

OPEN FILE 84-7

ESTIMATED OIL AND GAS RESERVES FOR ARAPAHOE 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
1994

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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.

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A. H. Scanlon
Senior Geologist

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ESTIMATED OIL AND GAS RESERVES FOR ARAPAHOE COUNTY, COLORADO

Introduction

This report is the fifth* 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 Arapahoe County, located in northeastern Colorado, just southeast of Denver, within the central portion of the Denver Basin. Arapahoe County covers 799 square miles. In this county, oil and/or gas are produced from, in descending order of age, the D Sand, J Sand and Niobrara Limestone.

There are 35 fields considered active producers as of September 30, 1983. Of these, 33 are classified as oil fields (based on cumulative gas-oil ratio (GOR) of $<15:1$), and 2 are classified as gas fields (based on cumulative GOR $>15:1$).

Two of the 33 oil fields are currently undergoing secondary recovery by injected fluids. These projects are listed in Table I, which includes the amount of injected fluid for 1982 and the cumulative amount injected through 1982.

* 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; and

OPEN-FILE REPORT 84-6; Estimated Oil and Gas Reserves for Weld County, Colorado.

TABLE I

Summary of Secondary Recovery Projects
by Injected Fluids
for Arapahoe County

Field Name/ Horizon	Operator	Initial Inj. Date	Injected Water (bbls) 1982	Cumulative through 1982
Peoria/J-Sand	Amoco Prod. Co.	7-21-73	7,260,739	48,434,244
Poncho/J-Sand	Amoco Prod. Co.	4-18-81	1,406,053	2,766,188

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 43 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 are 39 oil field-horizons. Production histories have allowed for decline rates to be calculated for 23 of these. The remaining 16 oil field-horizons have not produced for a long enough time (less than 4 years) to determine a reliable decline rate. For the previously mentioned 23 fields, decline rates were determined based on actual past production and recorded, see Table II. These decline rates were then applied to the equation:

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

where: R_r = remaining reserves
 q_1 = 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 II.

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.

One change was necessary for one of the two fields undergoing water injection. Peoria Field has had a substantial amount of time to level off since injection began in 1973. The historical production decline curve for Poncho Field indicates that the injected fluids are influencing production. In this case, a decline rate was calculated for production from years prior to the initial date of injection and applied to the 1982 annual production.

Gas Reserve Calculations

There are 4 gas field-horizons. Production histories have allowed for decline rates to be calculated for 2 of these. The remaining 2 gas field-horizons have not produced for a long enough time (less than 3 years) to determine a reliable decline rate. Decline rates were determined for the first 2 mentioned field-horizons (see Table II) 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 II.

Results can be found in Table II.

For the associated oil production, where 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 Arapahoe County totaled 3,285,087 barrels. Estimated gas reserves for Arapahoe County totaled 12,817,272 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 2002.

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 four to five years, roughly half of the estimated oil reserves in Arapahoe 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 four to five 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 (15.0 percent per year for oil and 16.7 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 (228,886 Bbls. of oil and 857,303 MCF of gas) additional reserves of 1,329,759 Bbls. of oil and 5,105,709 MCF of gas were obtained. This gives total county reserves (Class I and II) of 4,614,846 Bbls. of oil and 17,922,981 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 no significant differences in the sources of production for the two groups. Therefore, it is concluded that the overall decline rates can be applied with confidence.

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
Lmtd.	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 II
OPEN-FILE REPORT 84-7
RESERVE DATA FOR ARAPAHOE COUNTY

FIELD NAME/ PROD. HORIZON	GENERAL LOCATION	DATE OF DISCOVERY	TYPE OF DRIVE	dy (in Z)	CUMULATIVE PRODUCTION		ESTIMATED RESERVES		ULTIMATE RECOVERABLE		REMARKS *
					12/82 OIL (bbls) (C)Condensate	GAS (MCF)	OIL (bbls) (C)Condensate	GAS (MCF)	OIL (bbls) (C)Condensate	GAS (MCF)	
1. Antler/D	55-63W	1973		8.0-o 8.0-g	104,831	191,472	17,569	107,001	122,400	298,473	
2. Blactjack/J	45-57W	1968	M. D.	9.5-o 9.5-g	1,014,915	98,143	74,734	14,227	1,089,649	112,370	
3. Bombing Range/J	45-63W	1972		5.6-o 14.2-g	115,259 (6,891)	602,599	83,847	158,858	199,106 (6,891)	761,457	
4. Bombing Range/ Niobrara	45-63W	1983	NOTE: Cum.Prod. thru 9/83		391	568					N.P.
5. Brave/D	55-64W	1981			2,399	5,027					N.P.
6. Brave/J	55-64W	1981			9,310	35,867					N.P.
7. Buck/D & J	55-63W	1983	NOTE: Cum.Prod. thru 9/83		4,547						N.P.
8. Byers/J	45-62W	1970		13.3-o 23.0-g	248,617	168,590	20,600	37,411	269,217	206,201	
9. Challice/J	45-64W	1982			1,190						N.P.
10. Chinook/D	55-62W	1976		22.0-o 4.1-g	108,704	509,861	30,717	See Note	139,421	4509,861	dy based on '80-'82 Prod. N. P.
11. Chinook/J	55-62W	1981			7,471	65,959					
12. Dandy/J	45-57W	1976		9.5-o	25,771		25,906		51,677		
13. Deadeye/D	65-62W	1981			2,124						
14. Deadeye/J	65-62W	1979		20.8-o 24.0-g	42,541	149,876	16,630	43,052	59,171	192,928	N.P., Also Prod. in Elbert Co.
15. Doubletree/J	65-62W	1978		21.0-o 10.2-g	65,361 (34)	75,770	67,011	175,443	132,372 (34)	231,213	Also Prod. in Elbert County
16. Dragon/D	3445-62W	1971		10.3-o 9.7-g	1,320,556	5,816,510	155,208	1,486,493	1,475,764	7,303,203	Econ. Limit-4 wells
17. Dragon/J	3445-62W	1973			14,618	58,850					Has Been SI Most of Last 6 Yrs. No Calc. Made N.P.
18. Electra/J	45-63W	1981			14,343	283					
19. Fairway/J	45-63W	1978		23.8-o	168,224 (2,739)	812,777	241,754	See Note	409,978 (42,739)	4812,777	
20. Ferret/J	55-63W	1981			1,684	3,816					N.P.
21. Gaabral/J	45-63W	1983	NOTE: Cum.Prod. thru 9/83		(23)	98					N.P.
22. Gazelle/J	45-63W	1980			14,381 (583)	455,985					N.P.
23. Hombres/J	35-61W	1971	M. D.	8.7-o 8.0-g	220,770	553,275	112,449	304,088	333,219	857,363	Also Prod. in Adams Co.
24. Lonetree/J	35-59W	1974	M.D. in J-Channel S.B. in J-Splay	8.0-o 10.0-g	473,925	822,391	323,752	324,876	797,677	1,147,267	Also Prod. in Adams Co.
25. Lowry/J	55-64165W	1972	Exp.	8.7-o 13.5-g	1,154,183	2,950,848	369,075	375,496	1,573,258	3,326,344	Econ. Limit-2 wells
26. Peacepipe/D	4155-62W	1979	S. G. D.	23.0-o 28.0-g	7,256 (4,761)	128,860	3,390	30,696	10,646 (4,761)	159,556	
27. Peacepipe/J	4155-62W	1973	S. G. D.	10.0-o 6.9-g	17,751 (60,063)	3,617,959	22,295	2,247,465	40,046 (160,063)	5,865,424	

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

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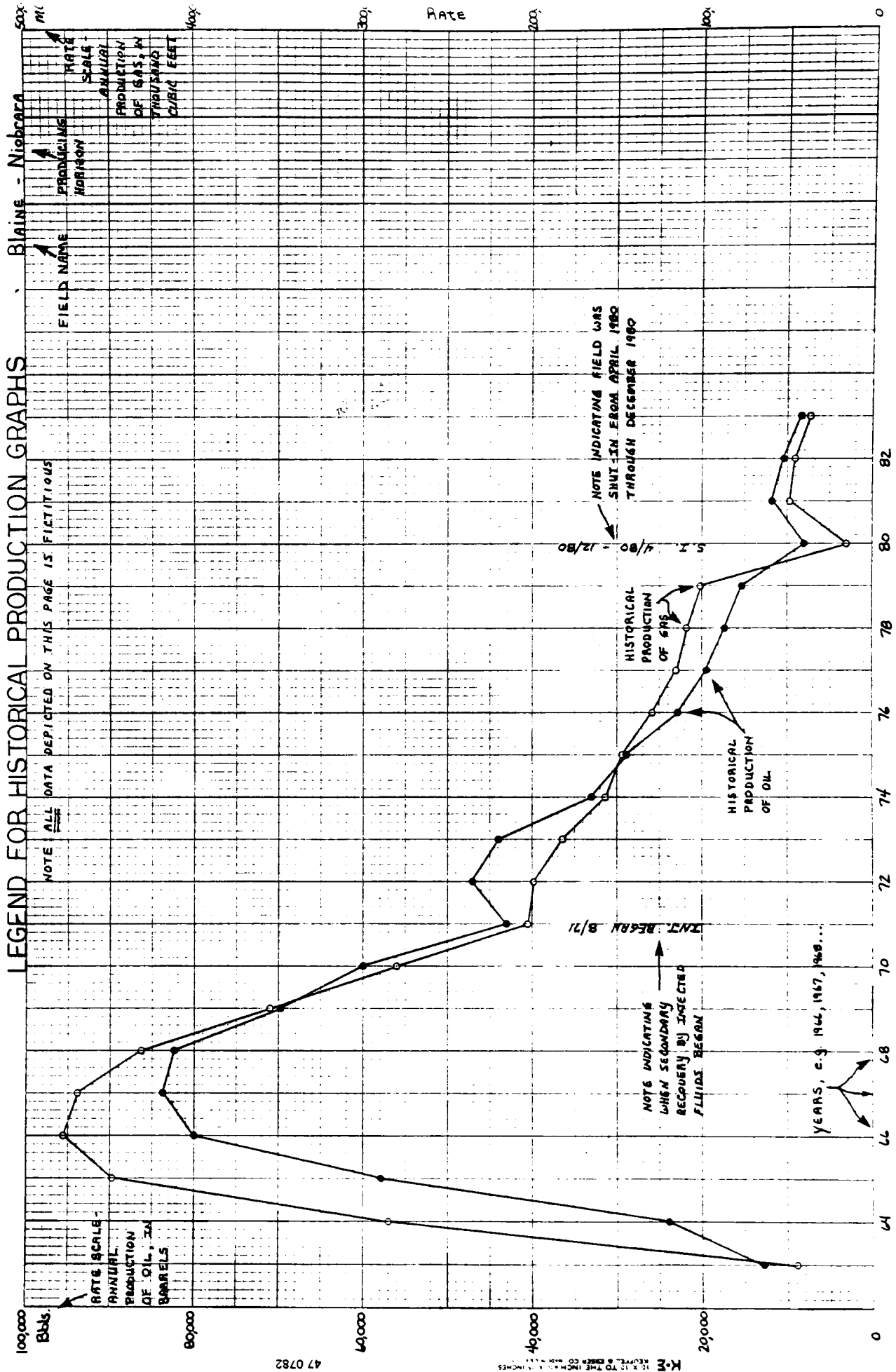
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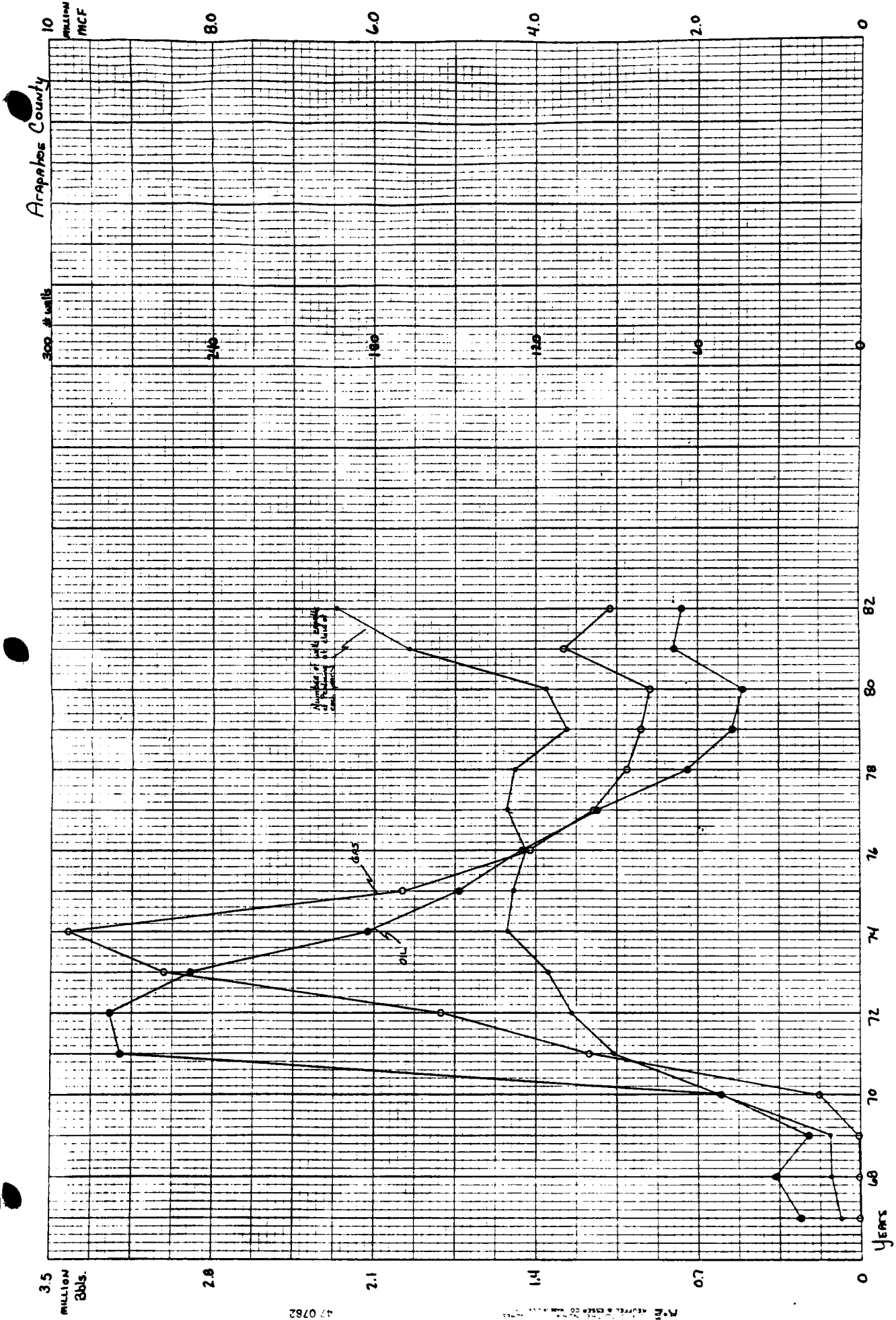
Appendix I

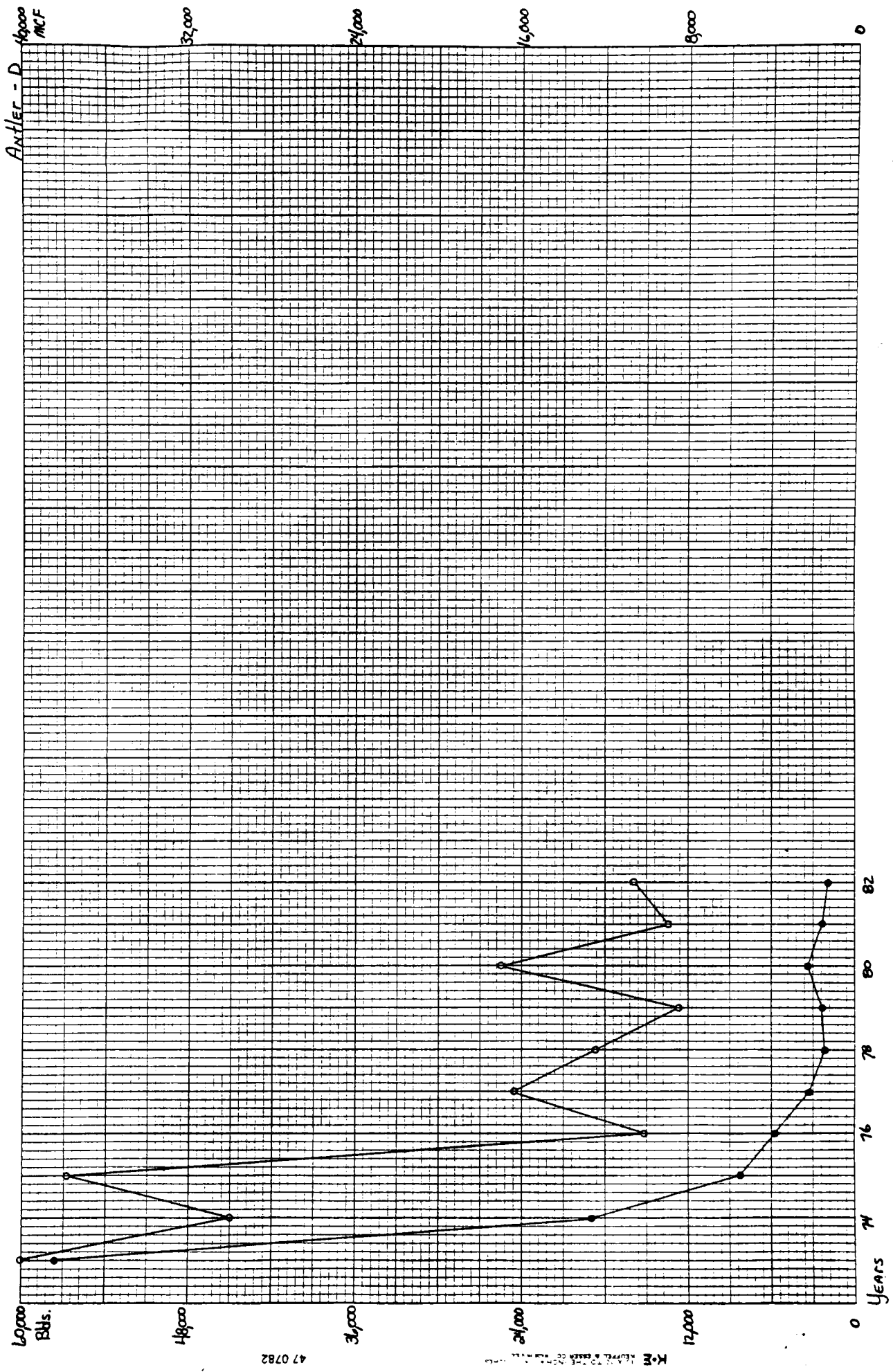
Historical production decline curve graphs for Arapahoe County. These graphs are presented in alphabetical order by Field name and then by producing horizons within each field.

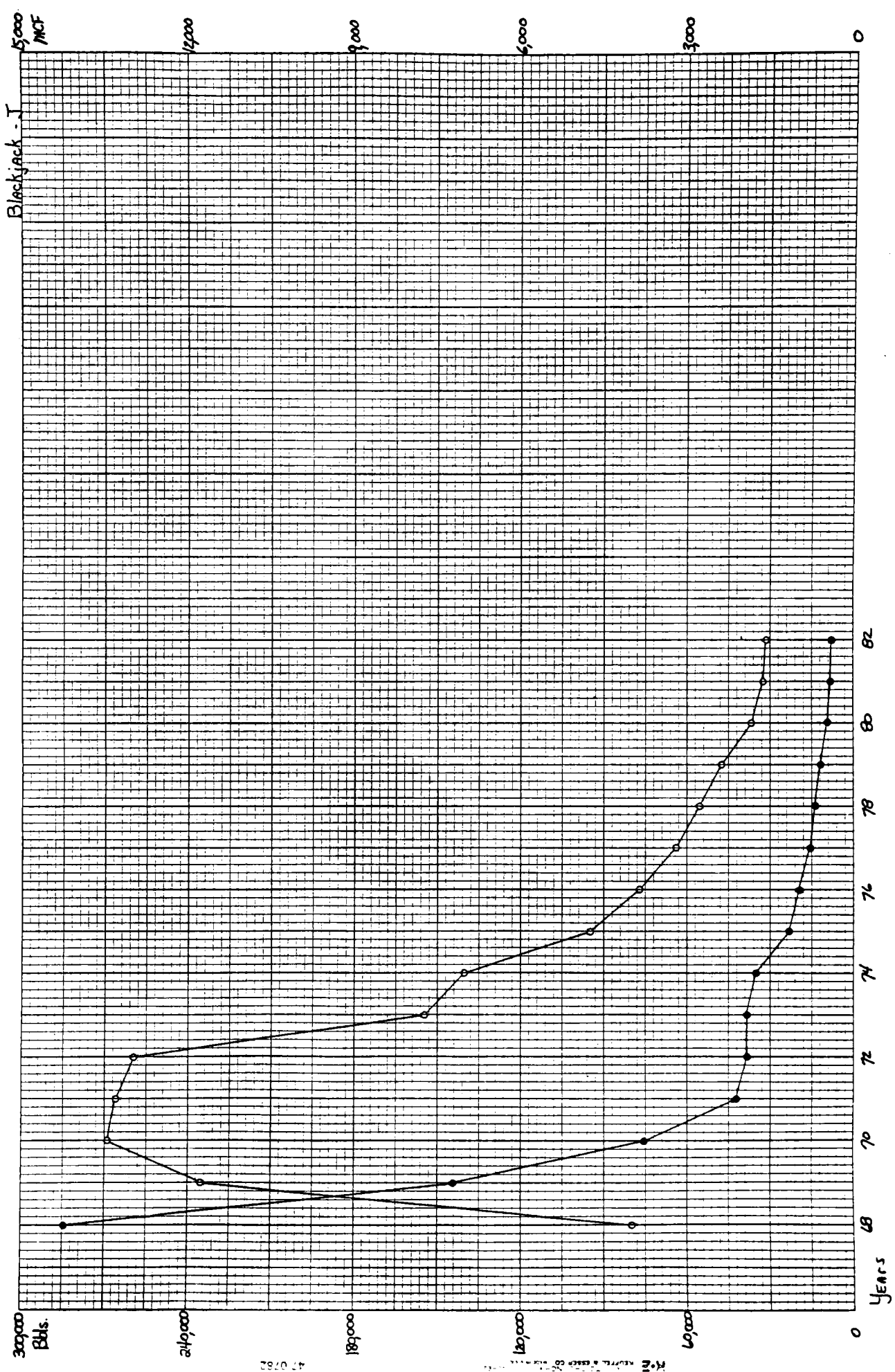
Note that only those fields actively producing as of 9-30-83 are included. Abandoned fields or field-horizons are not included.

