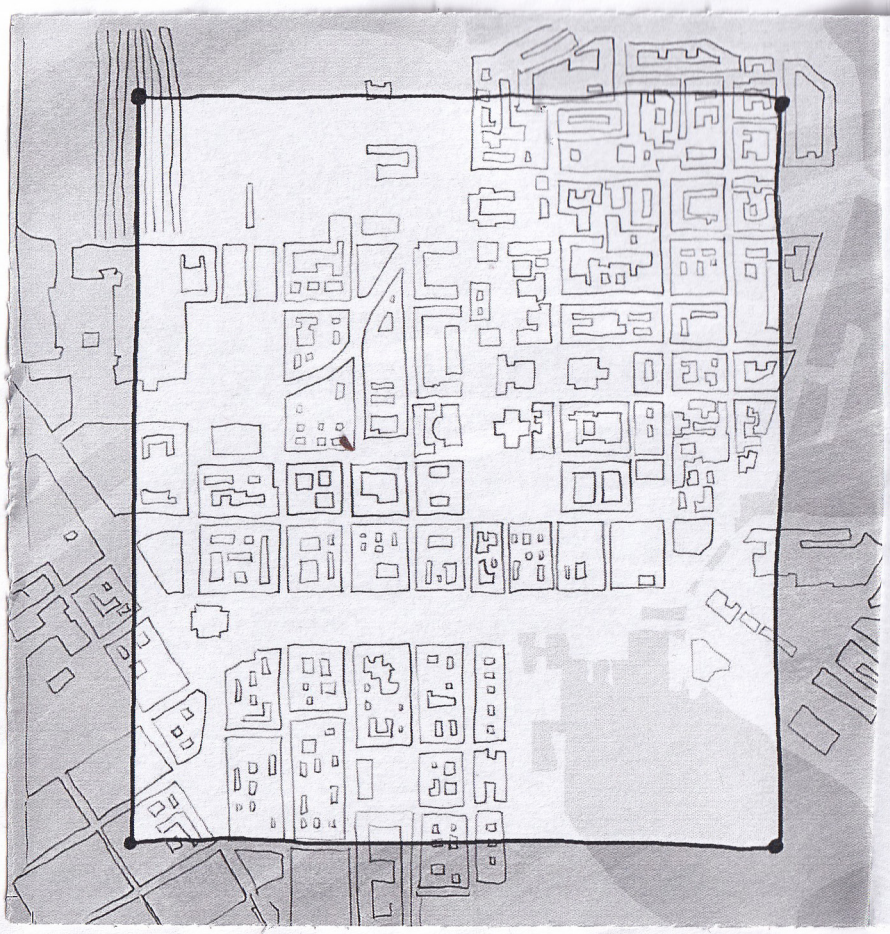
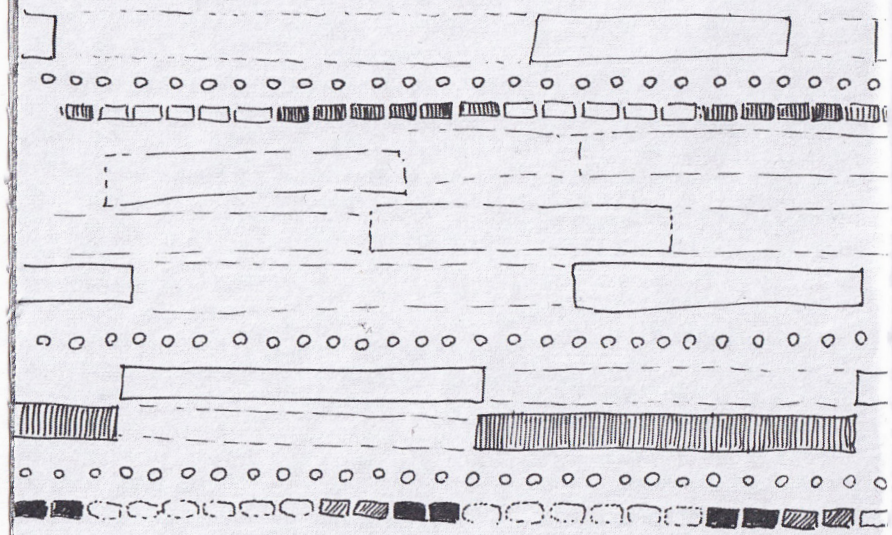


The area of Kevitsa mine is 1,2 km long, 1 km wide, reaching 90 m under the sea level.

<< Area of the mine compared to Helsinki city center



The mine is working non-stop.

