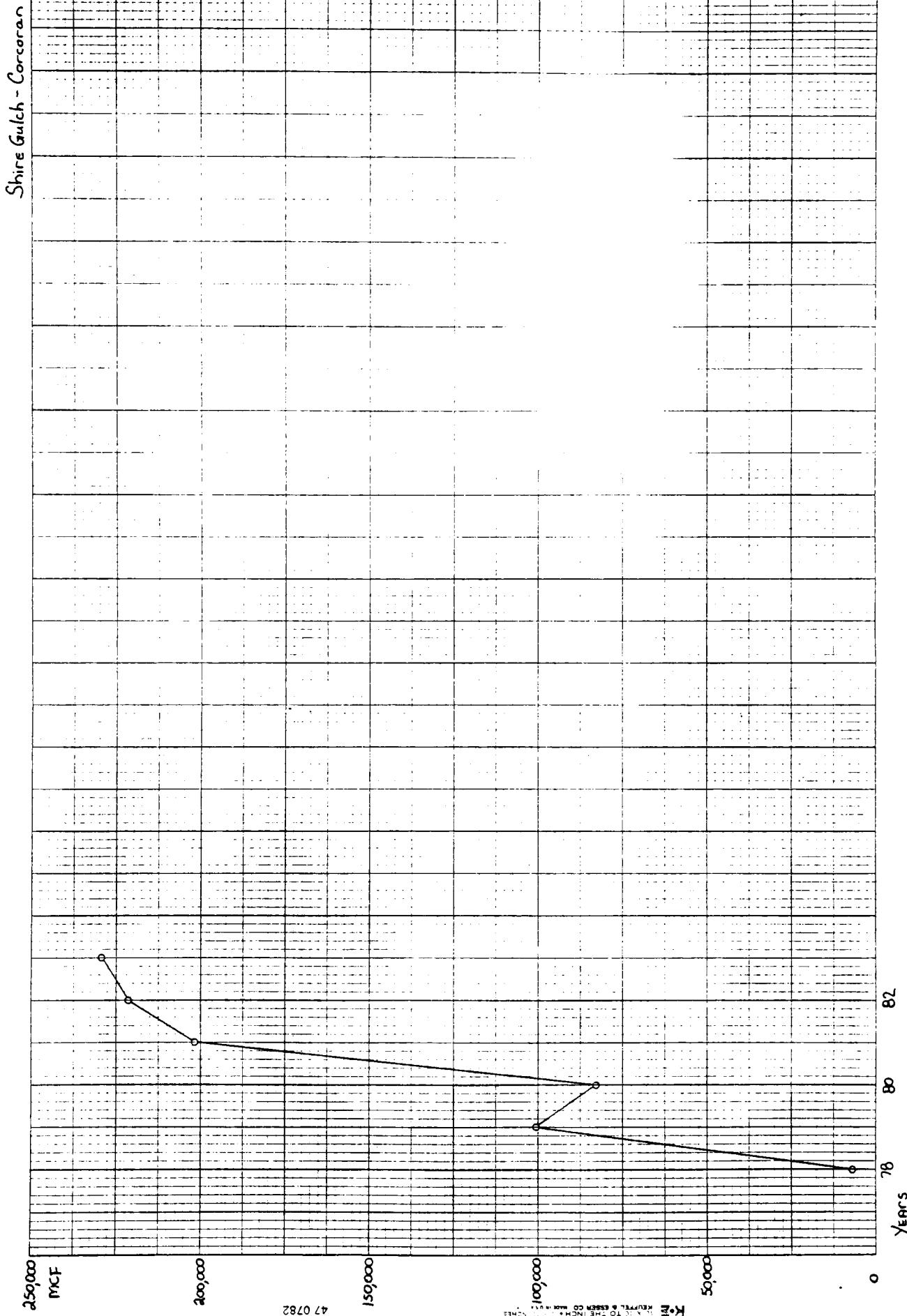


Roberts Canyon - Dakota

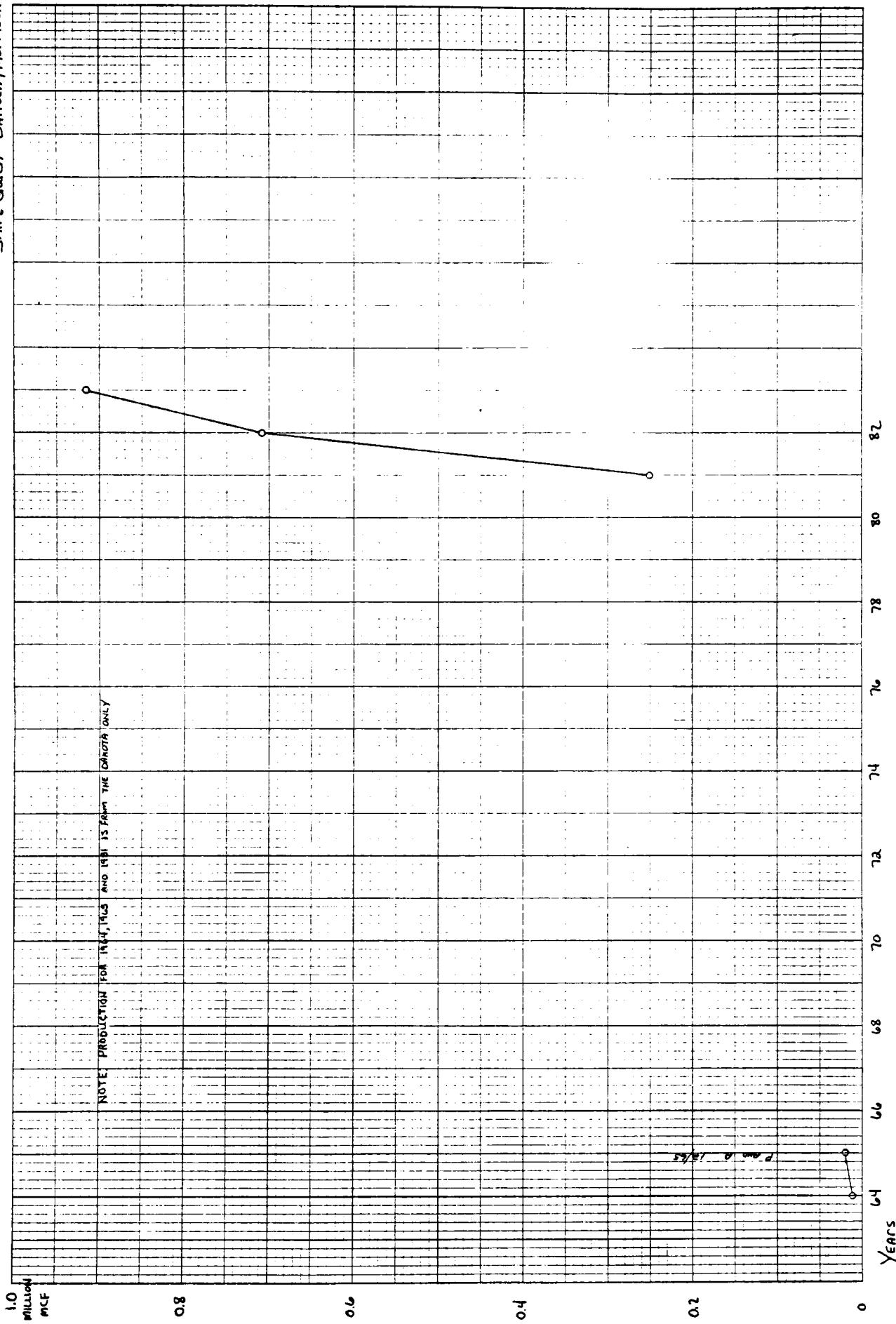


Sheep Creek-Cozette/Corcoran

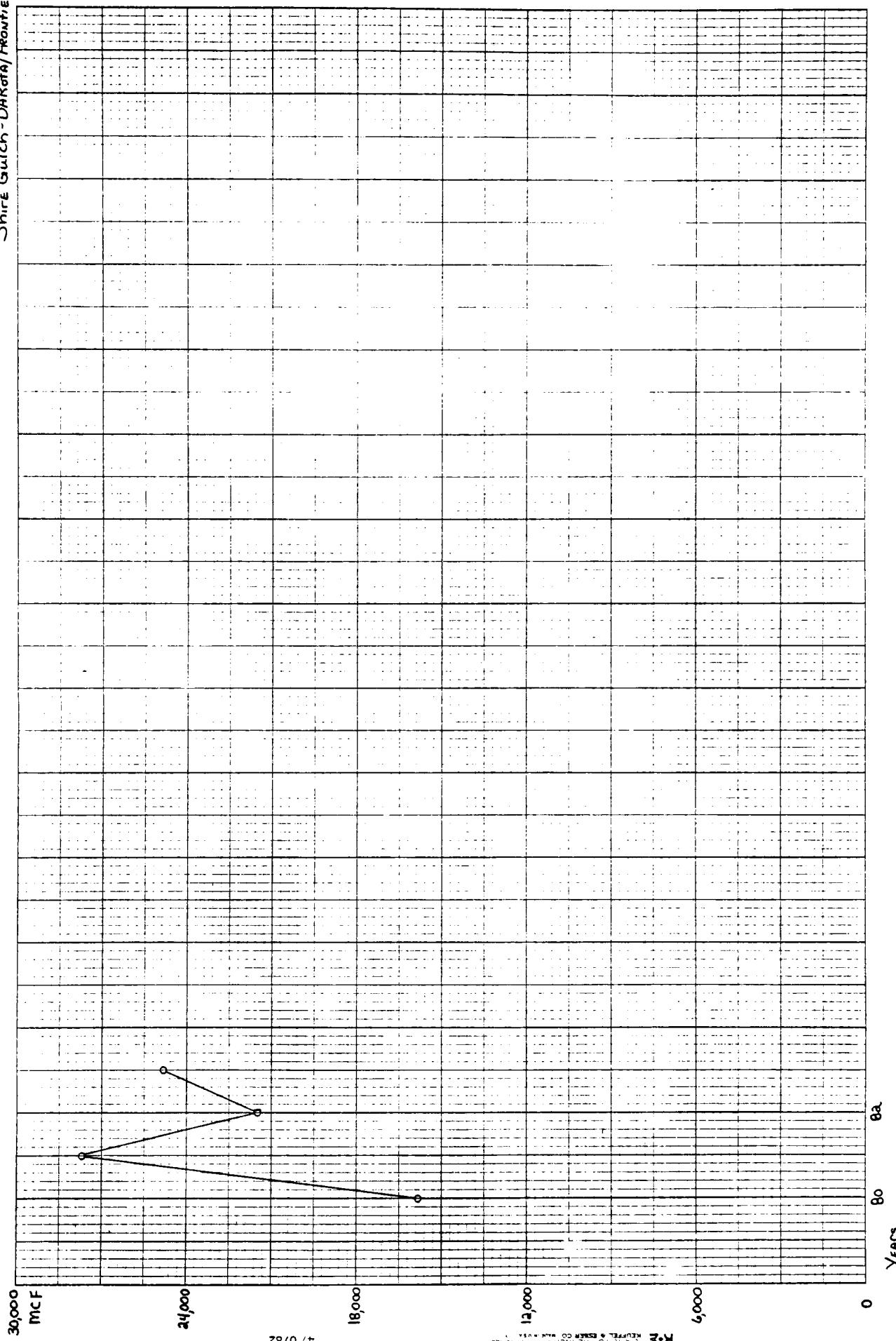




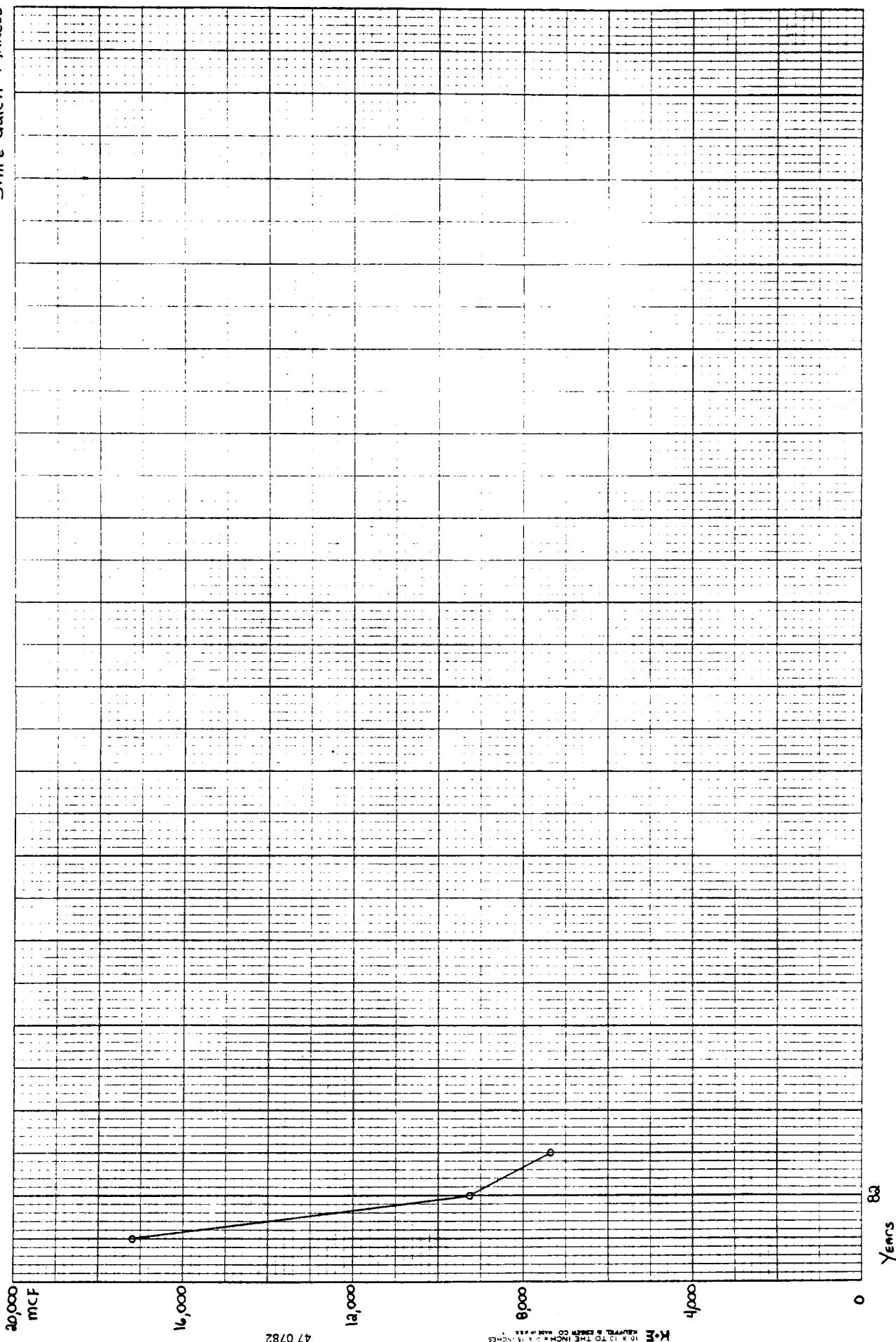
Shire Gulch - Darkata / Morrison



Shire Gulch - Dakota / Frontier



Shire Gulch - Manco