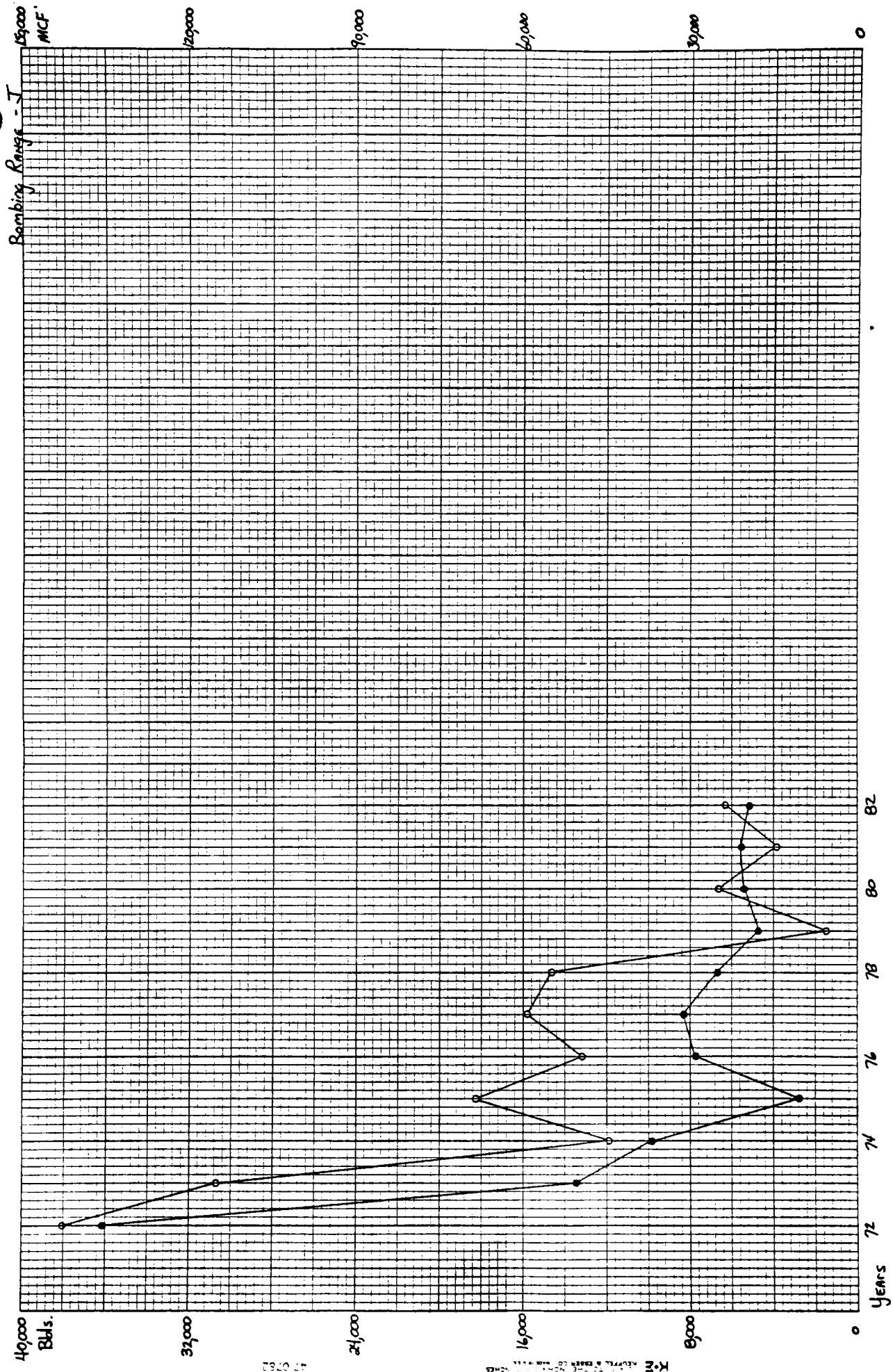
LEGEND FOR HISTORICAL PRODUCTION GRAPHS

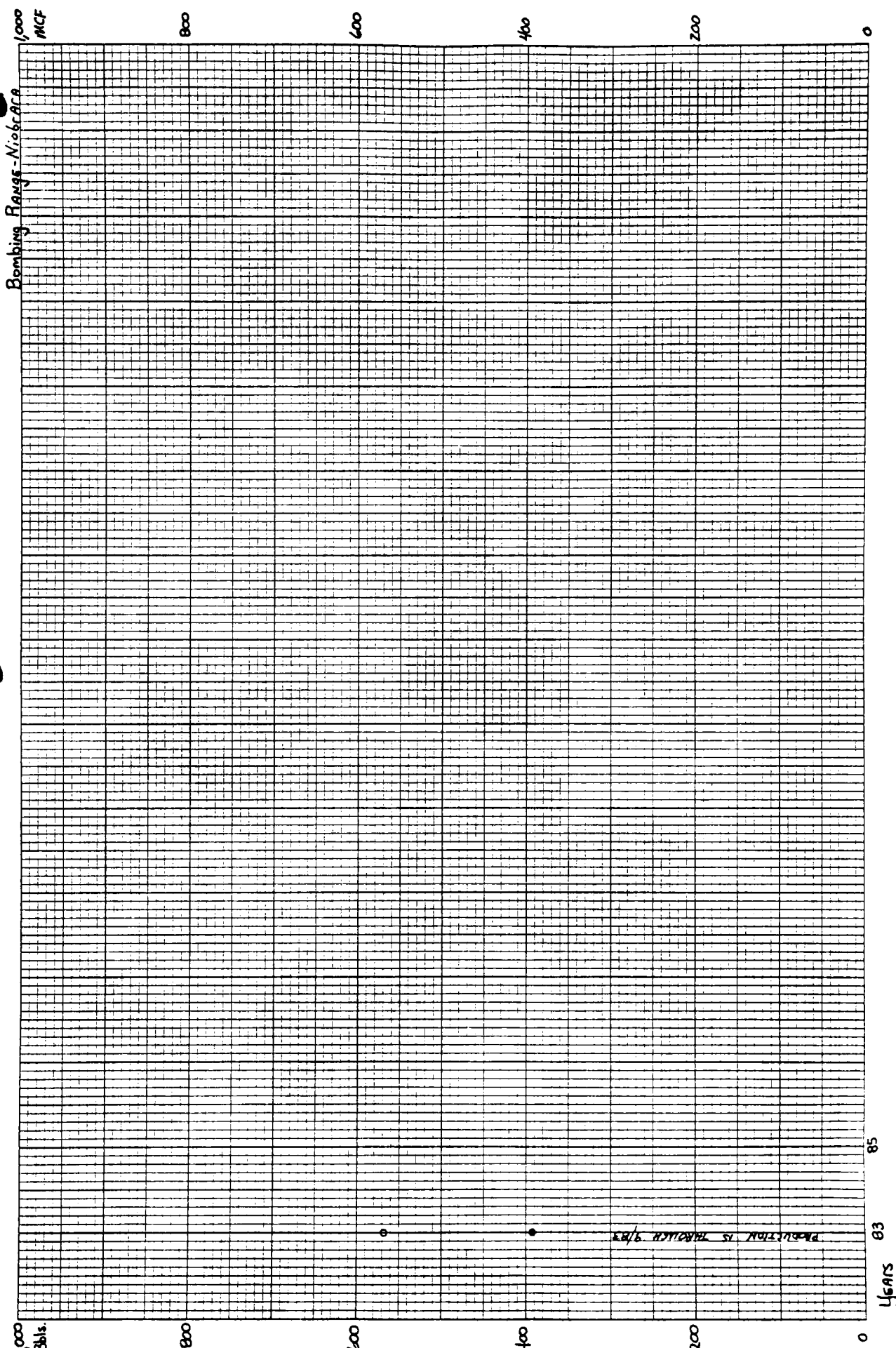












1,000
800
600
400
200
0

Bombing Range - Nickel

1,000 MCF
800
600
400
200
0

Years

0 83 85

47-0782

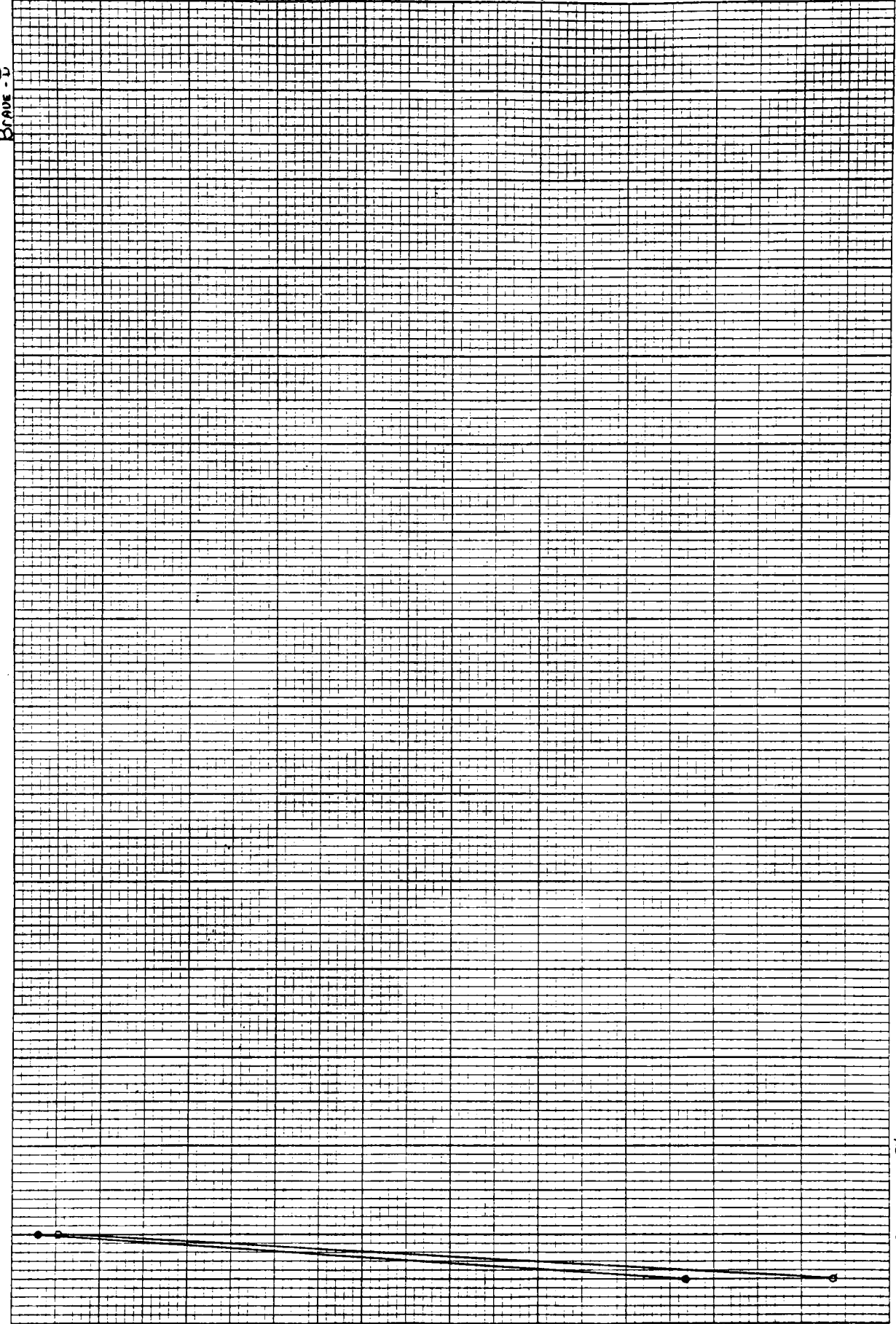
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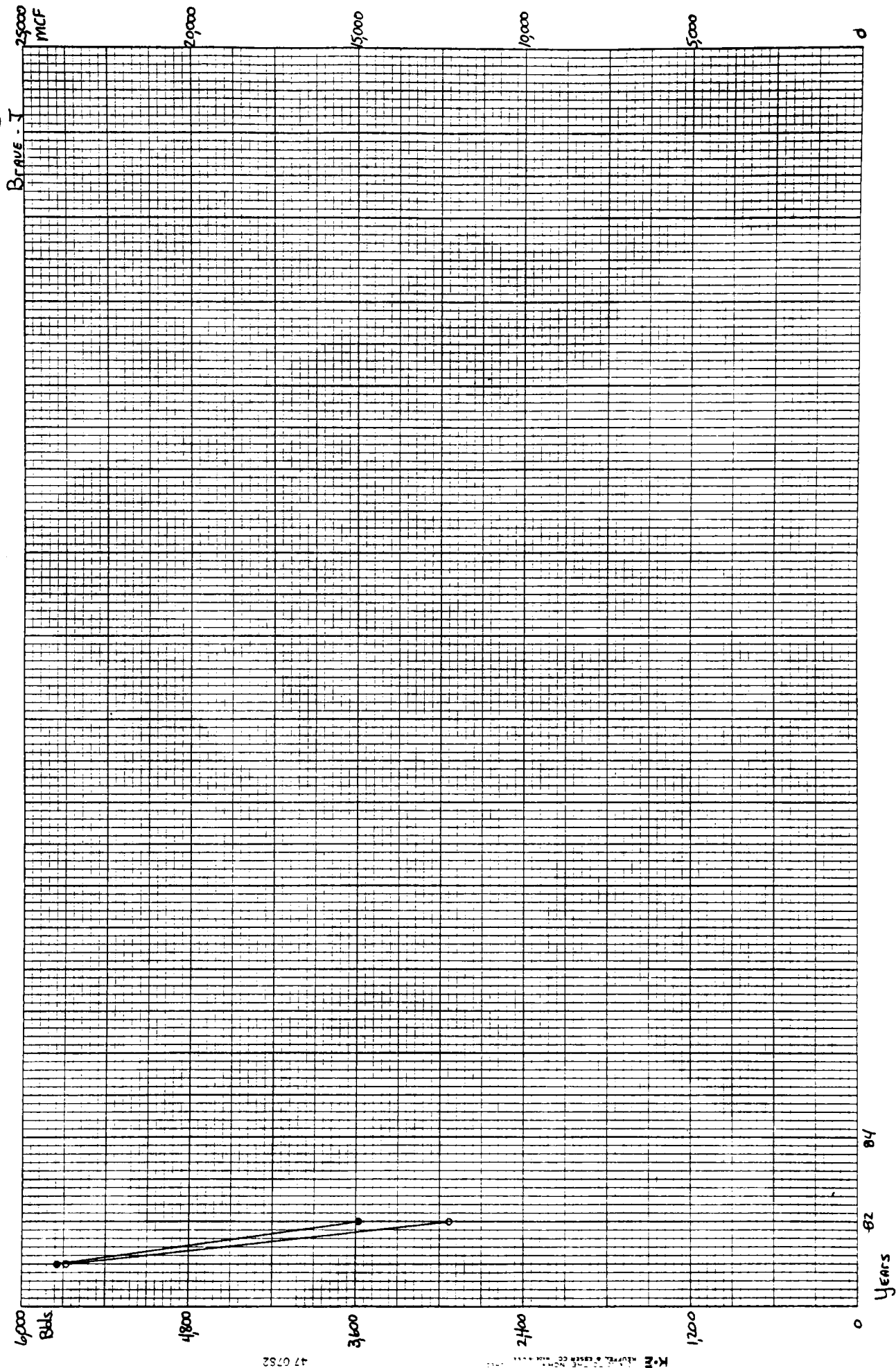
GRADE - U
MCF

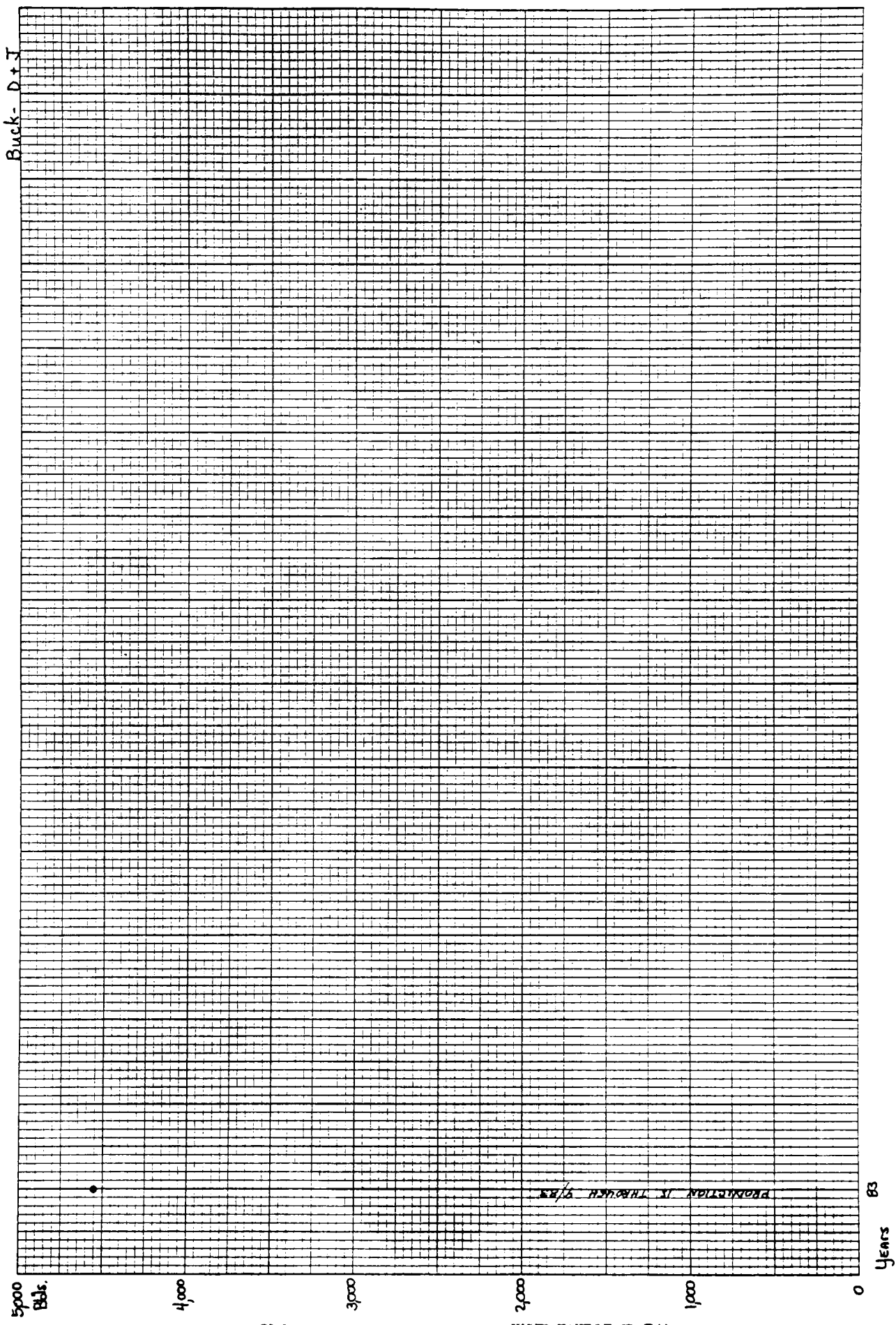
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3,000
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1,000
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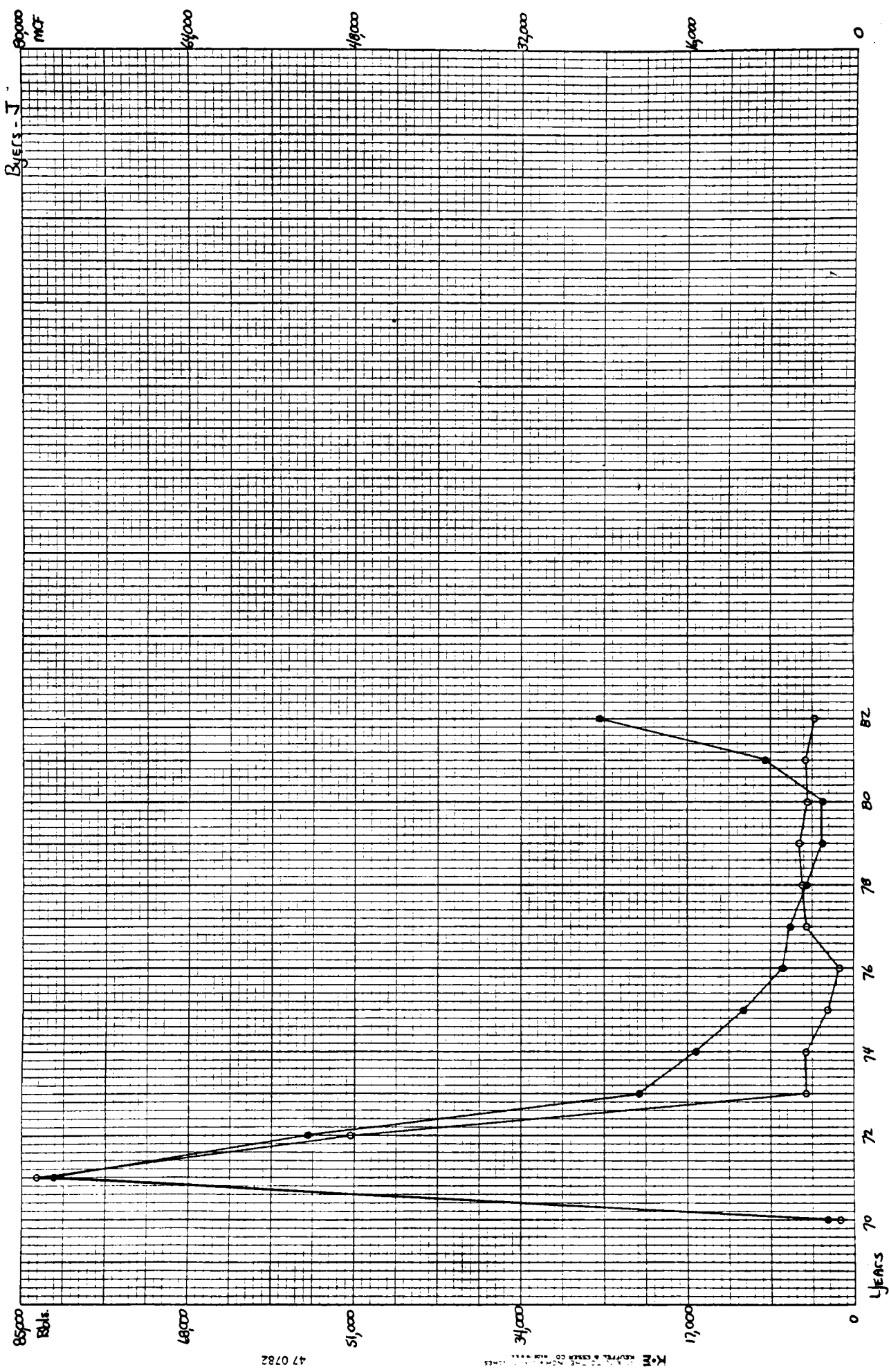
Years
82
84