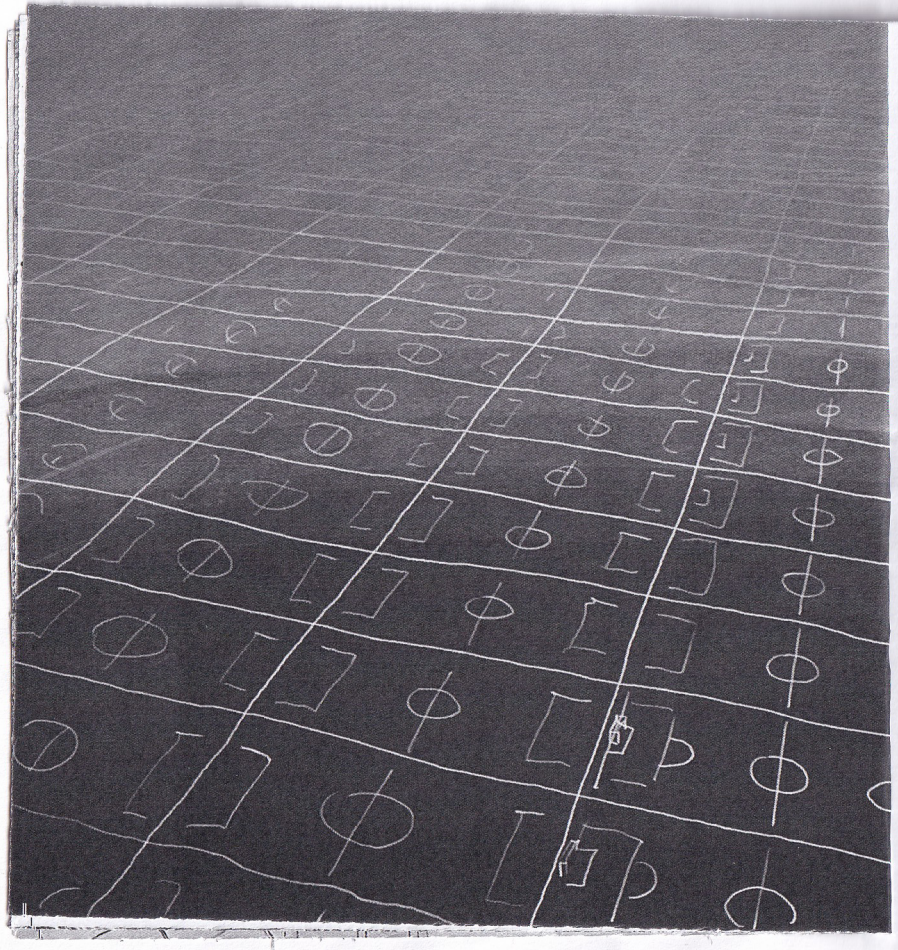
257 employees work in the mining department. They do loading and transportation, drilling, repairing of the roads. Additionally, 300 more people, employed by contractors, are doing the explosions, removing loose stones from the walls of the mine, crushing the stones, pumping out water from the mine, assisting in road construction.

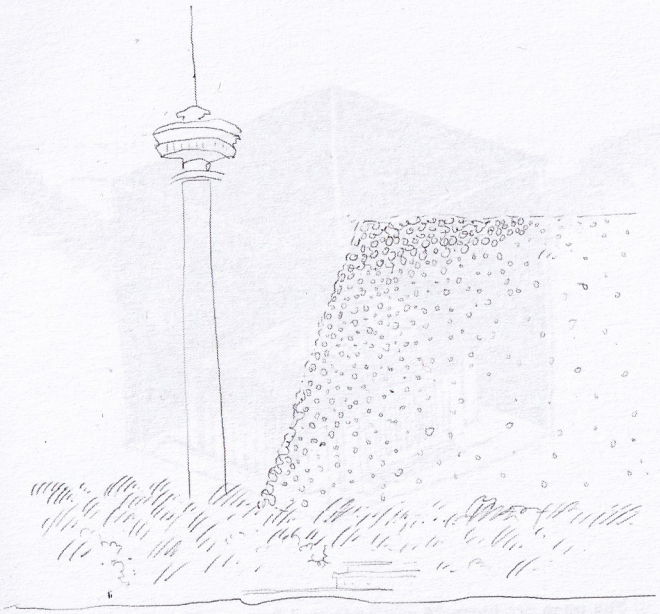
Refinery and part of repairs teams are working 12 hours shifts, 2 days of shift work - 2 day shifts and 2 night shifts, followed by 6 days of.

Part of repair team, maintenance team and sample processing teams work in 10 hour shifts - 5 working days, followed by 5 days off.