0
20,000
10,000
0,000

0
10,000
20,000

47 0782

0
10,000
20,000

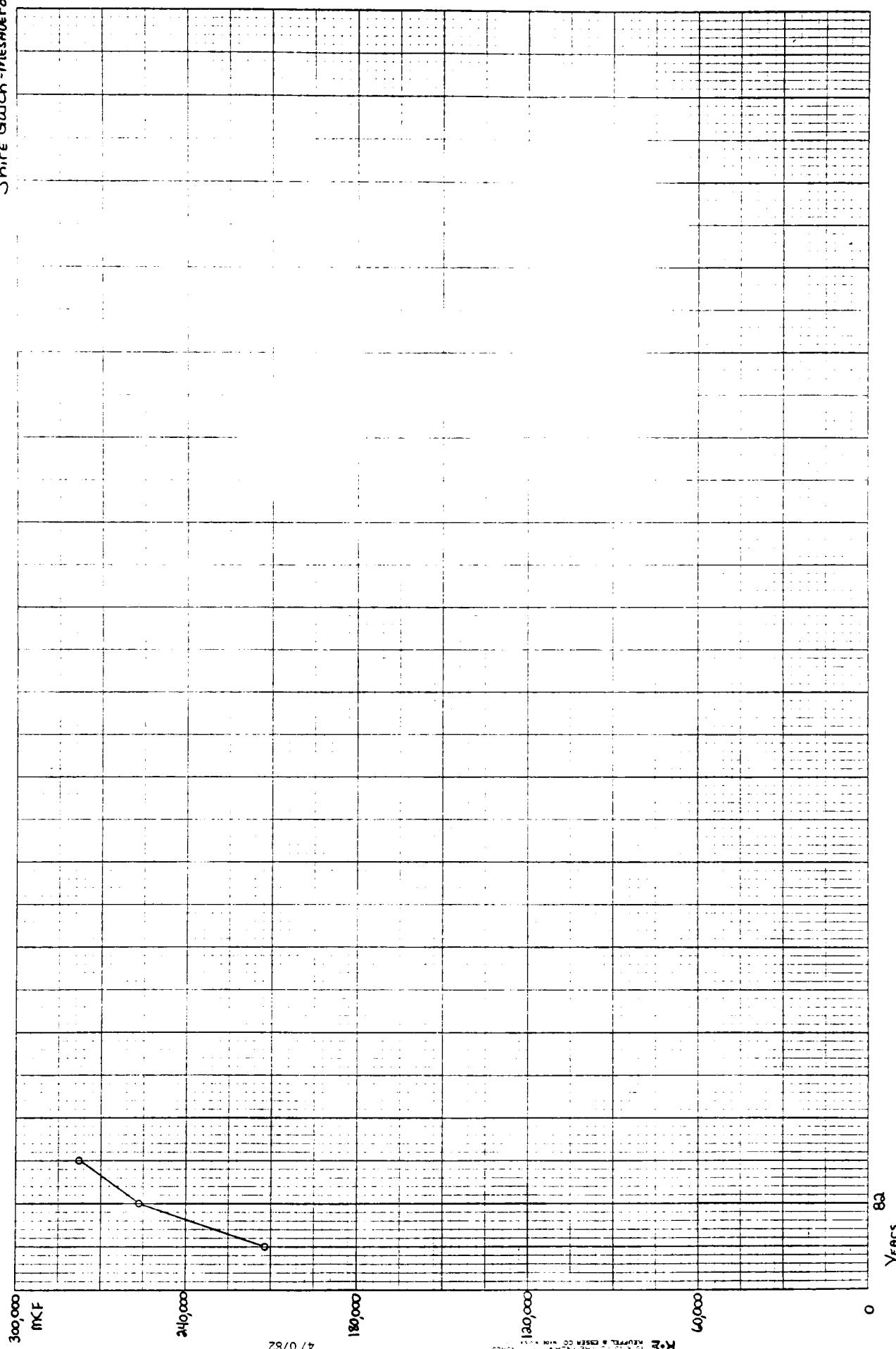
0
10,000
20,000

0
10,000
20,000

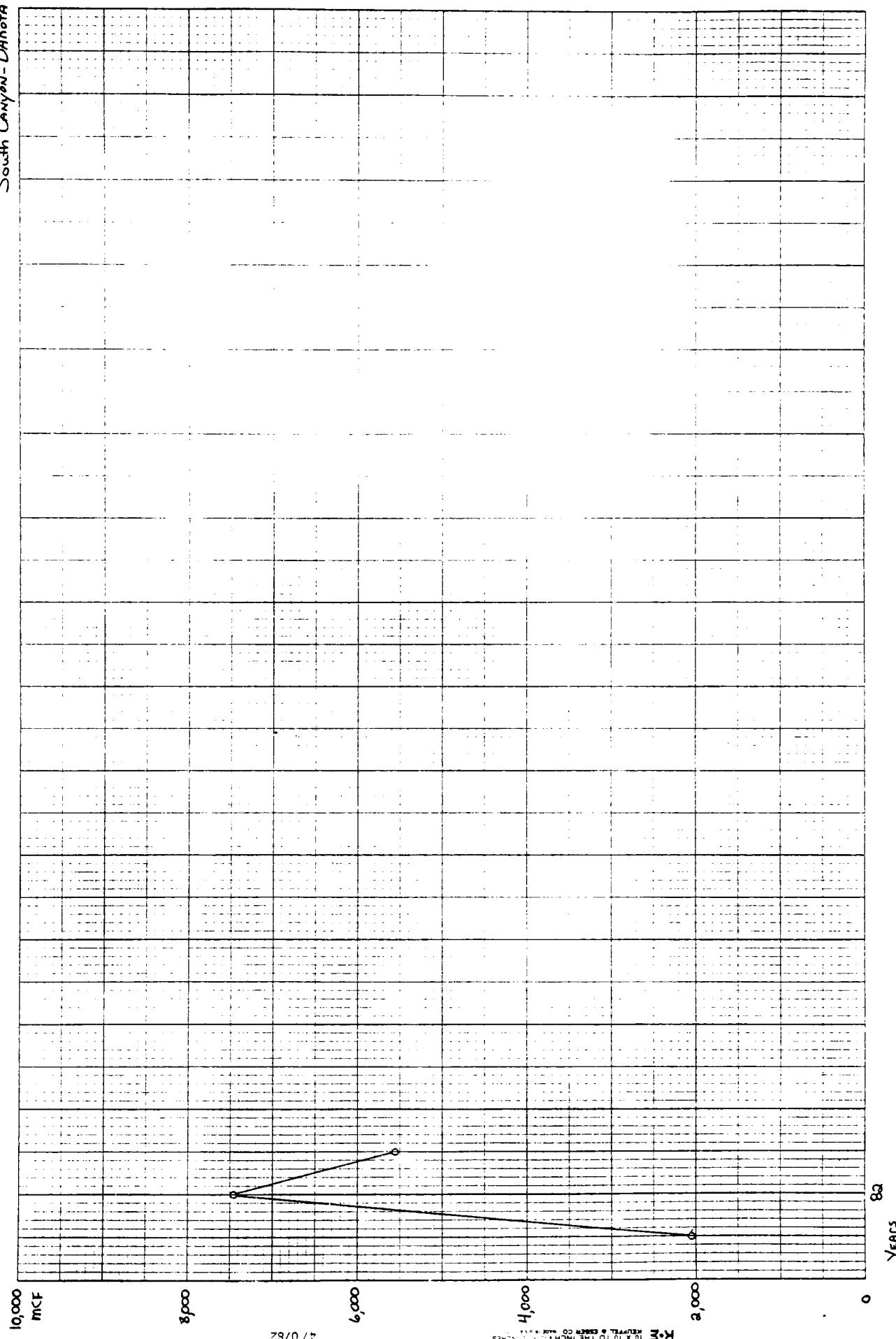
0
10,000
20,000

Years

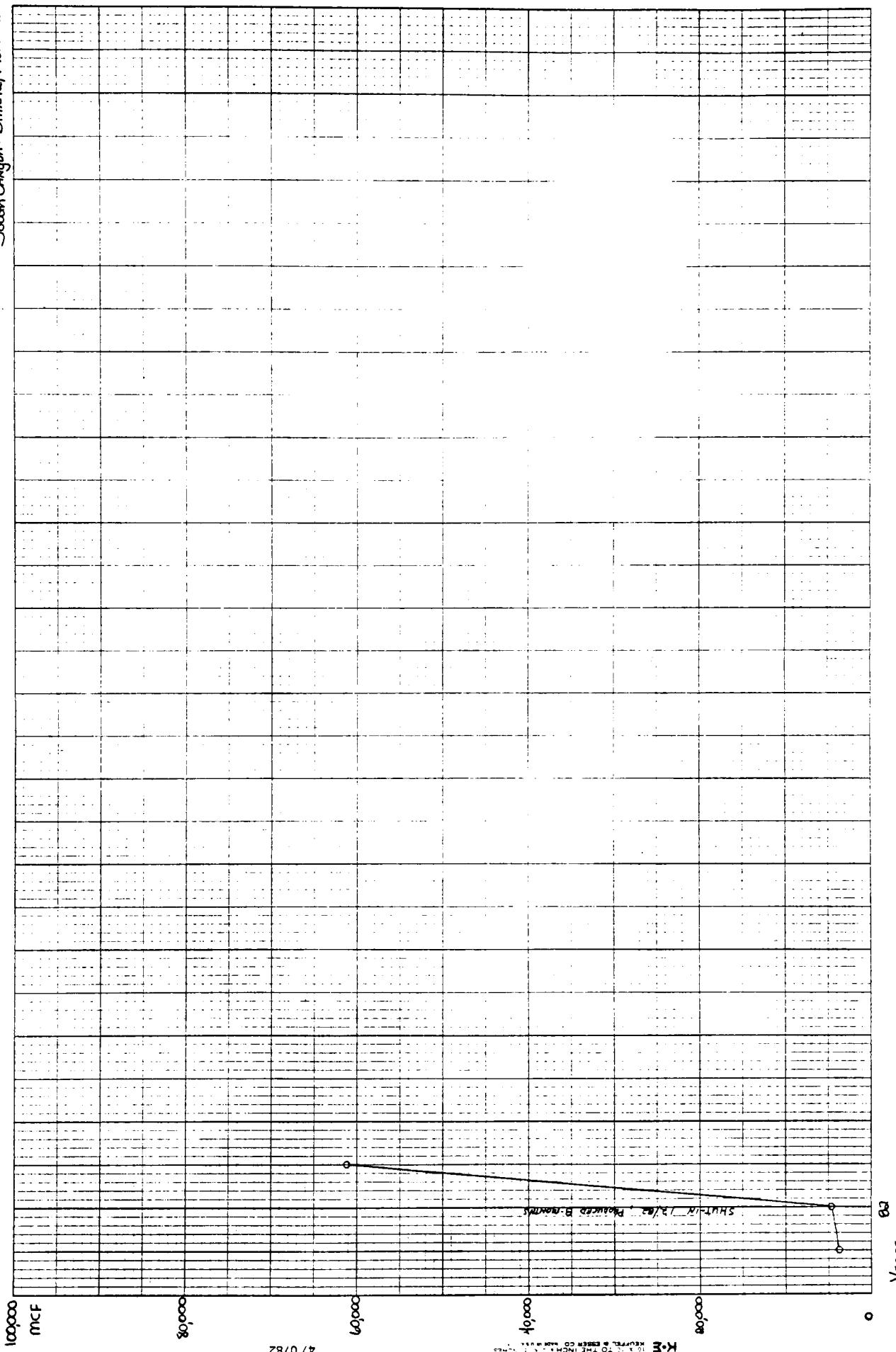
Shire Gulch - Measured



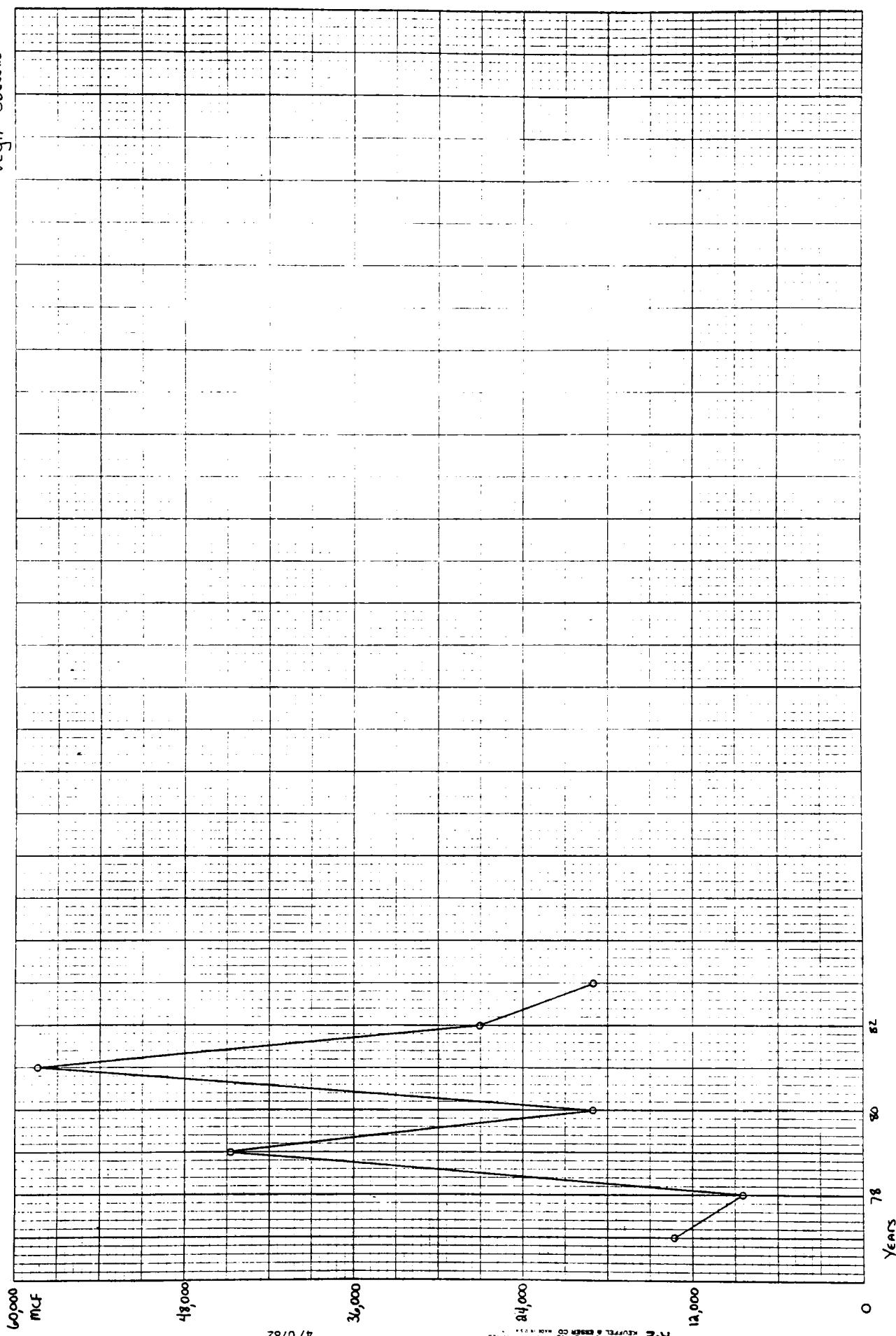