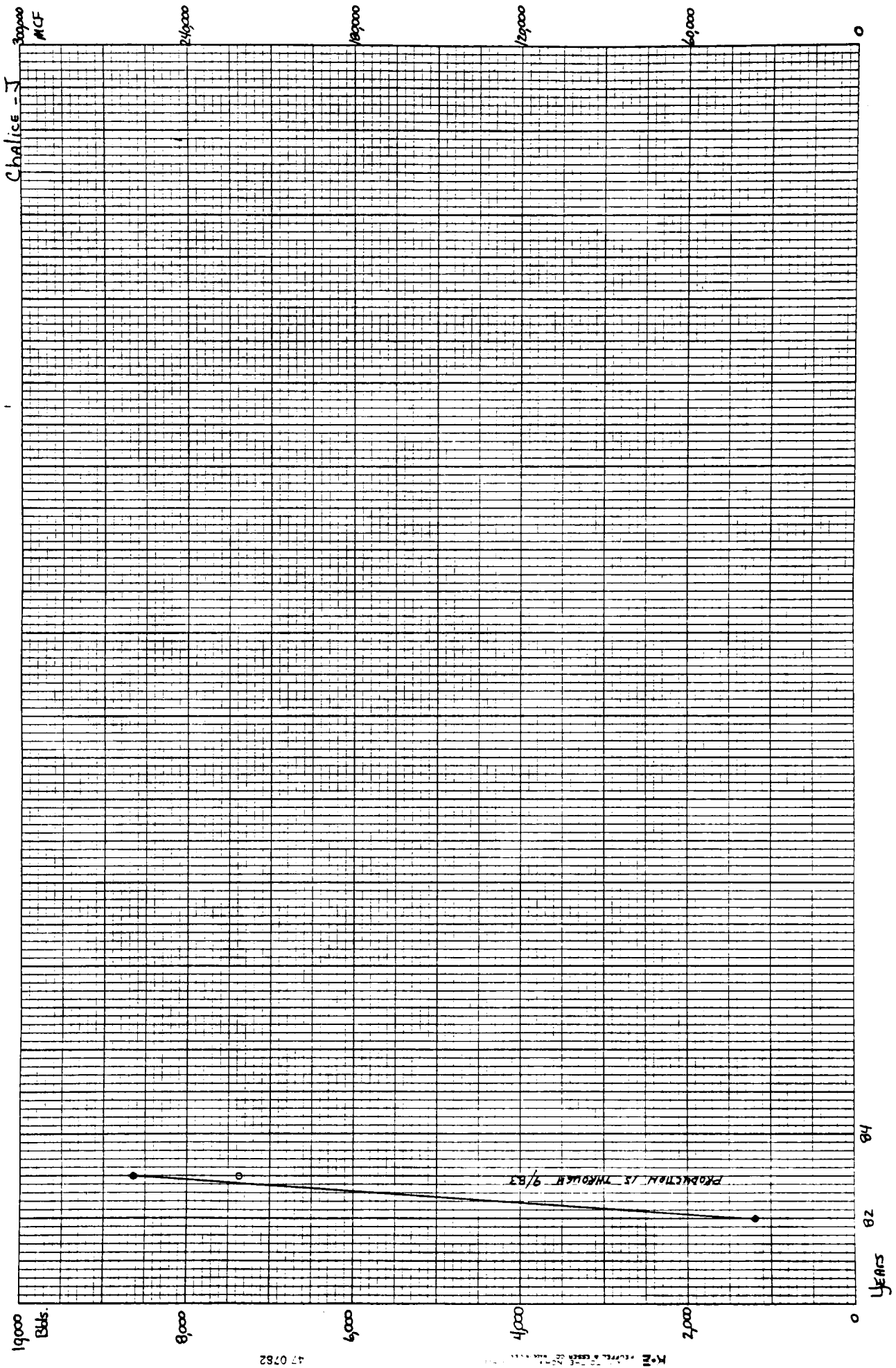


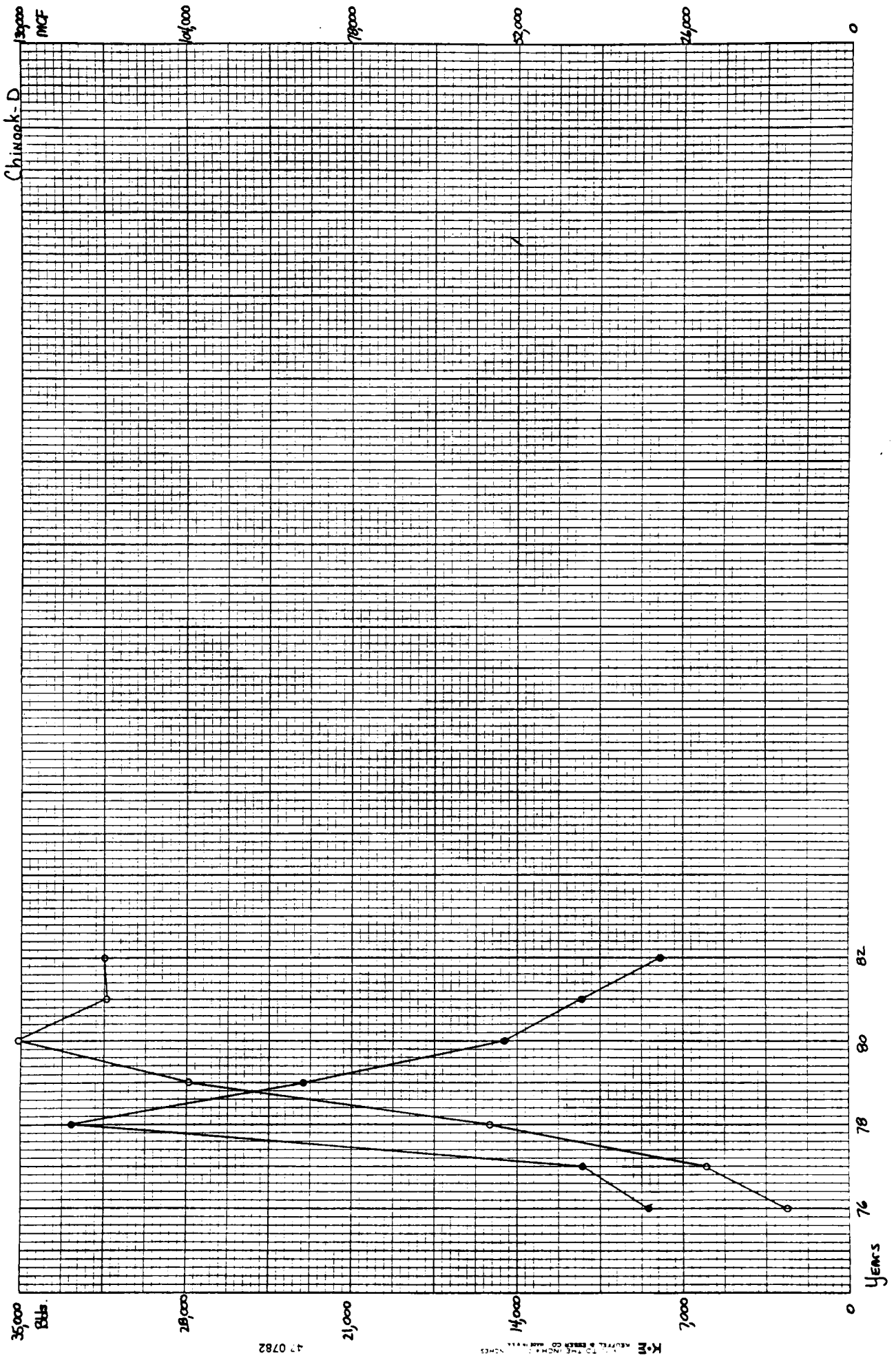
Buck- D+J

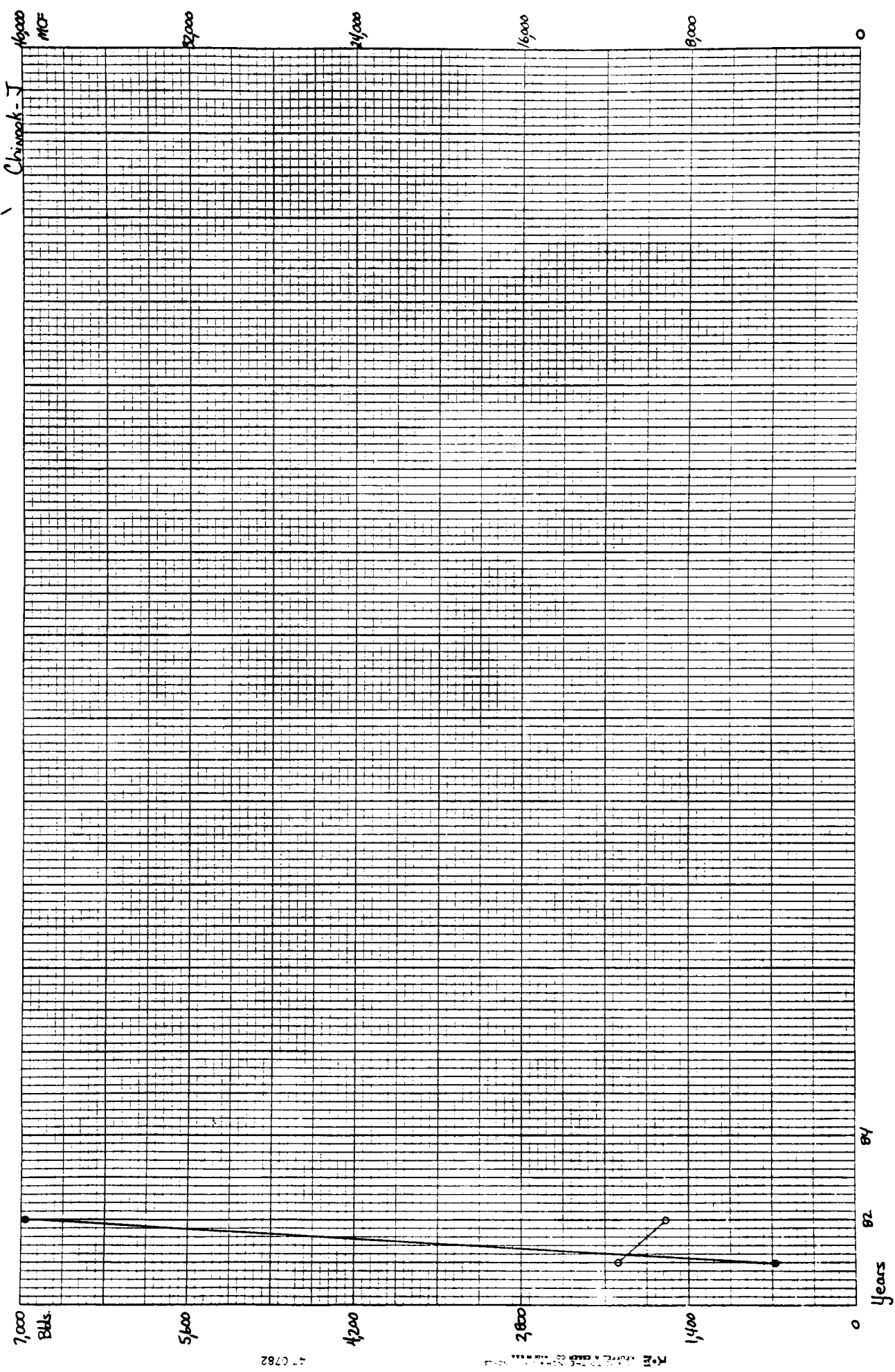


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K. M. KELLEY, A. L. KELLEY CO. INC. - MEMPHIS





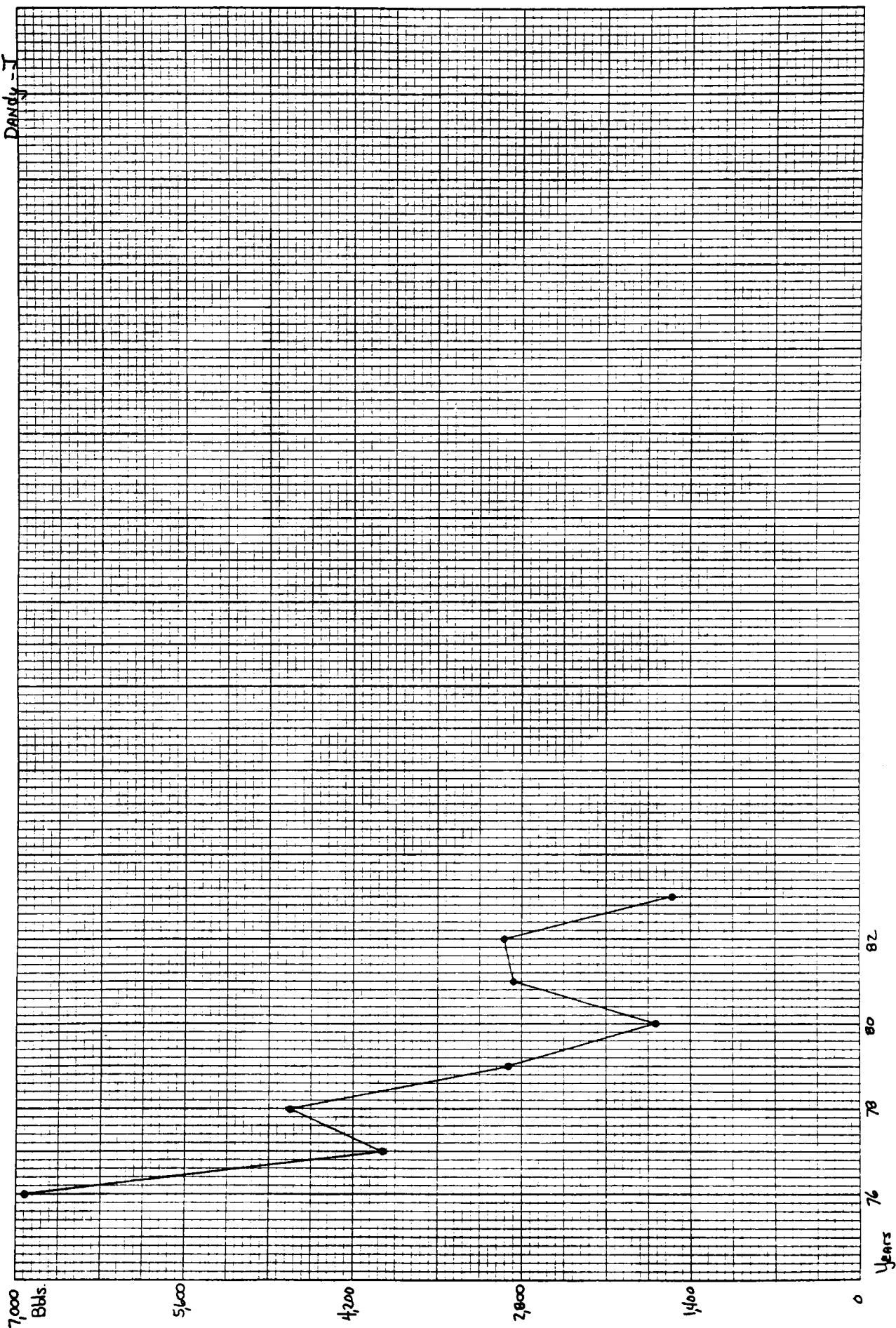


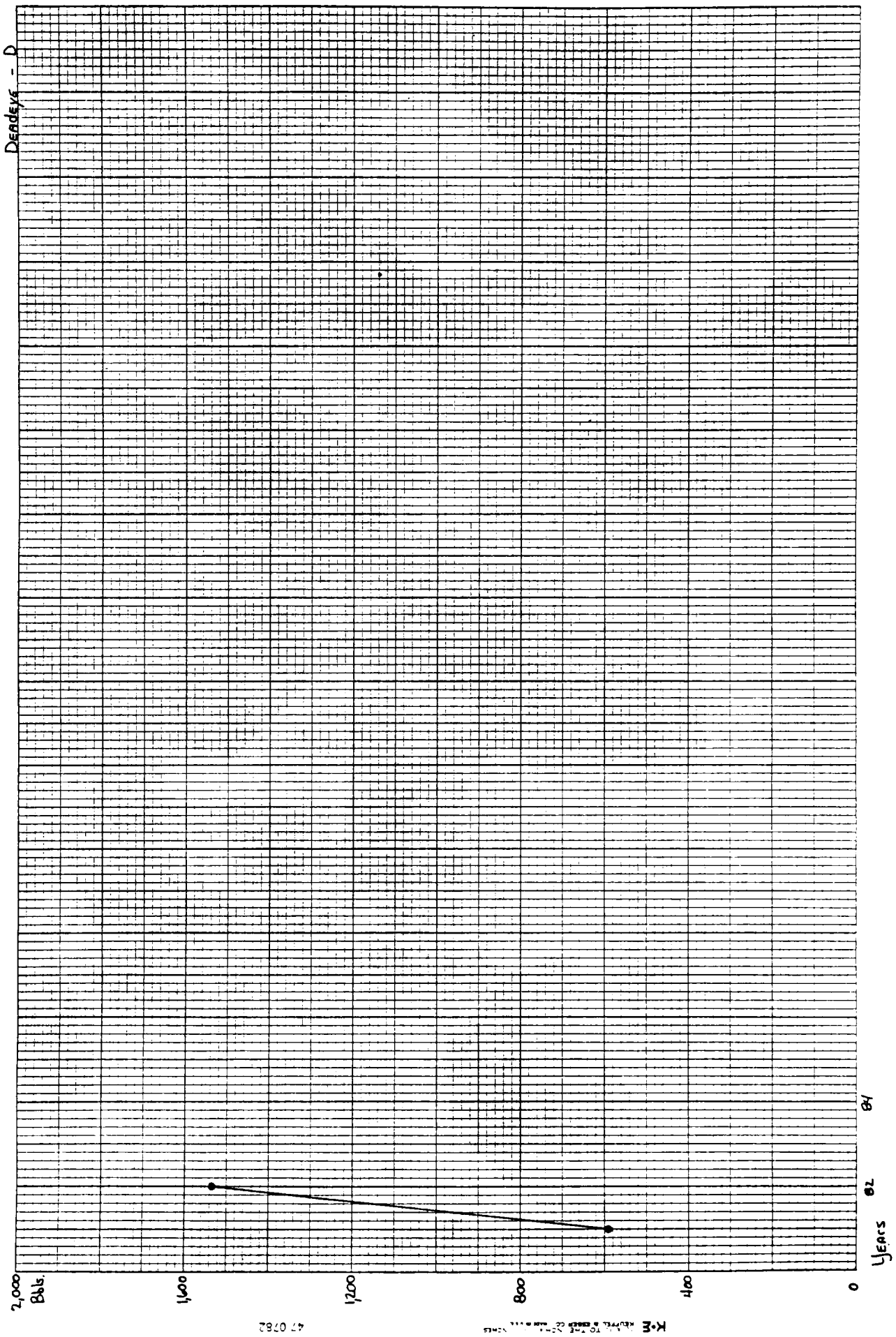
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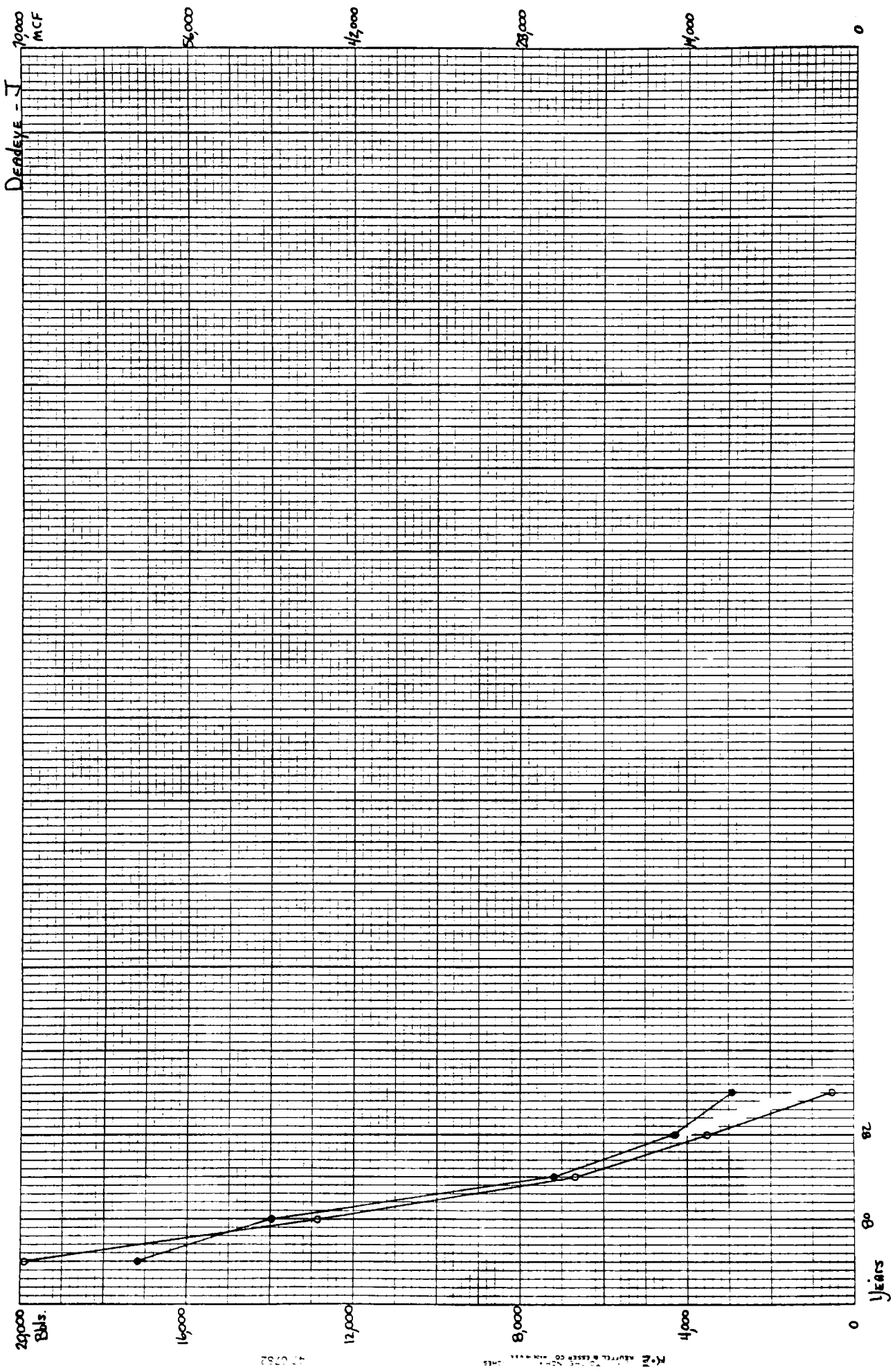
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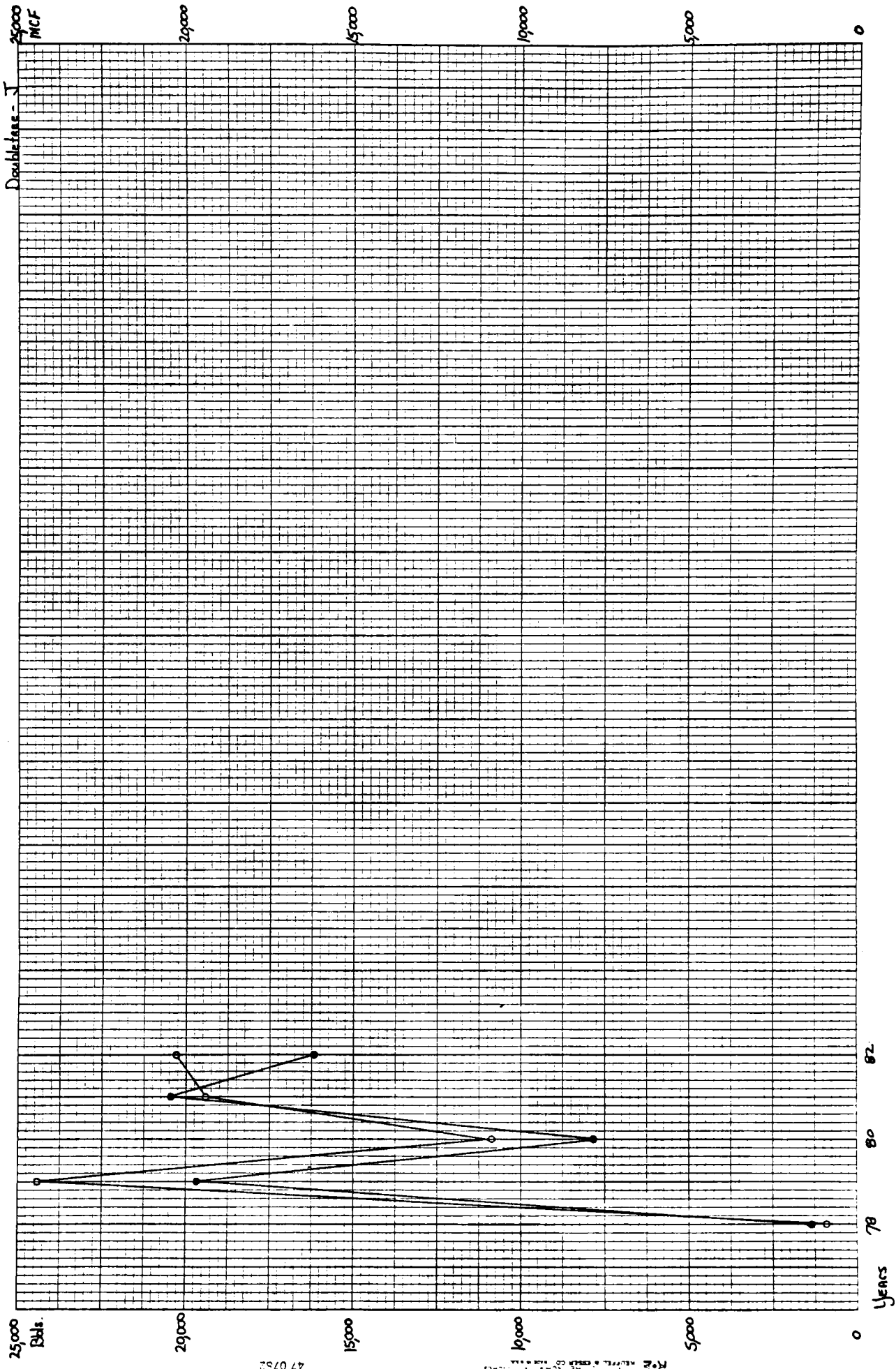
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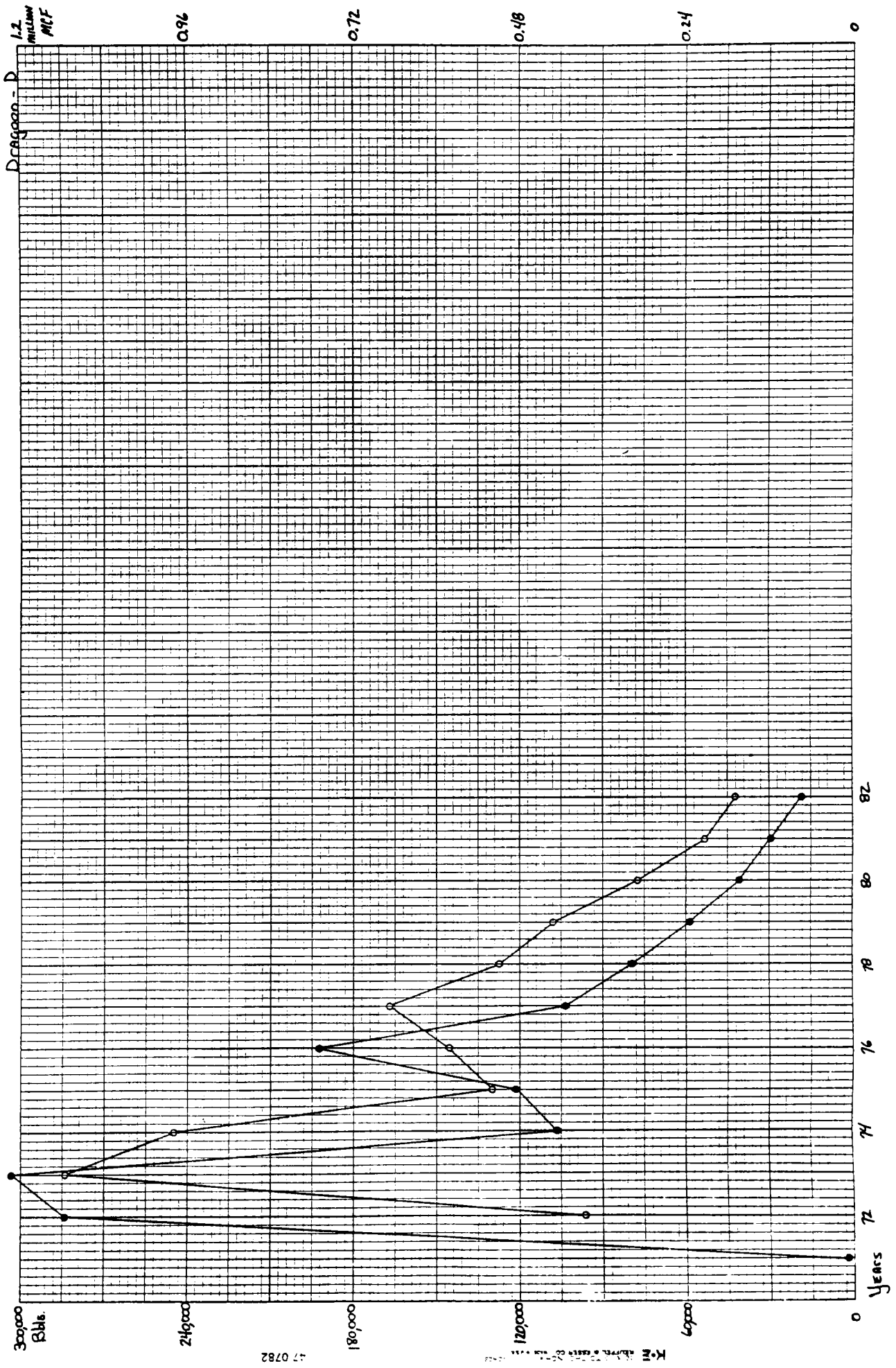
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REUTEL 0 000000 CO. MADE IN U.S.A.