South Canyon - Dakota



South Canyon - Dakota/Morrison

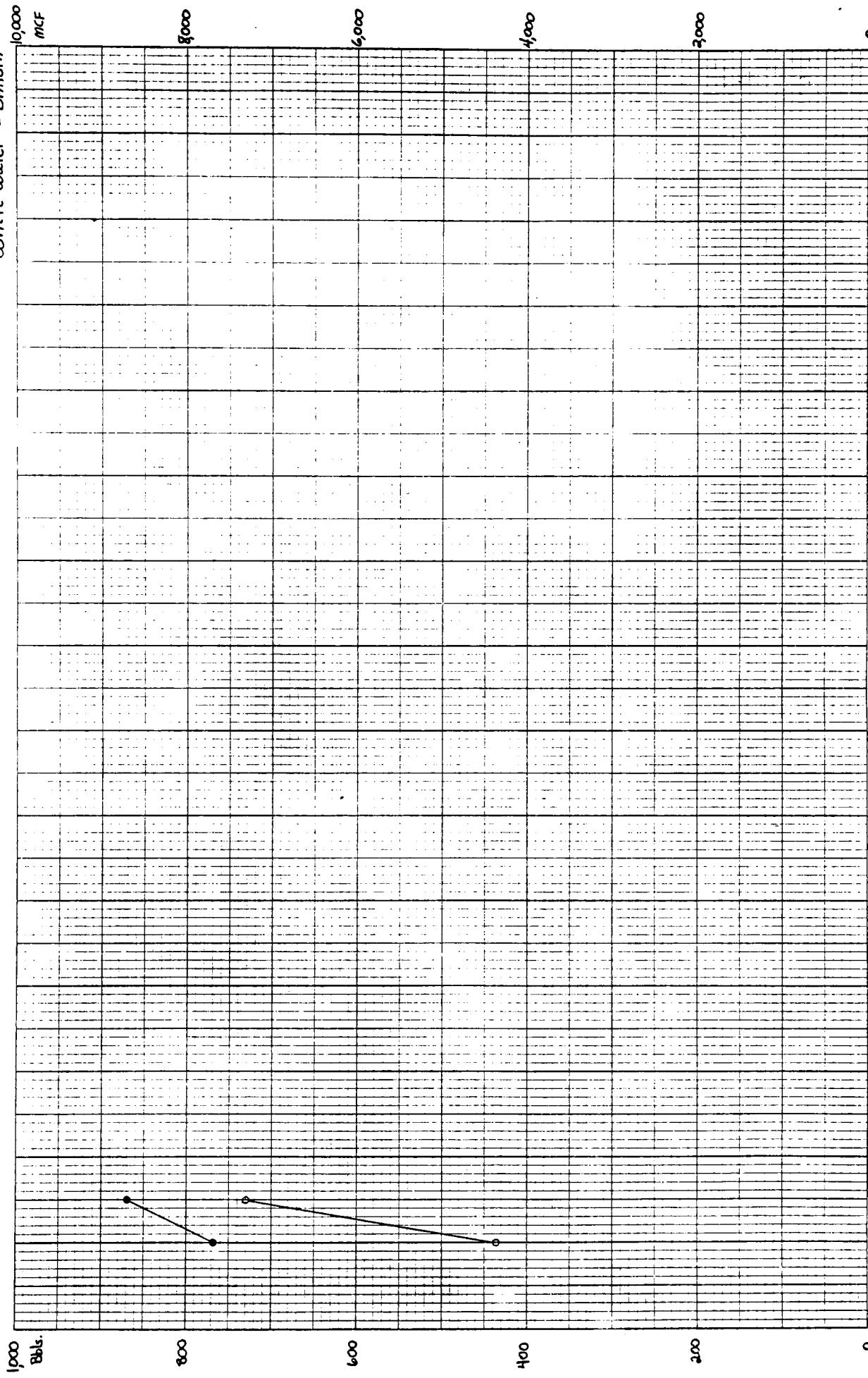


Vega - Coaste

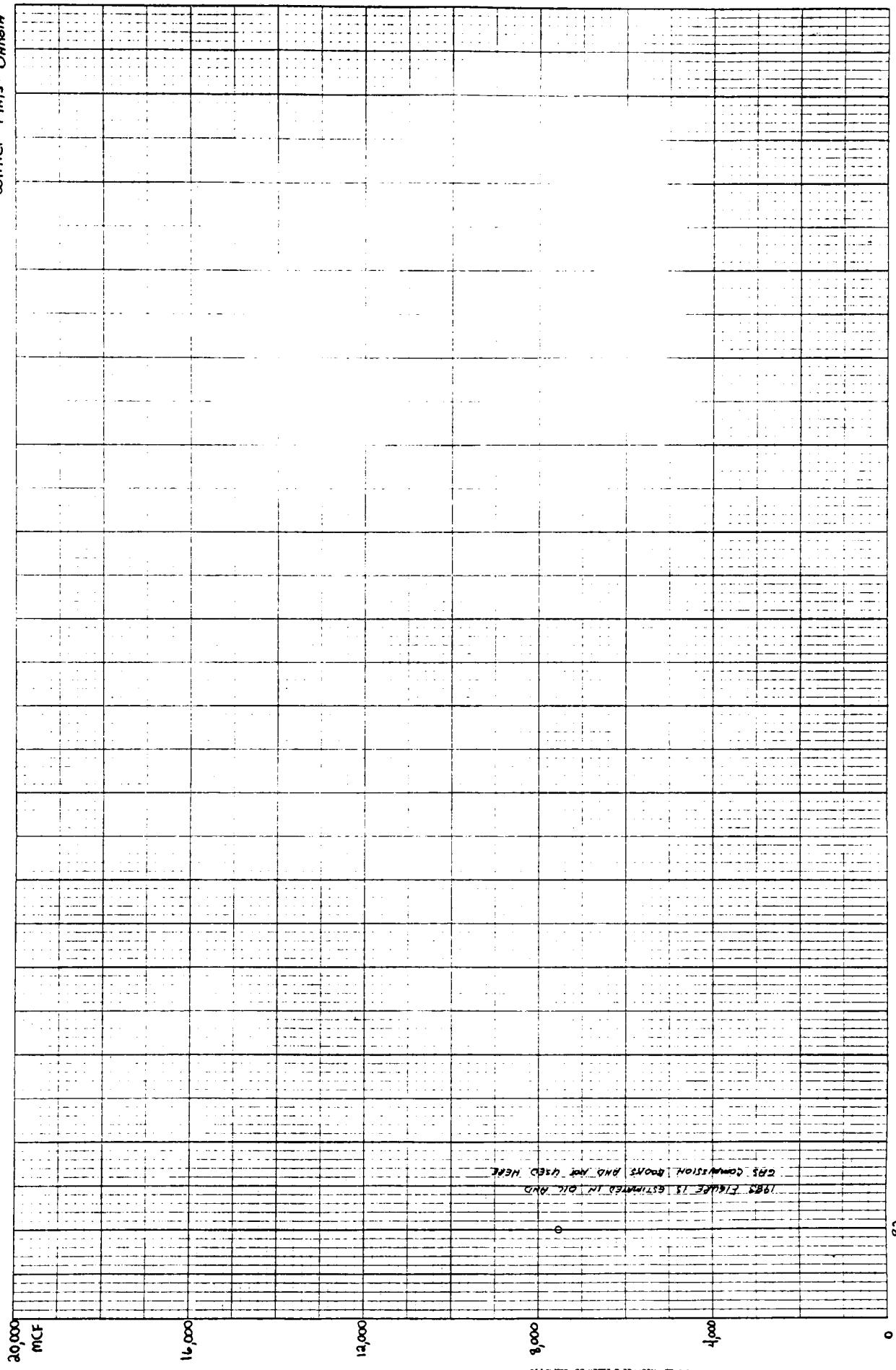


White Water - Dakota

mcf



Winter Flats - Dakota



Other Publications

INFORMATION SERIES 18--Oil and Gas fields of Colorado: Statistical Data through 1981.