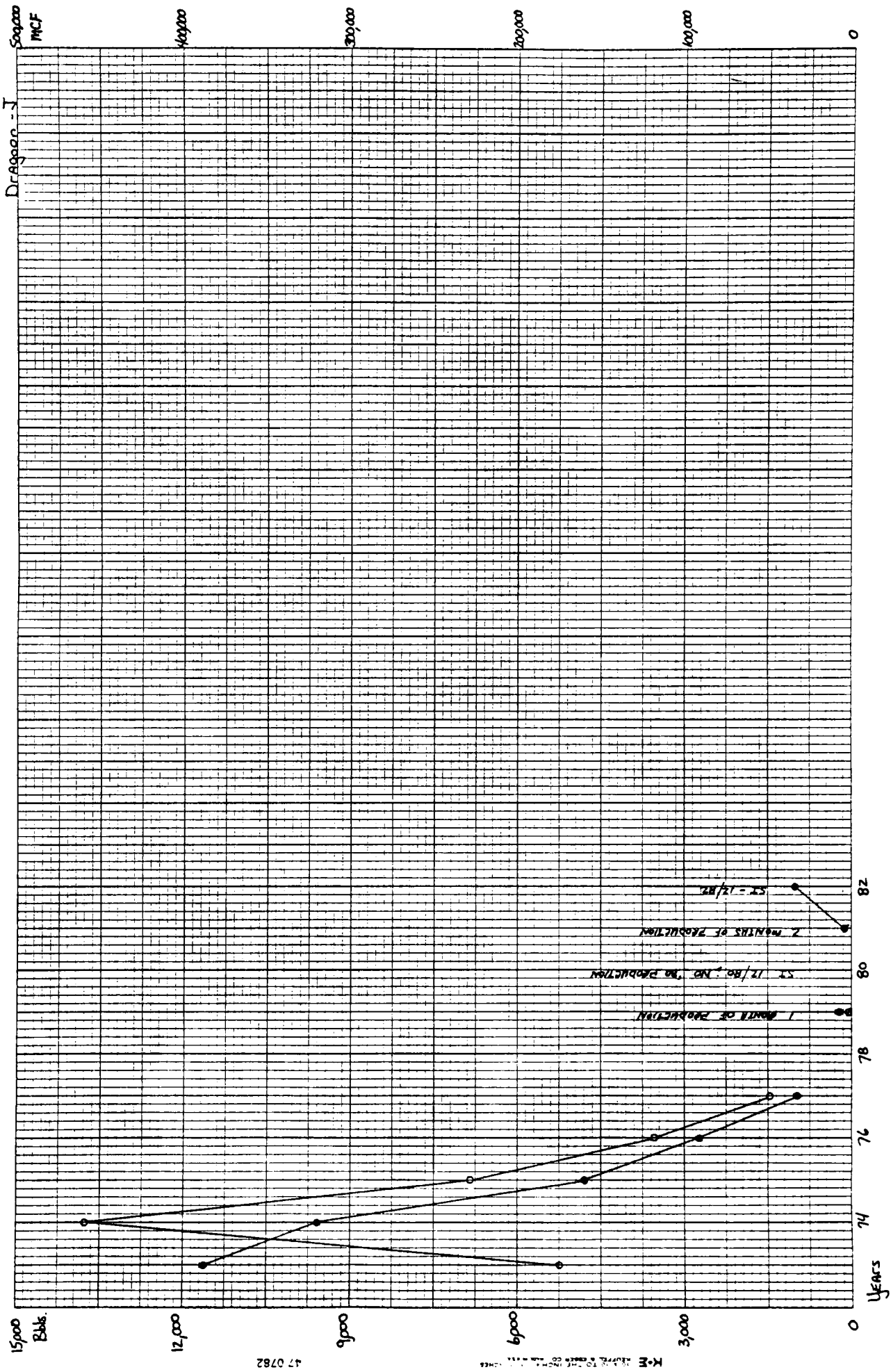


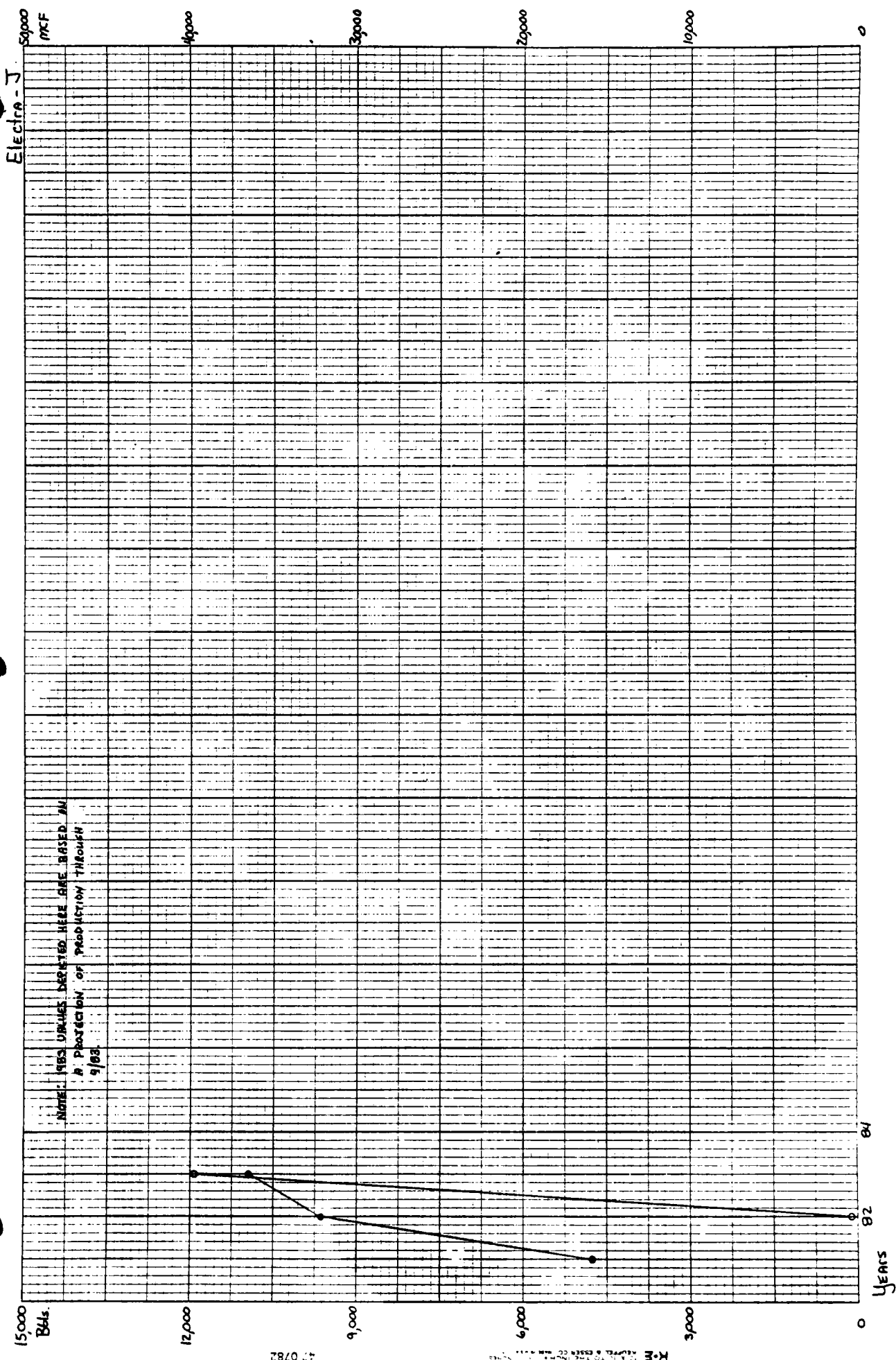






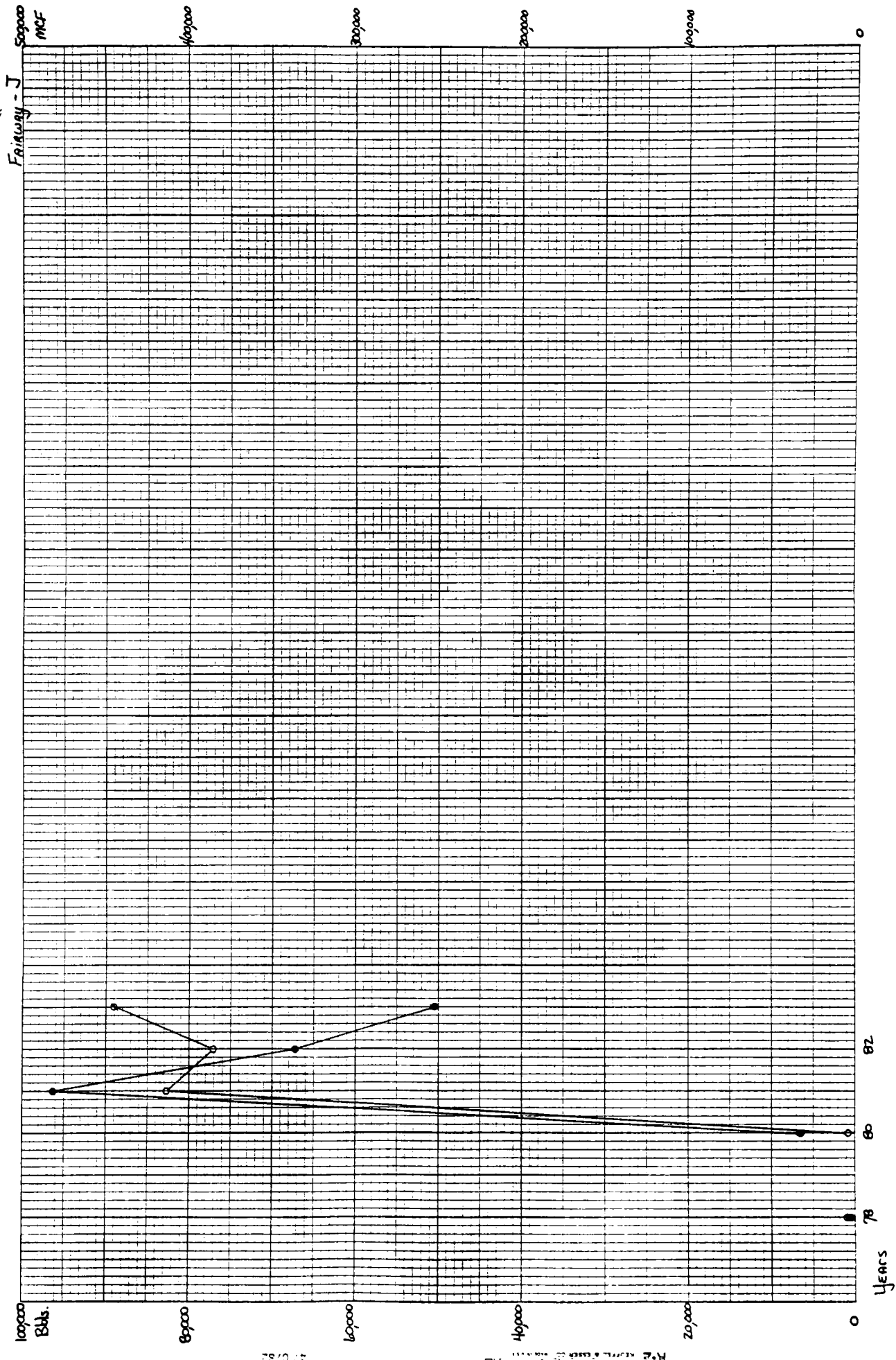






Electra - J

47 0782



47 0282

R. 21 REPT. 8-1-76 OF 11-1-76

Fairway - J

50000 MCF

40000

30000

20000

10000

0

82

80

78

Years

100000 Bbls.

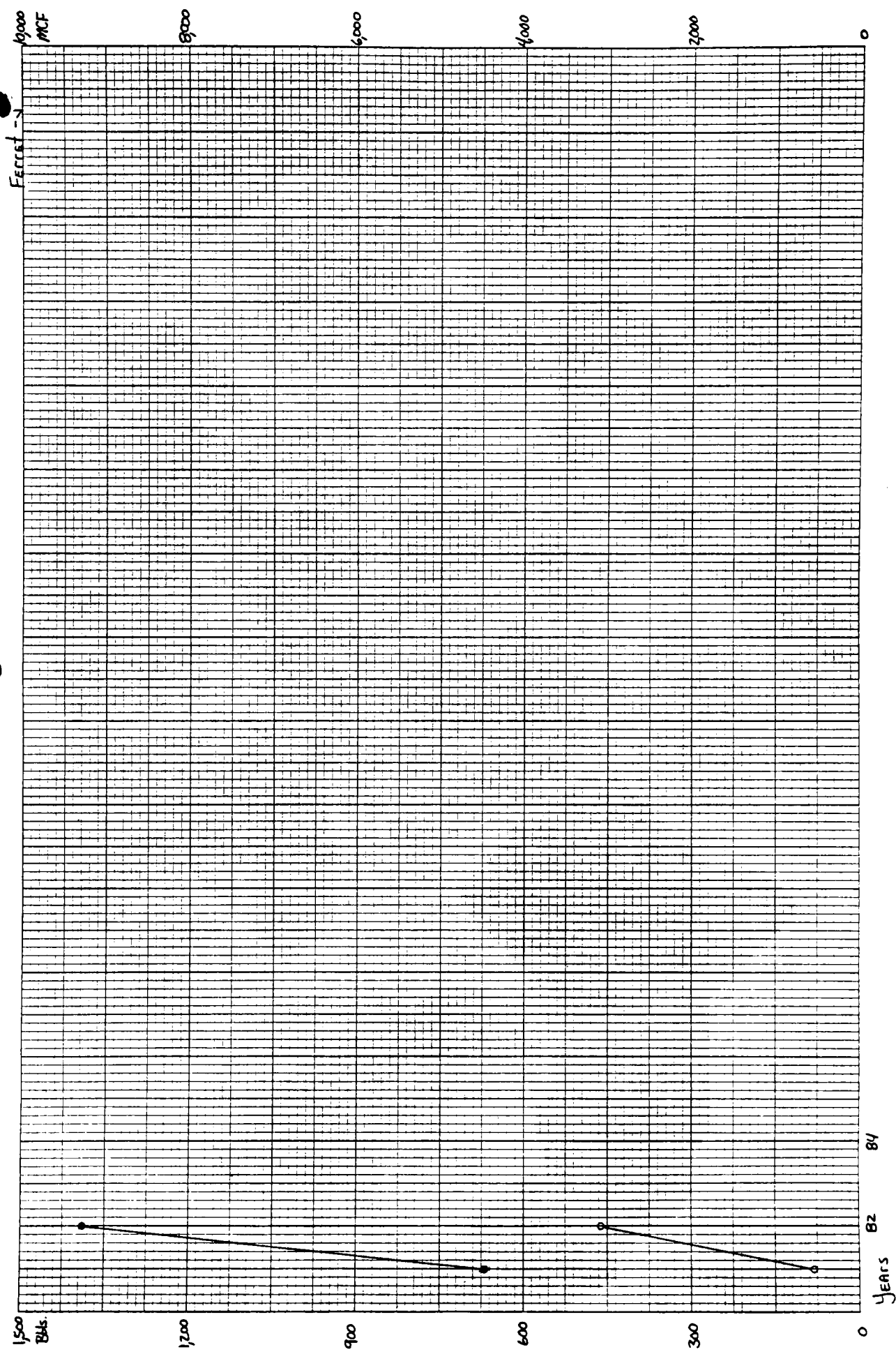
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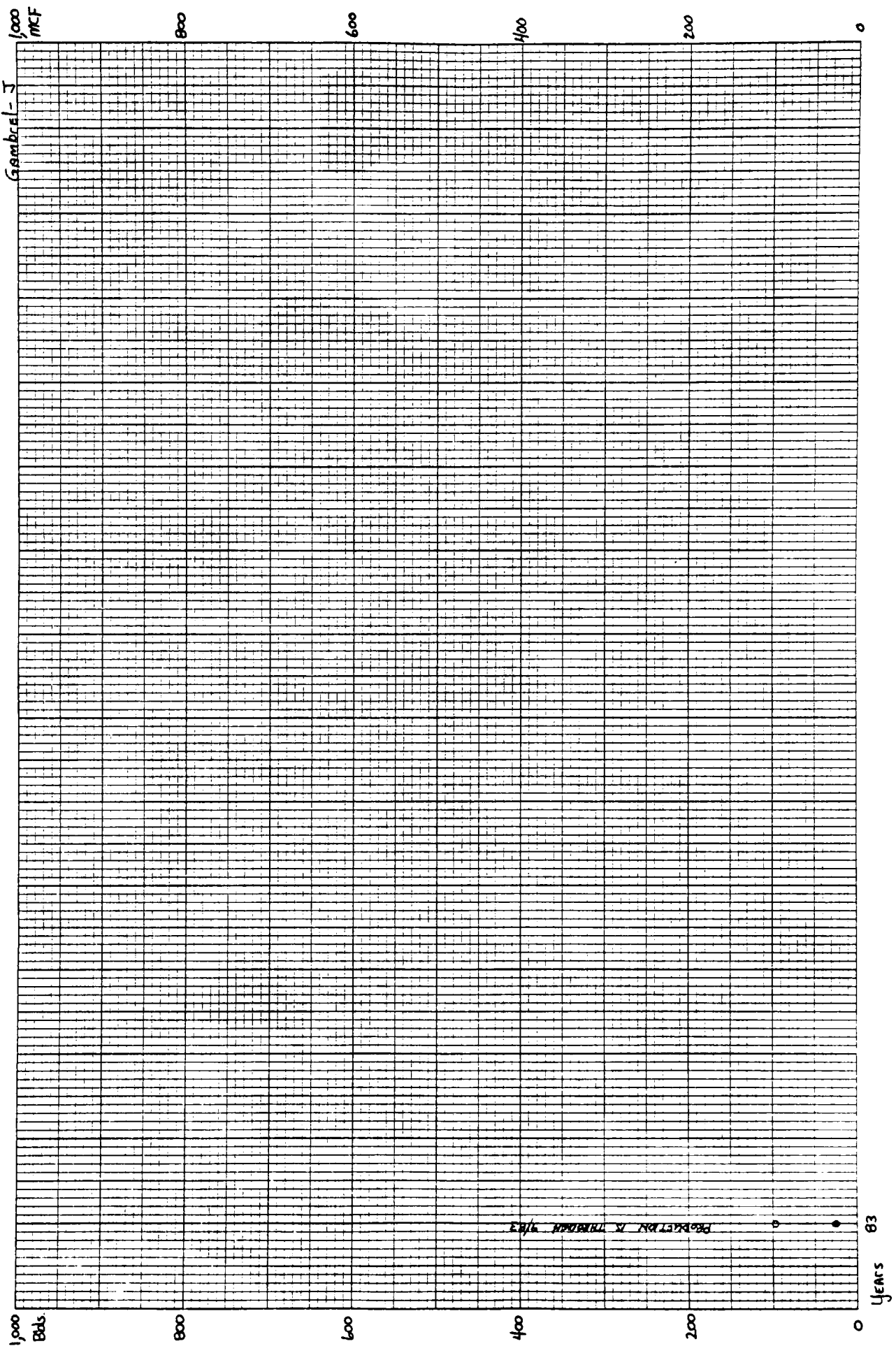
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47 0762

MEAL REVEL TO THE 20th CENTURY



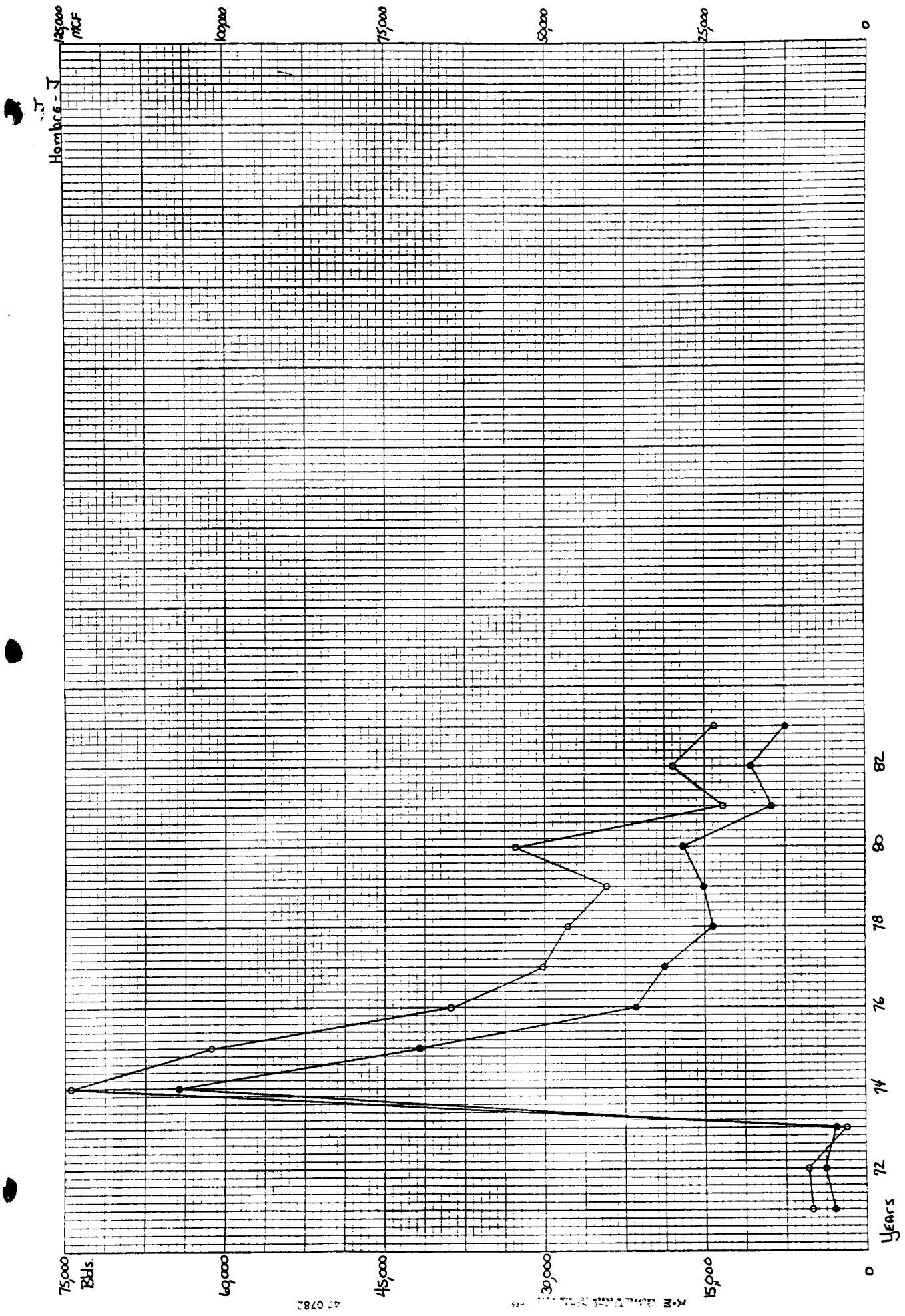
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JAN 10 1964
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WASHINGTON, D.C.

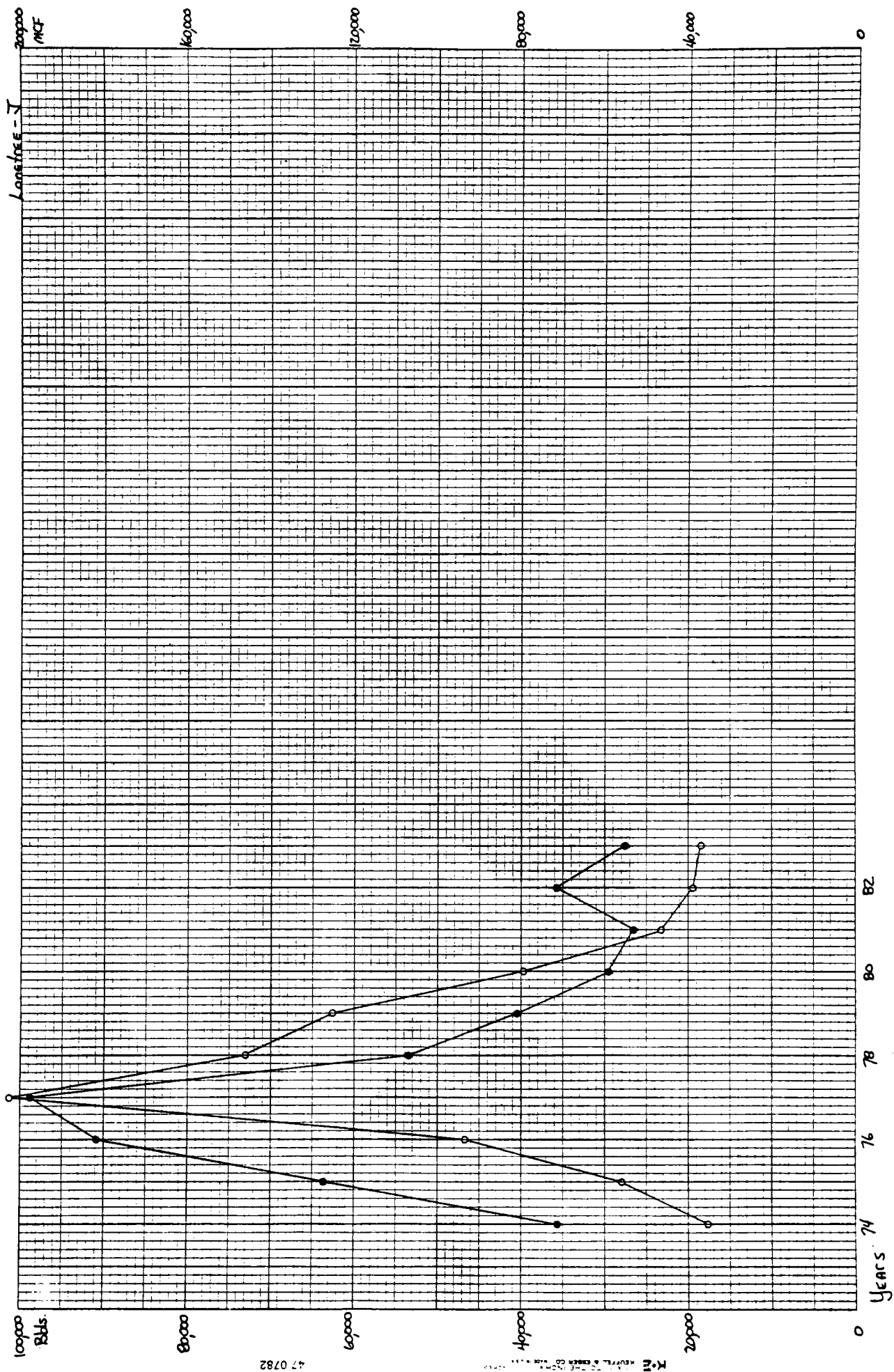
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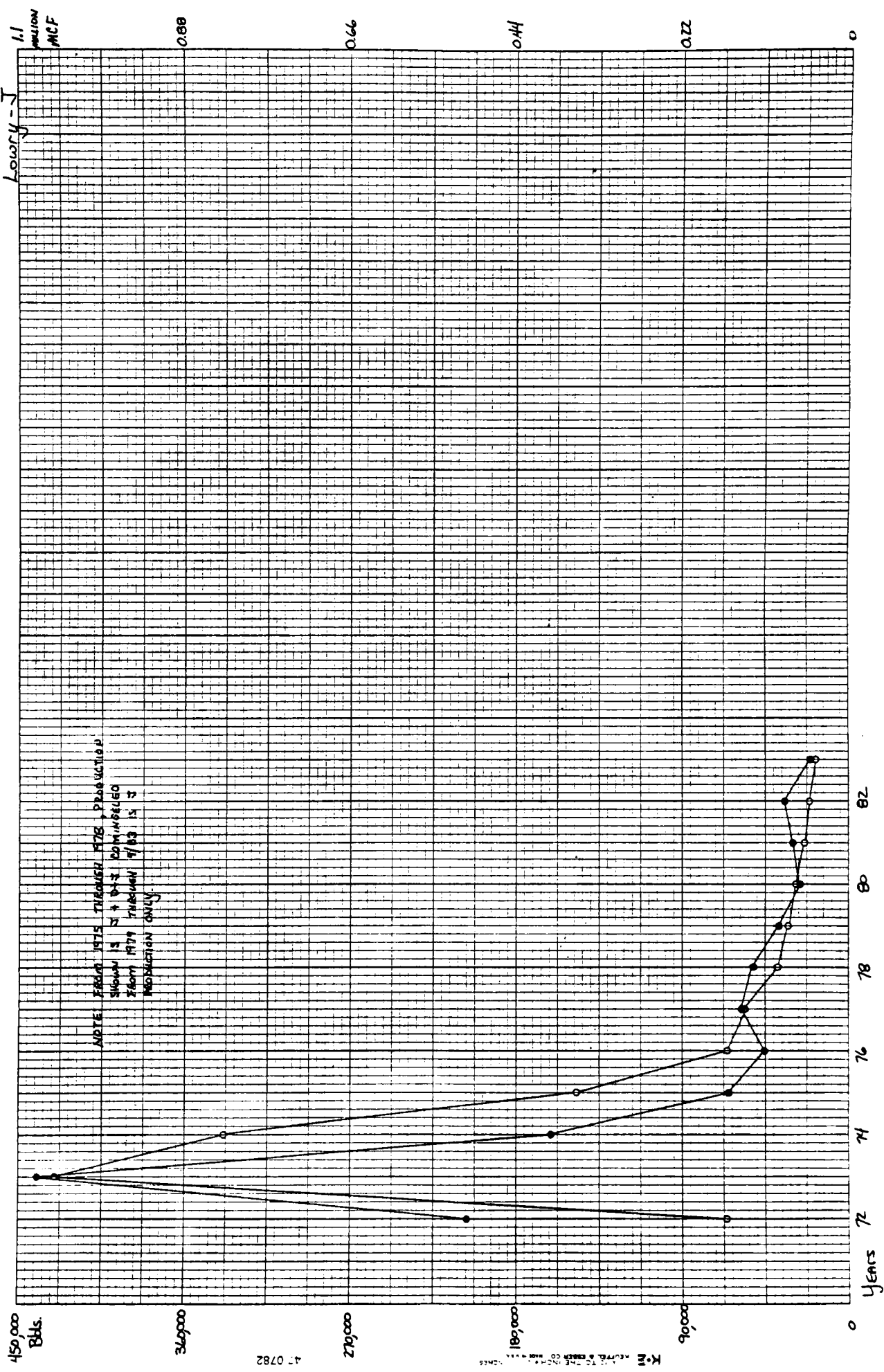
80

NOTE: 1983 PRODUCTION DEPICTED HERE IS A
PROJECTED VALUE BASED ON ACTUAL
PRODUCTION THROUGH 1/83

Year	Actual Price	Projected Price
1980	~10,000	~10,000
1981	~10,000	~10,000
1982	~180,000	~180,000







4-0782

K. H. REUTEL & SONS CO. NEW YORK, N.Y.

450,000 Bbls.

300,000

200,000

100,000

0

0

Years

72

74

76

78

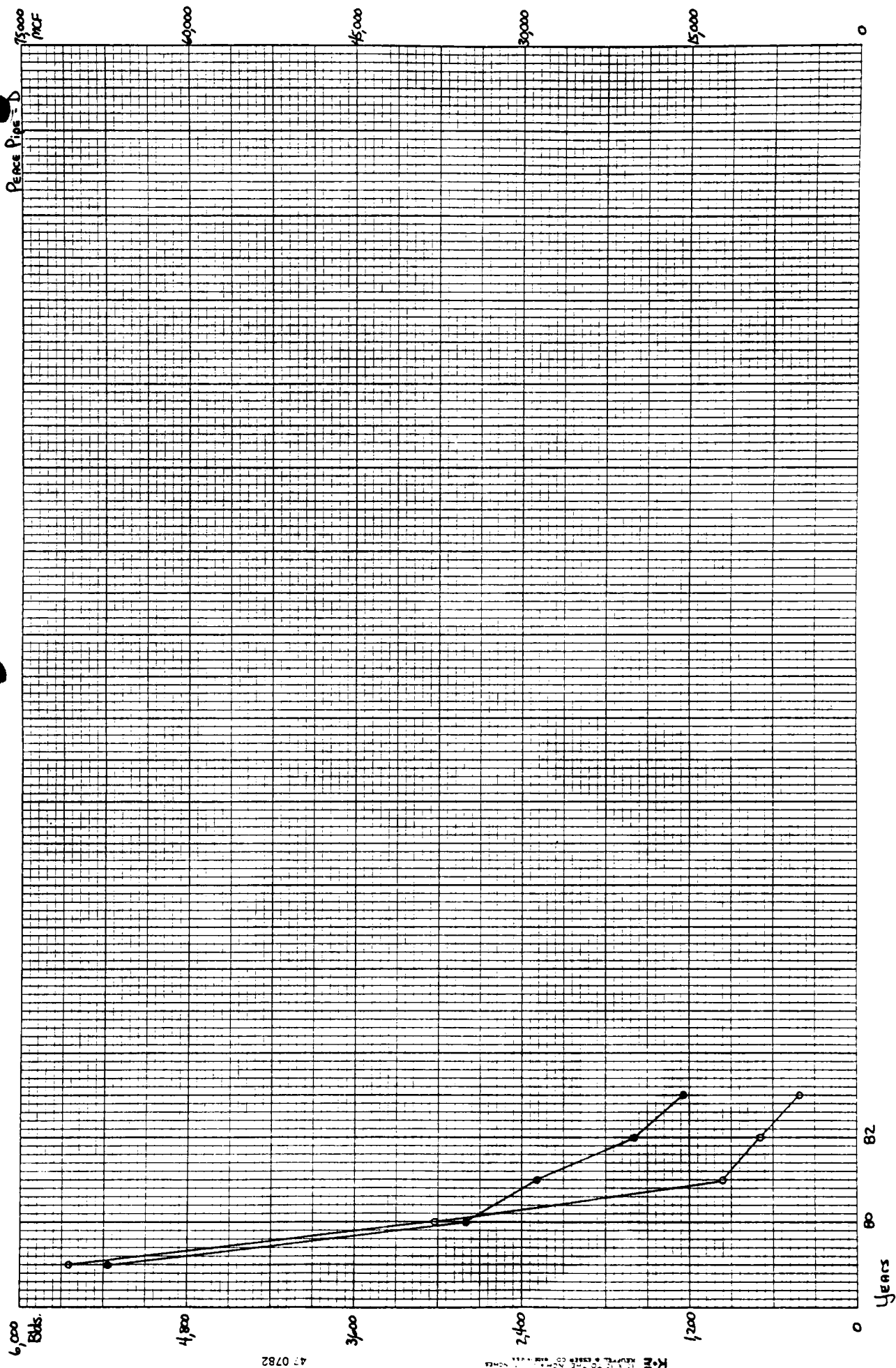
80

82

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0.9
0.8
0.7
0.6
0.5
0.4
0.3
0.2
0.1
0

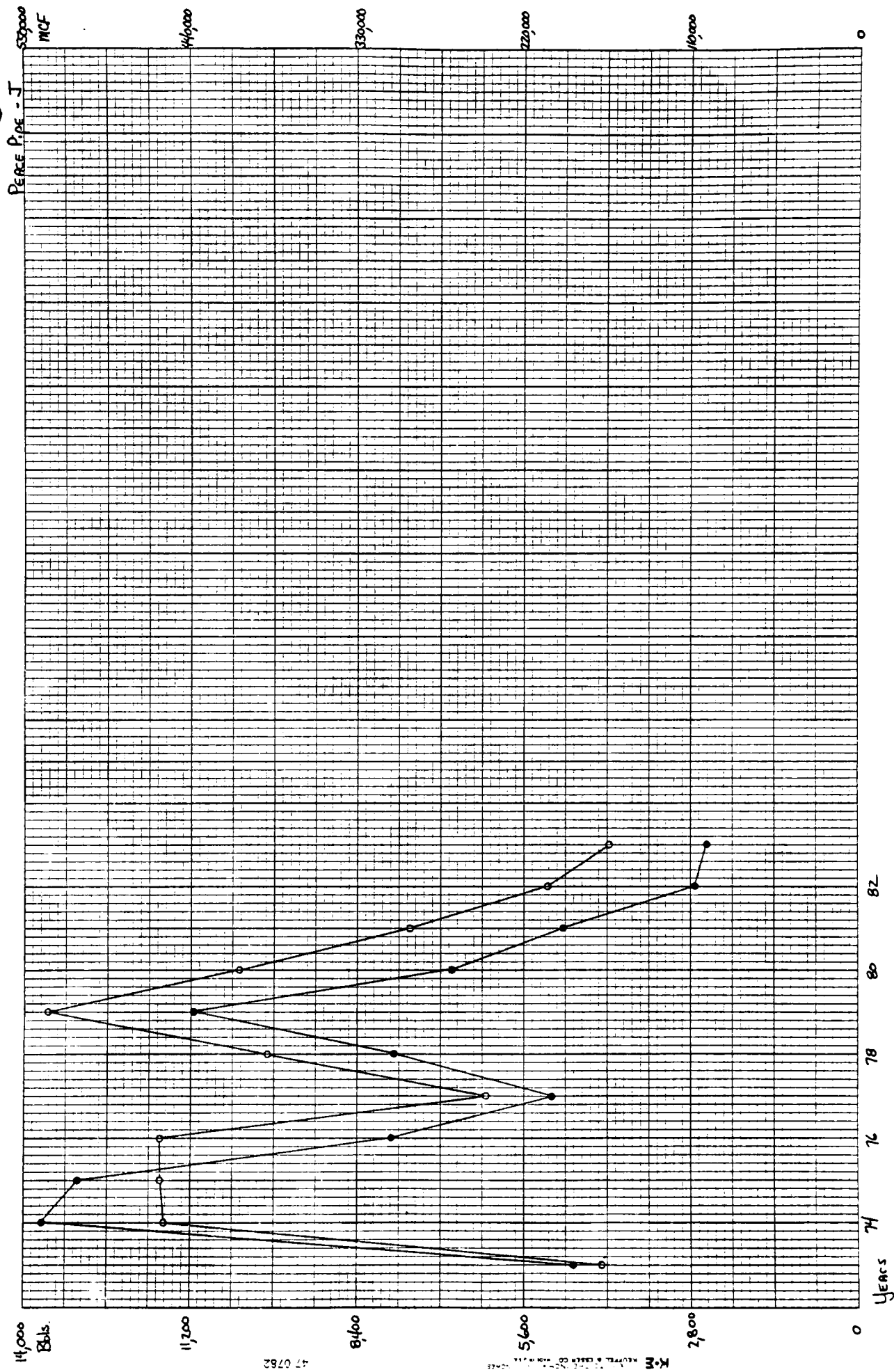
Lowry-1

1.1
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0.9
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0.7
0.6
0.5
0.4
0.3
0.2
0.1
0



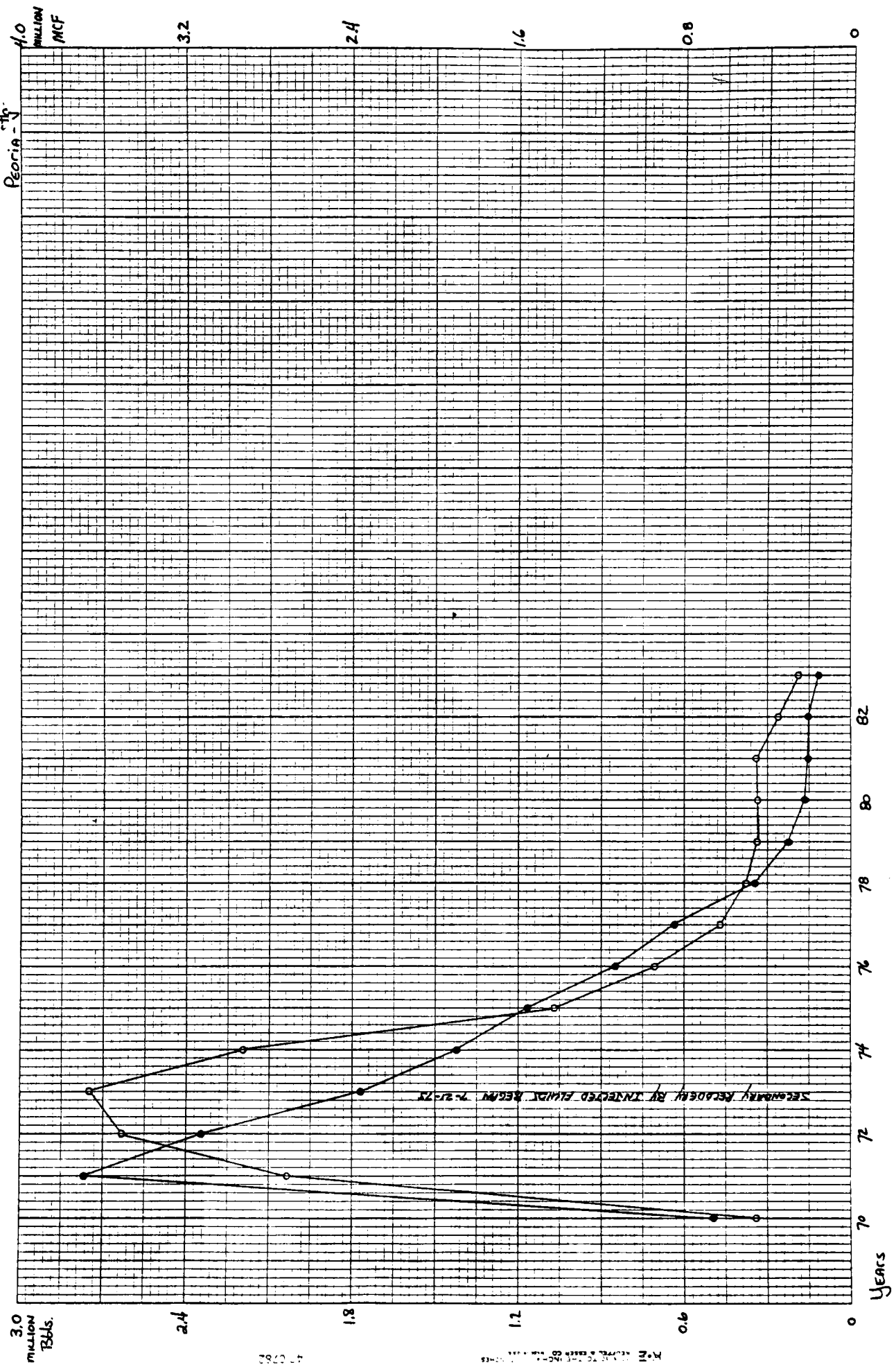
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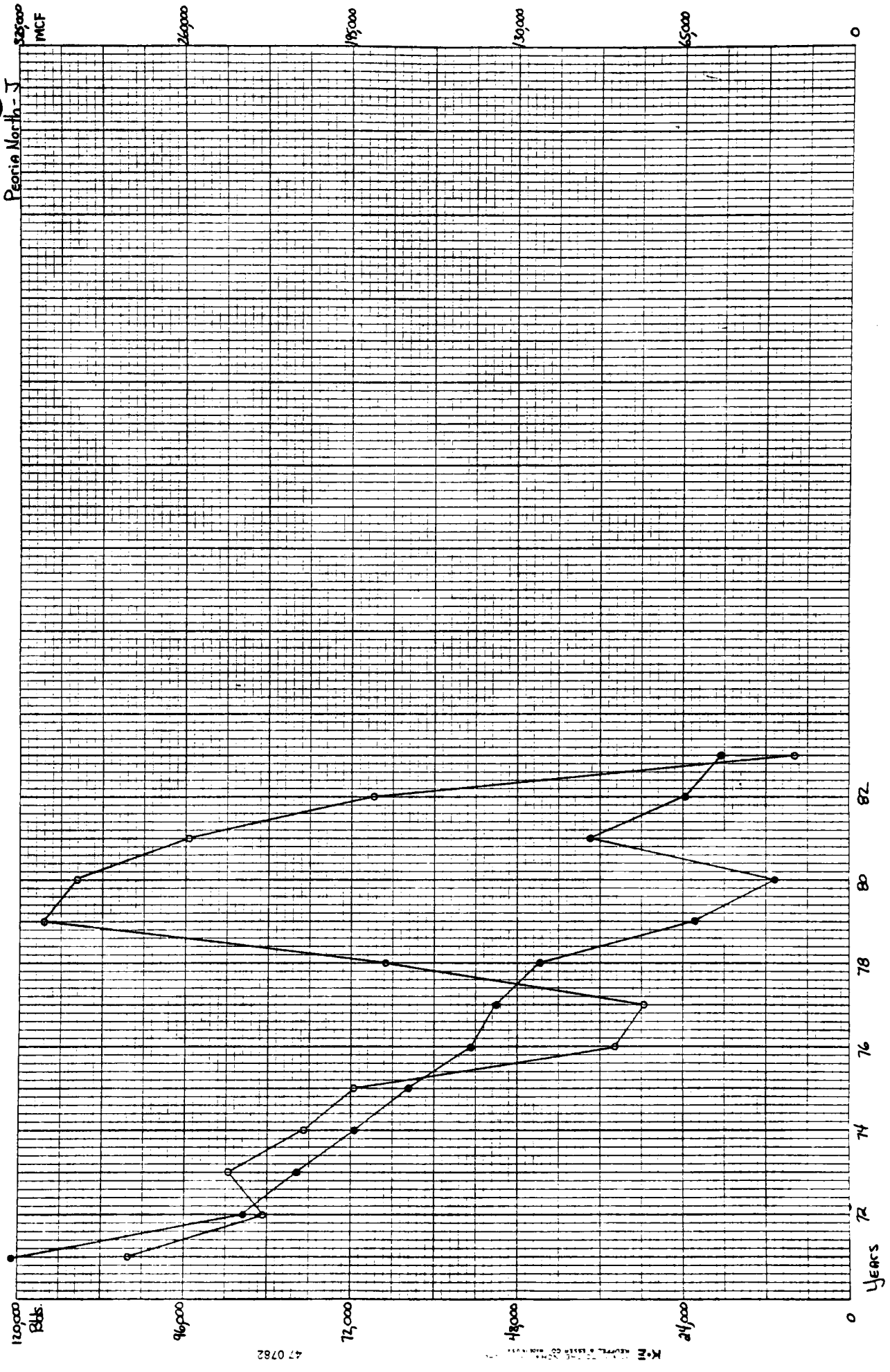
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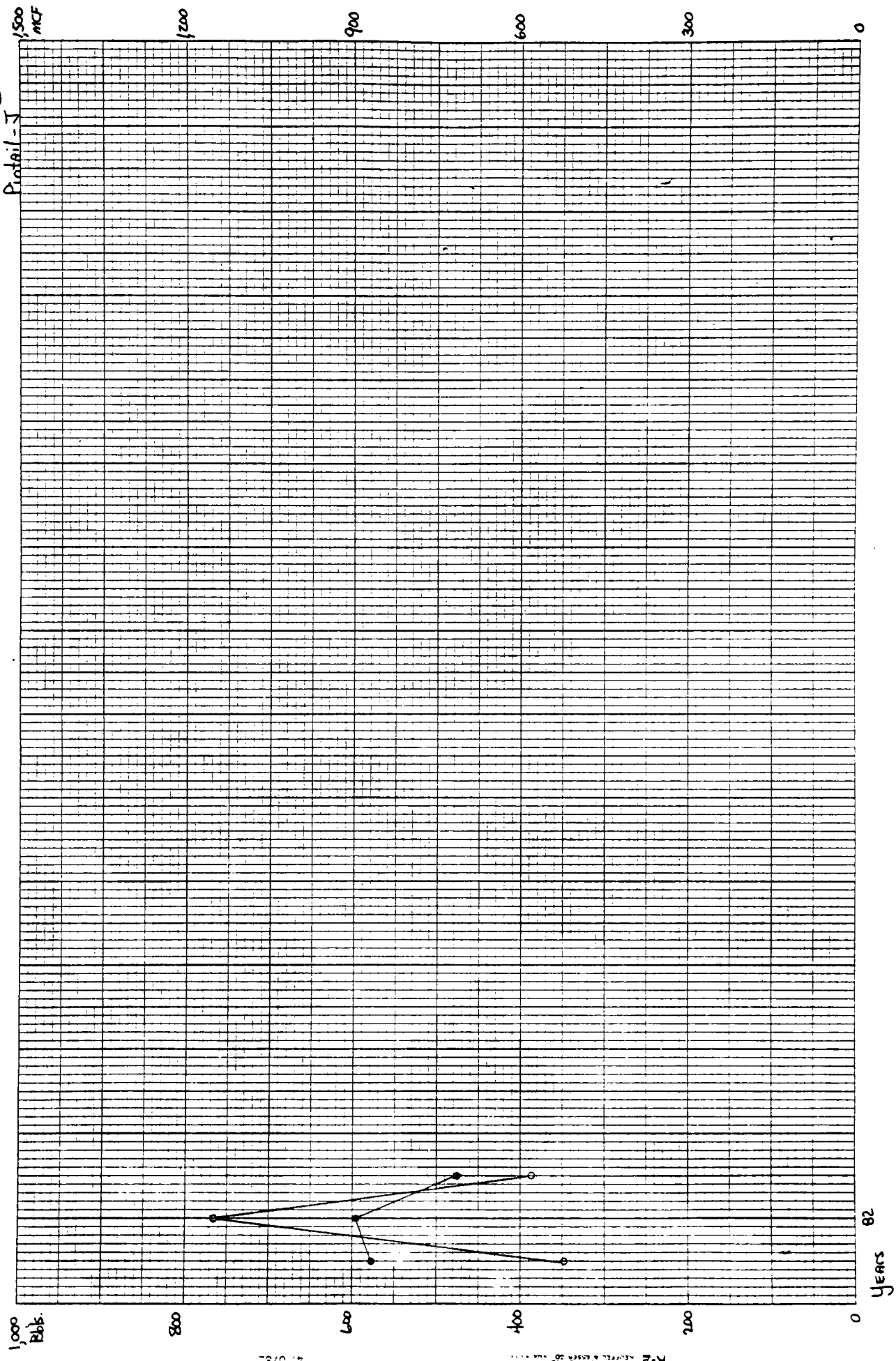