MAP SERIES 22--Oil and Gas fields map of Colorado, 1983, (1:500,000).
OPEN-FILE REPORT 84-3: Estimated Oil and Gas Reserves for Washington County, Colorado;
OPEN-FILE REPORT 84-4: Estimated Oil and Gas Reserves for Rio Blanco County, Colorado.
OPEN-FILE REPORT 84-5: Estimated Oil and Gas Reserves for Adams County, Colorado;
OPEN-FILE REPORT 83-6: Estimated Oil and Gas Reserves for Weld County, Colorado;
OPEN-FILE REPORT 84-7: Estimated Oil and Gas Reserves for Arapahoe County, Colorado;
OPEN-FILE REPORT 84-8: Estimated Oil and Gas Reserves for Baca County, Colorado.
OPEN-FILE REPORT 84-9: Estimated Oil and Gas Reserves for Cheyenne County, Colorado.
OPEN-FILE REPORT 84-10: Estimated Oil and Gas Reserves for Garfield County, Colorado;
OPEN-FILE REPORT 84-11: Estimated Oil and Gas Reserves for La Plata County, Colorado;
OPEN-FILE REPORT 84-12: Estimated Oil and Gas Reserves for Moffat County, Colorado;
OPEN-FILE REPORT 84-13: Estimated Oil and Gas Reserves for Elbert County, Colorado;
OPEN-FILE REPORT 84-14: Estimated Oil and Gas Reserves for Mesa County, Colorado;
OPEN-FILE REPORT 84-15: Estimated Oil and Gas Reserves for Routt County, Colorado;
OPEN-FILE REPORT 84-16: Estimated Oil and Gas Reserves for Yuma County, Colorado.

The Colorado Geological Survey has other publications covering topics in mineral fuels, minerals, groundwater, geothermal, and engineering and environmental geology. For a current publication list please contact:

Colorado Geological Survey
Publications Department
1313 Sherman St., Room 715
Denver, CO 80203
(303) 866-2671