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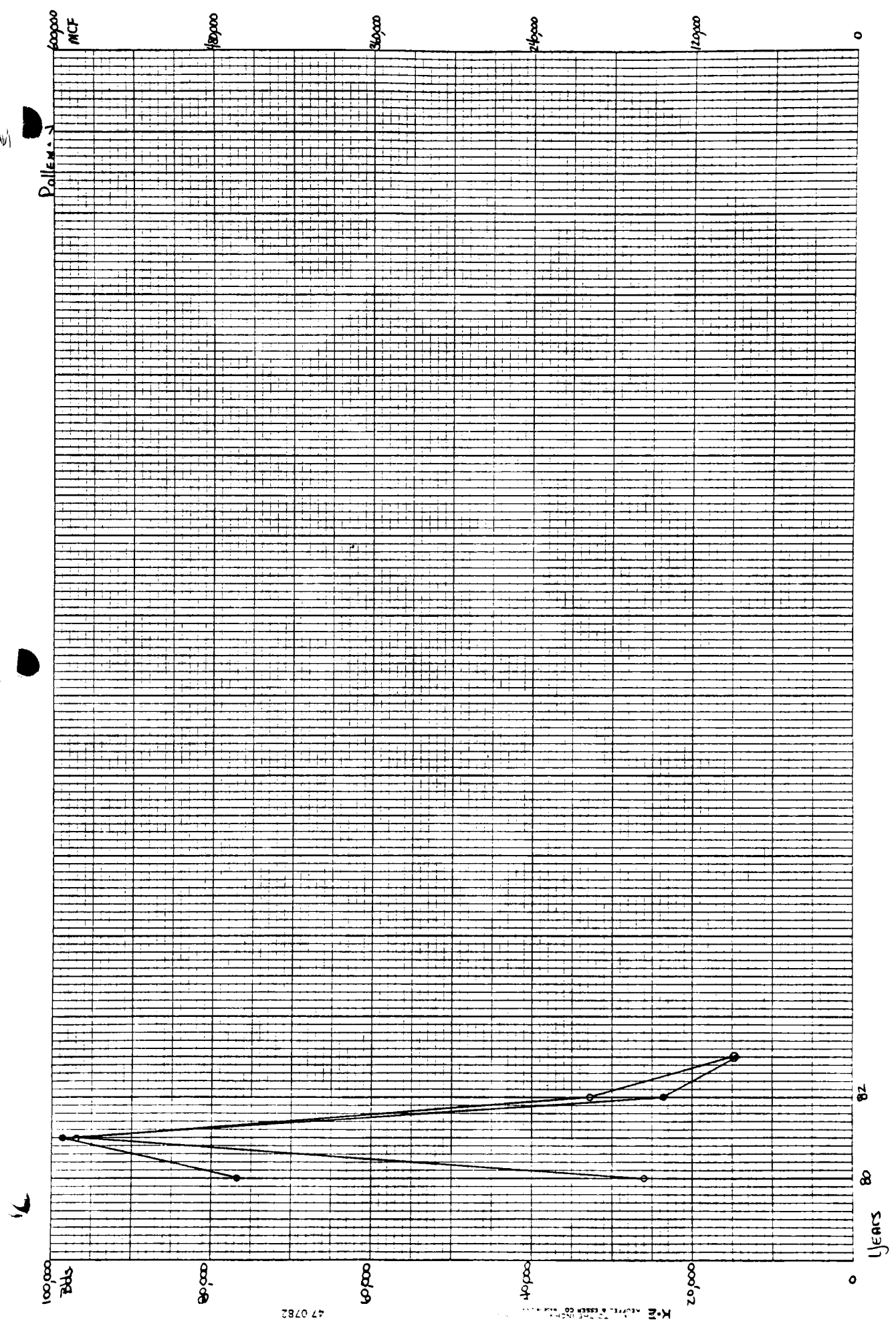
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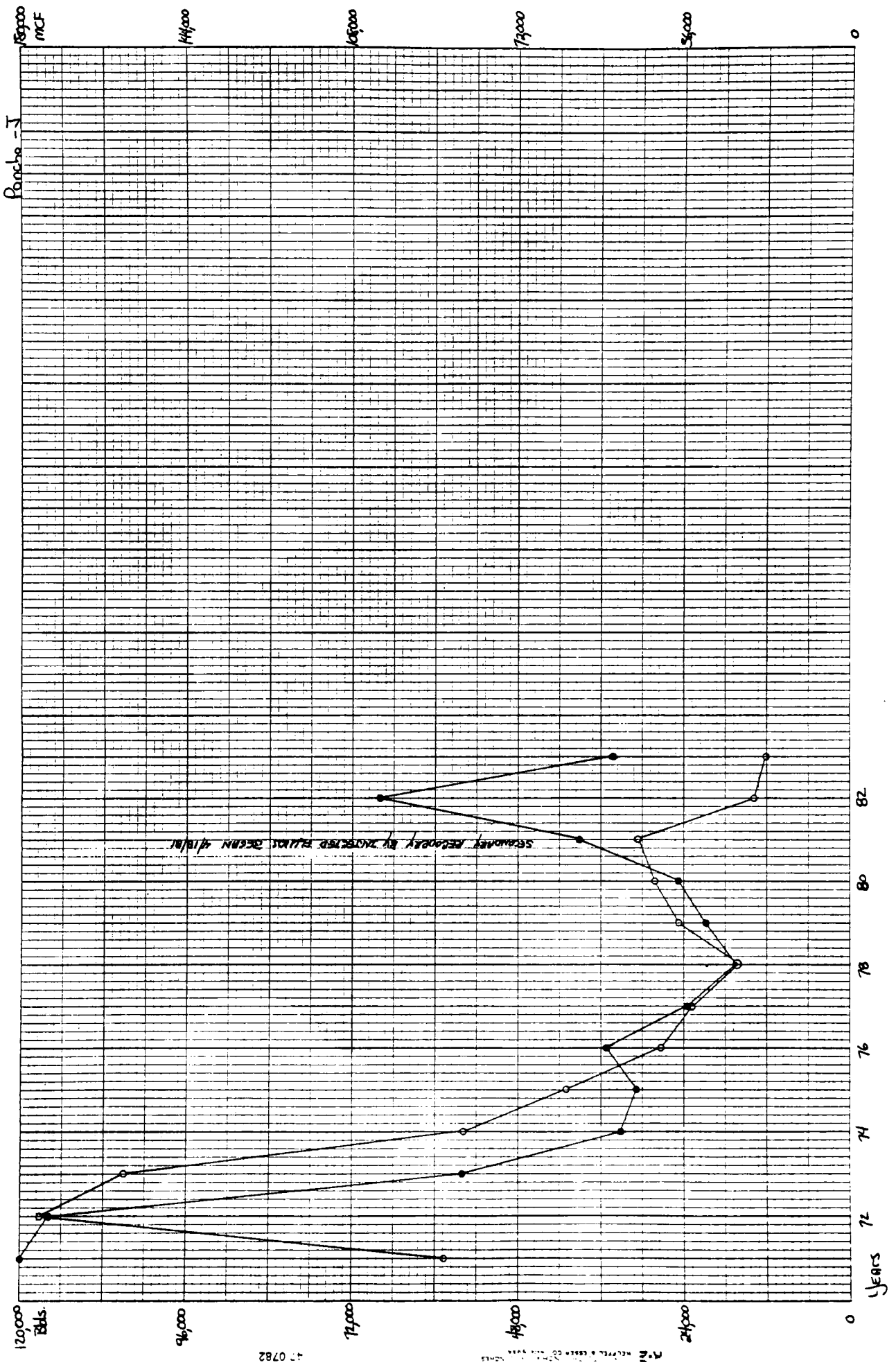
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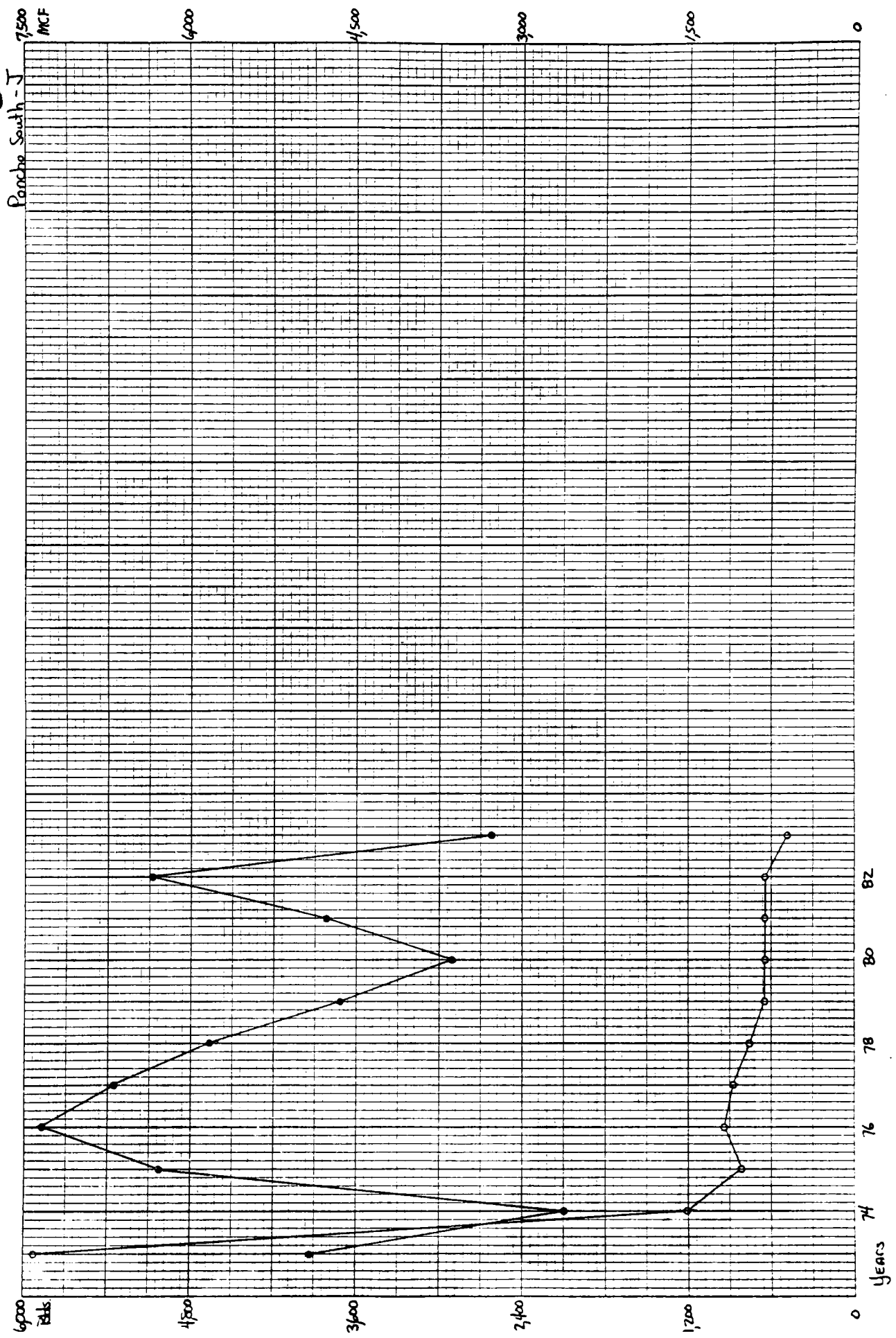
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K. M. McPhee & Eschen Co. Inc. 1982

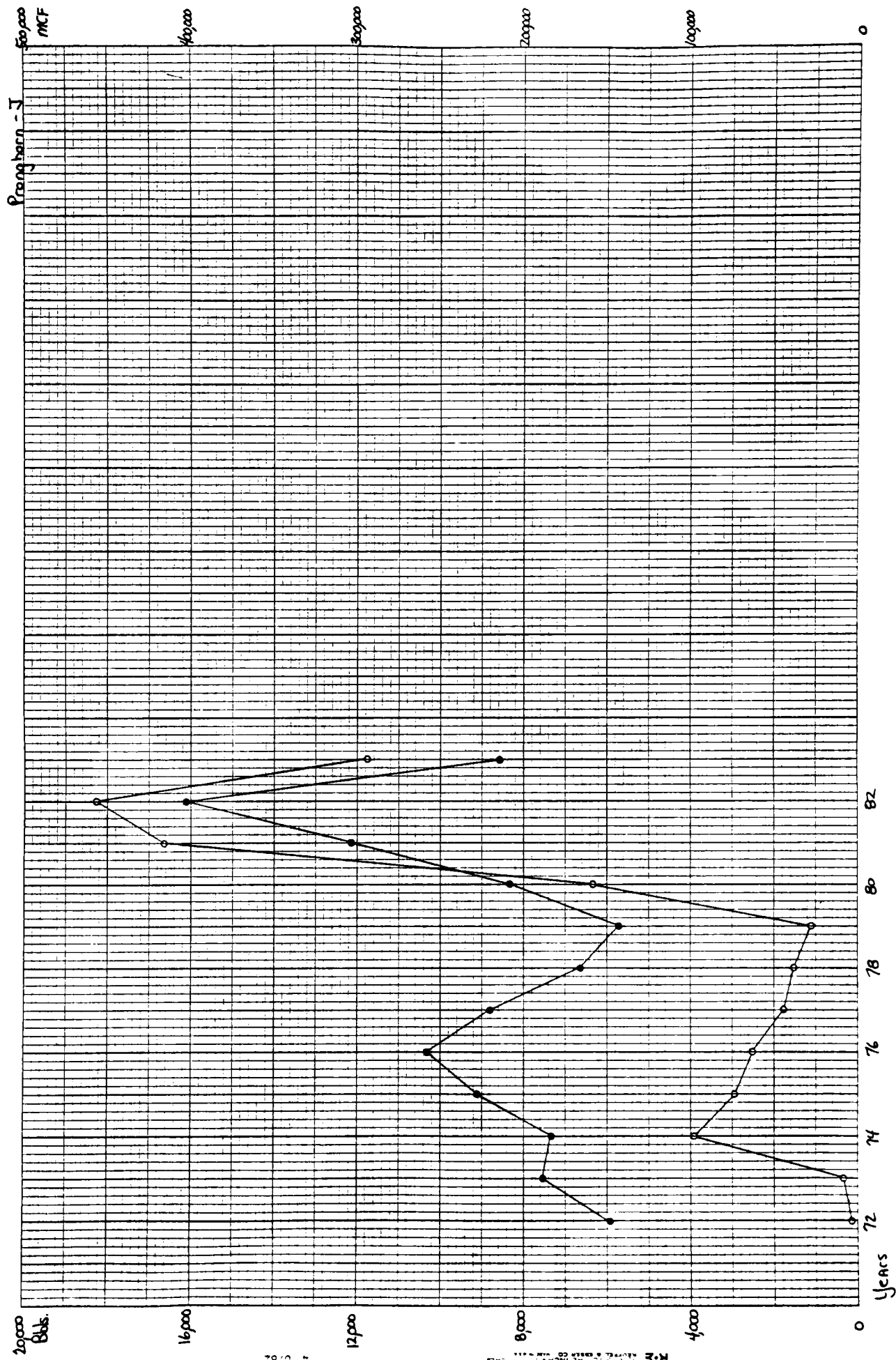


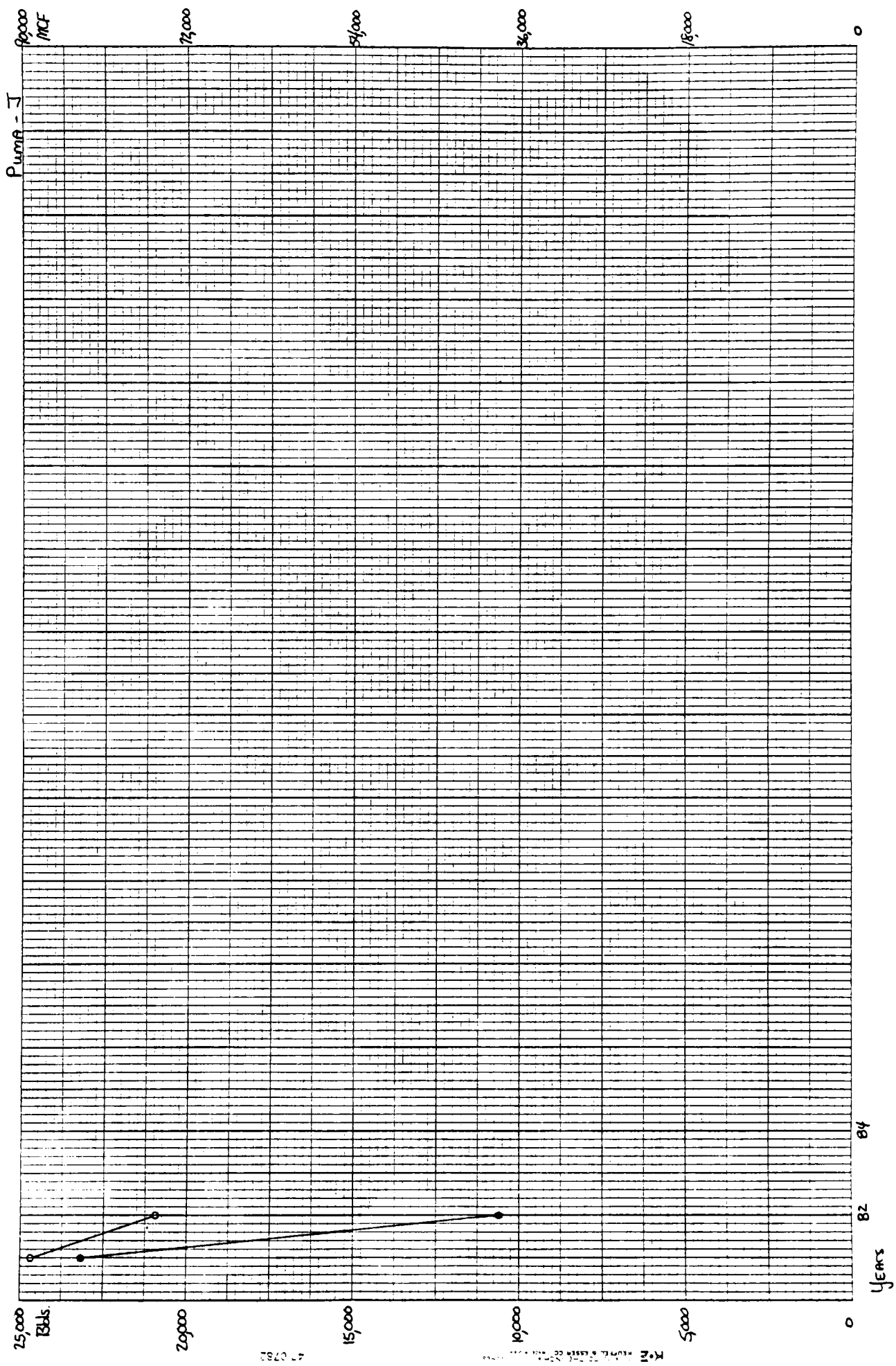


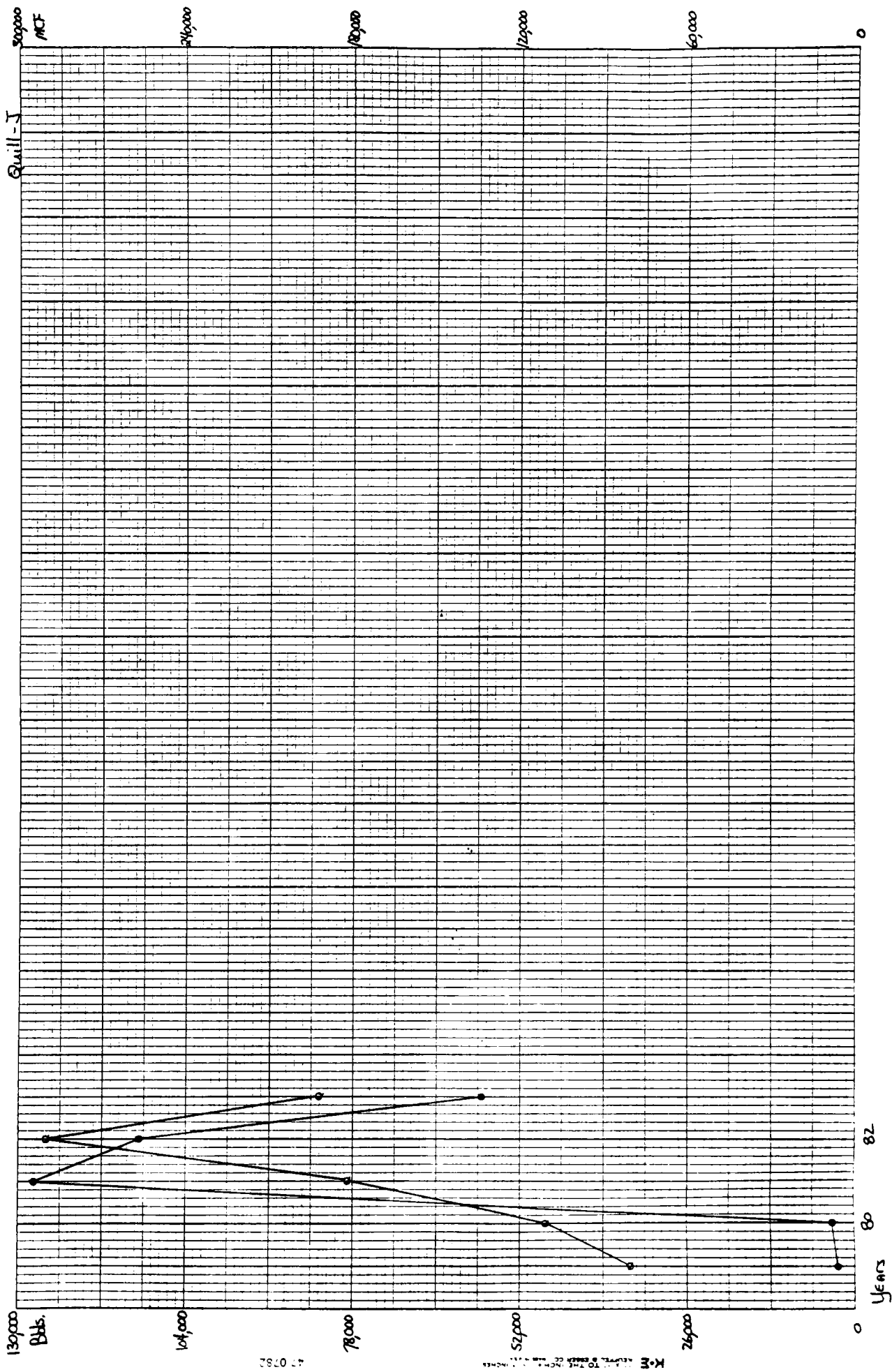
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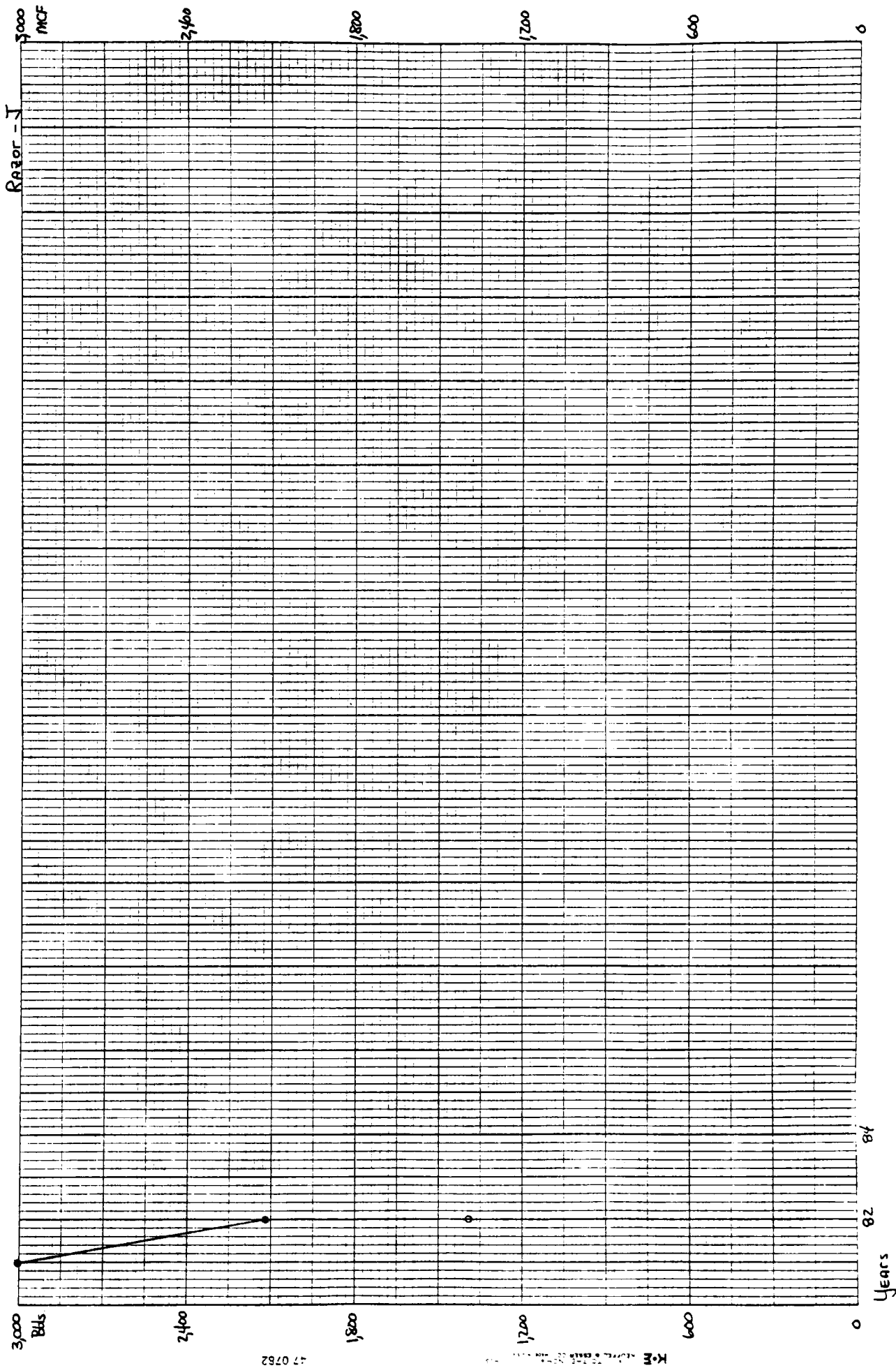
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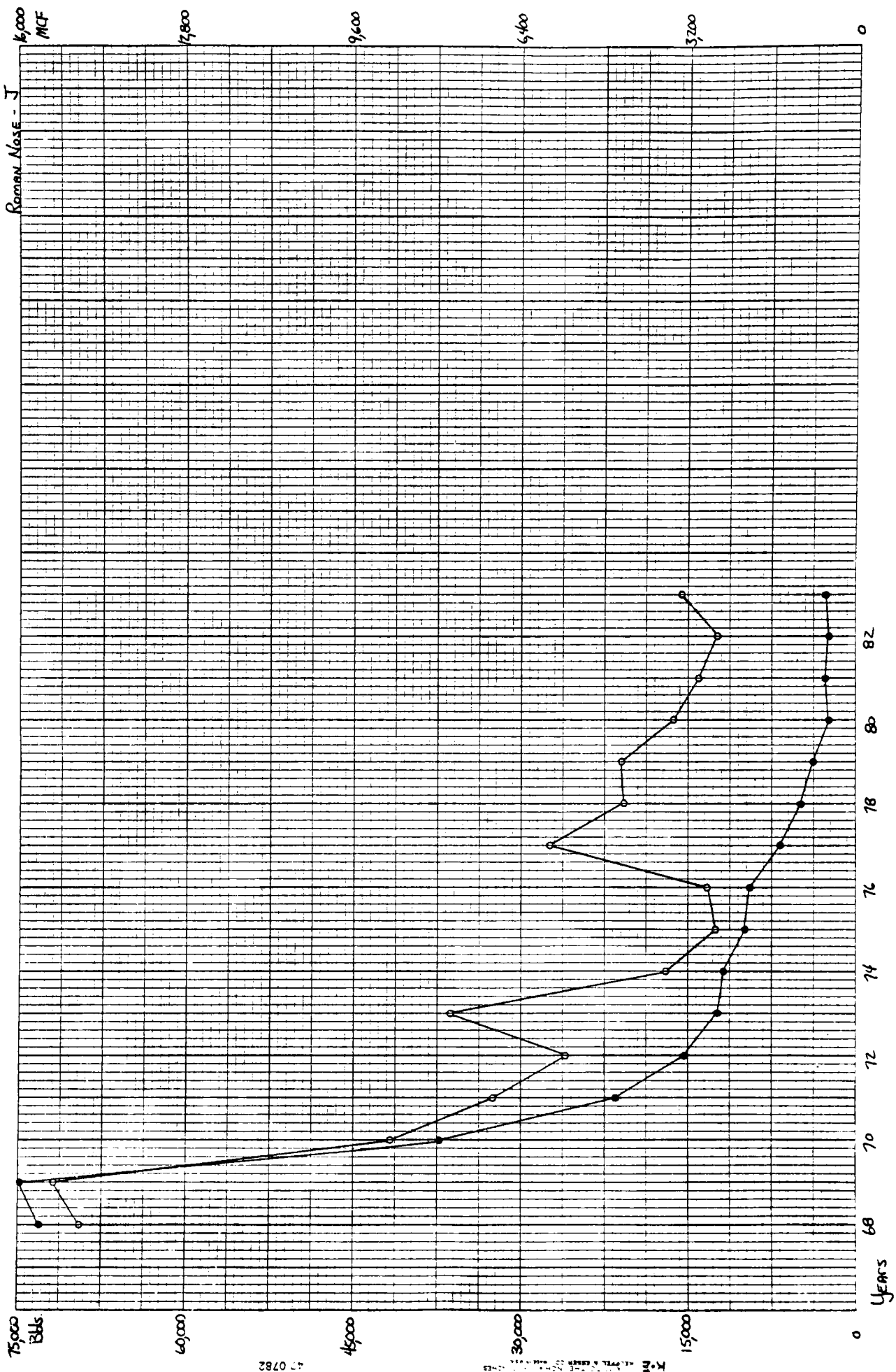
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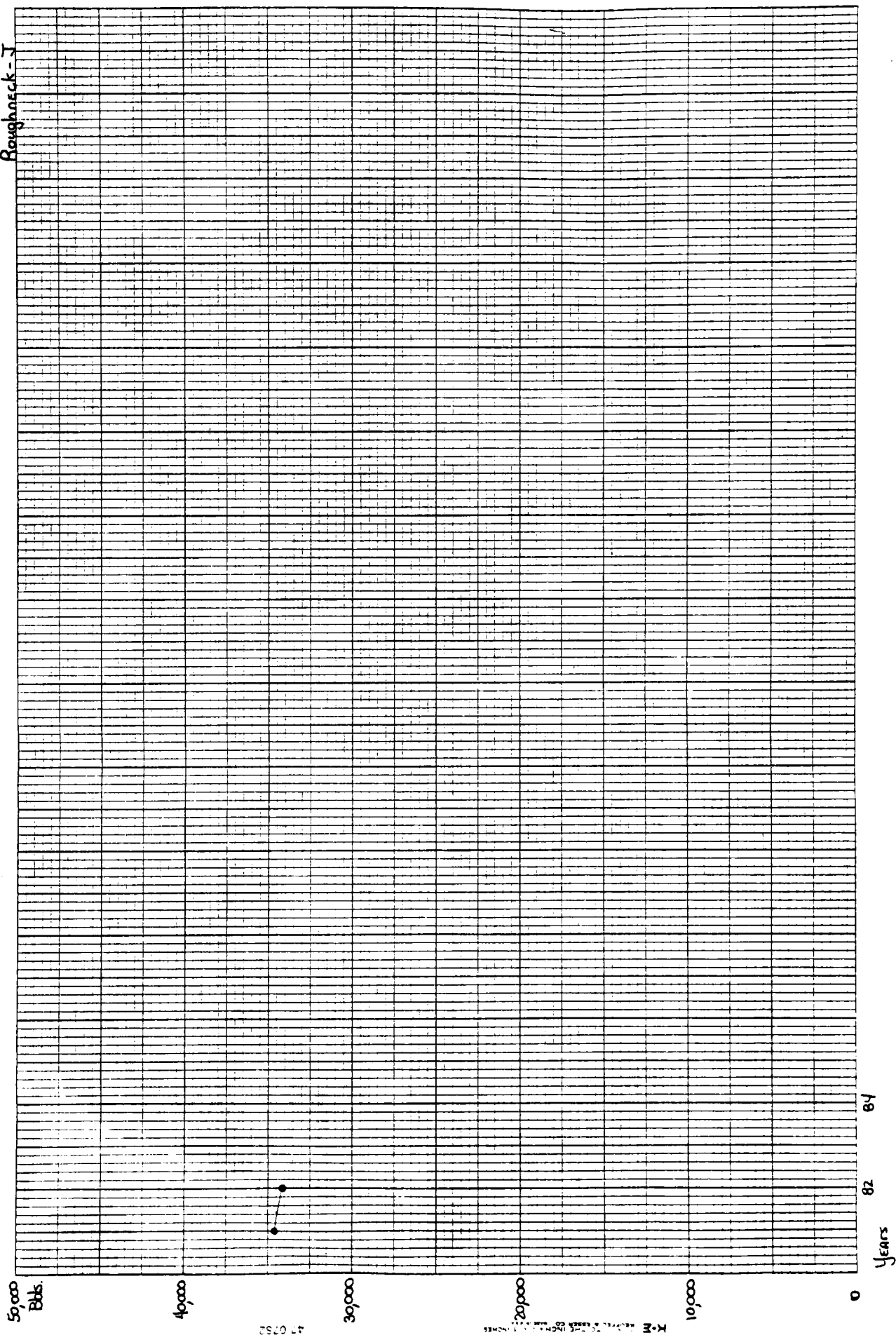


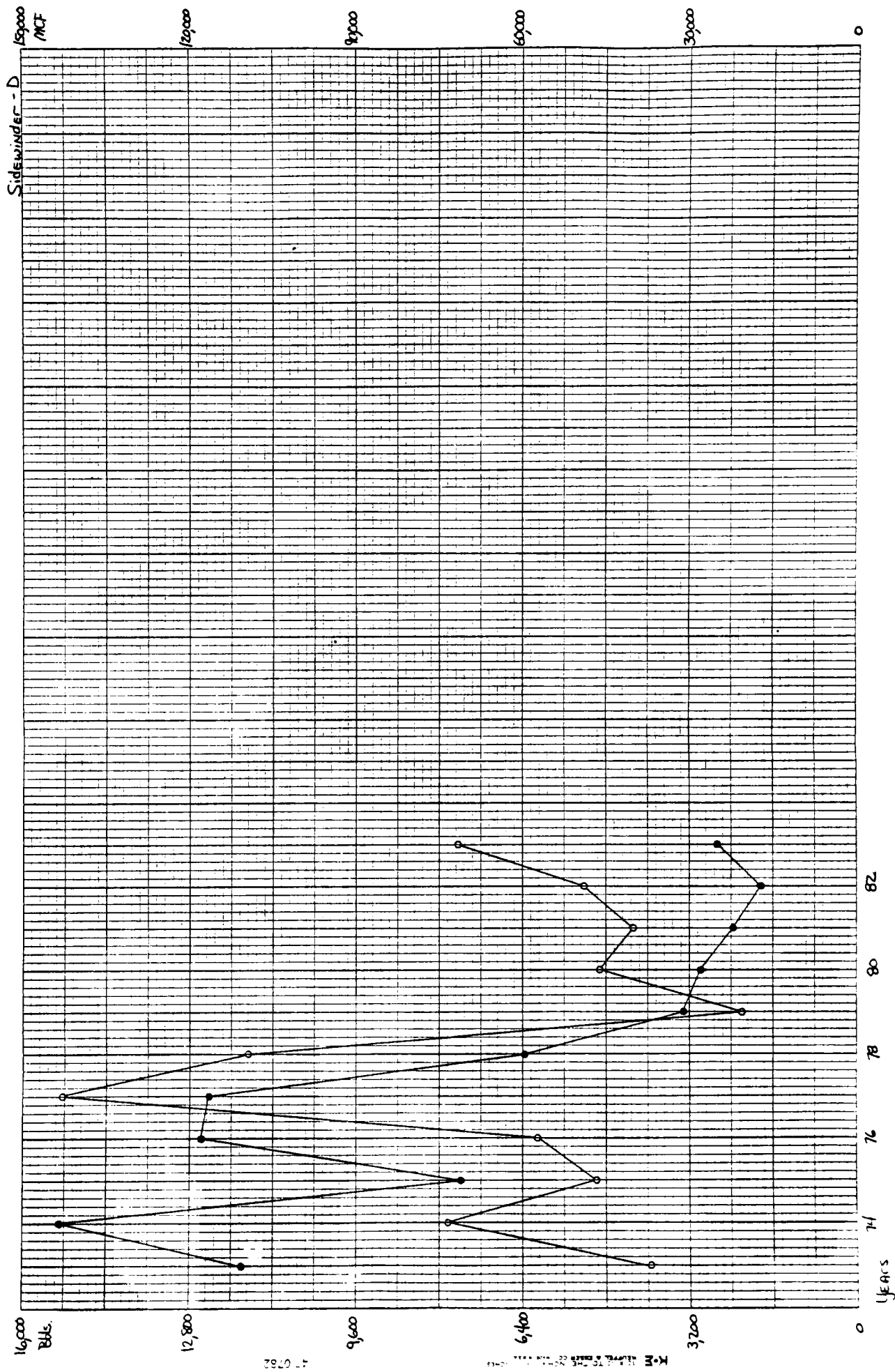


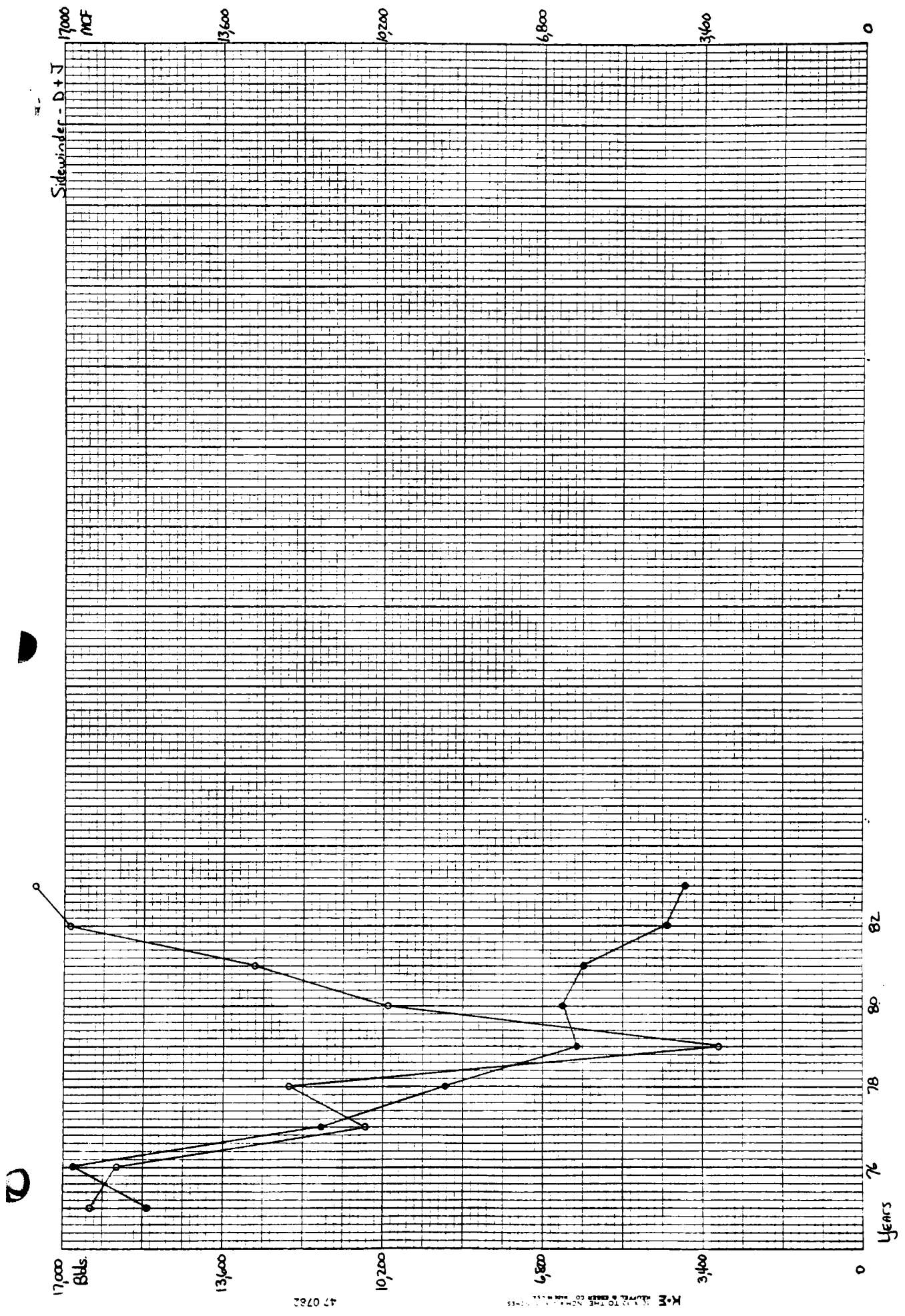


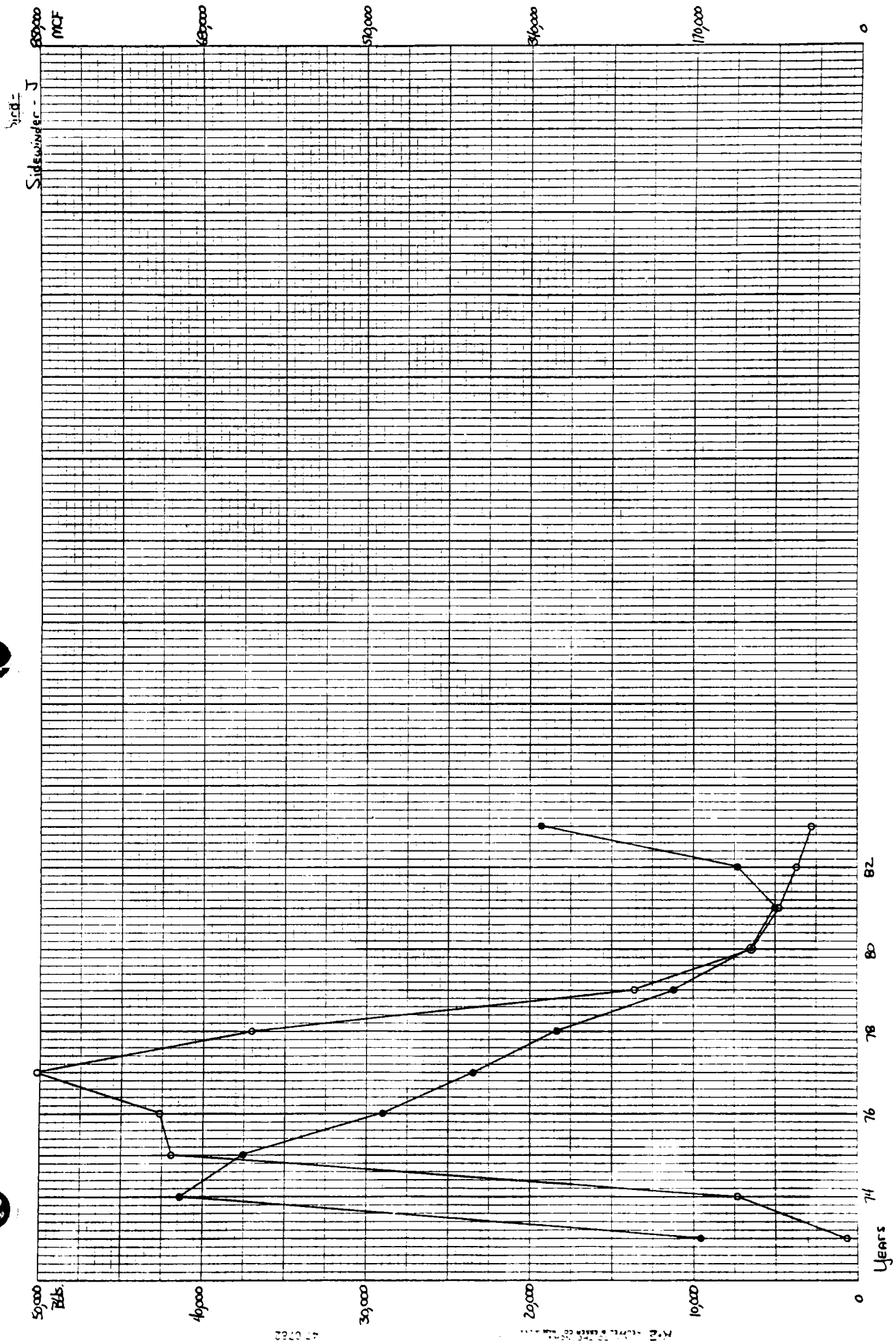


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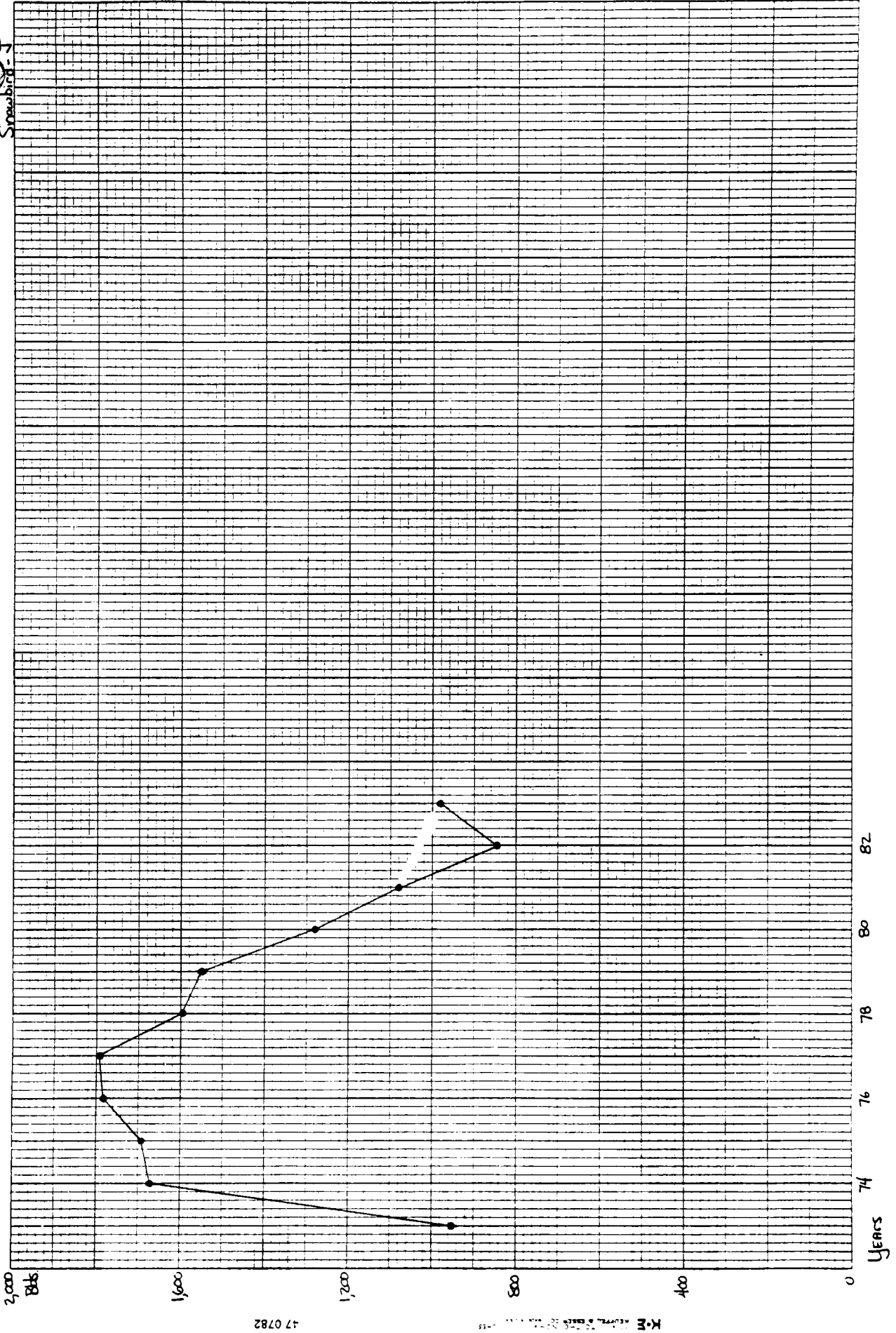




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Other Publications

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 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;

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 Hosa 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.

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