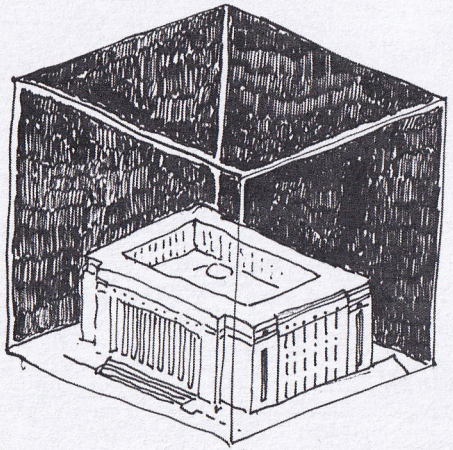
Office workers work normal office ours, 5 days a week, followed by 2 days off in the weekend.

Explosions are conducted once a week, starting the cycle of mapping, emptying the area from vehicles and workers, checking, removing, transporting, cleaning, sorting.

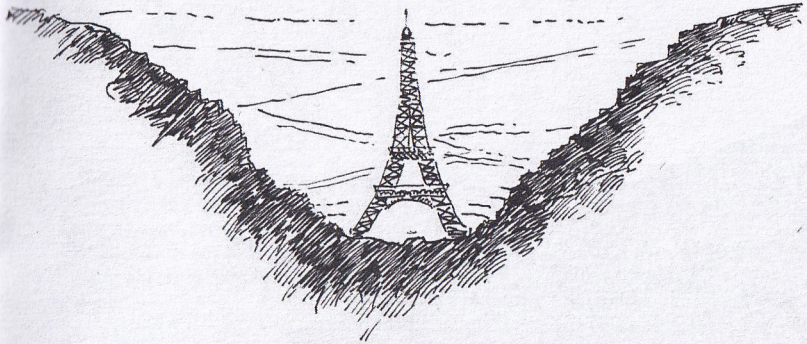




The ore and waste stone is dug out from the mine non-stop. The waste stone area would fit 400 football fields. The height is 80m, and the weight is 2,4 t per 1 m.

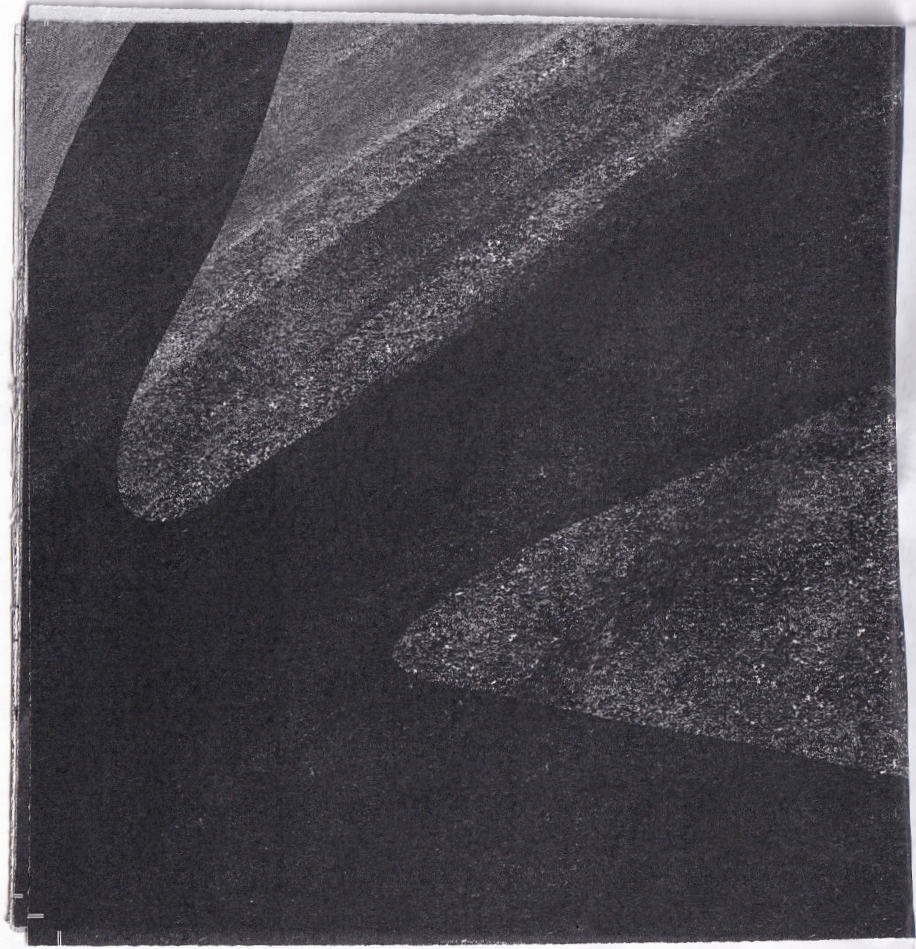


The mine produces 36 million tones of waste stone every year. Every month a 100x100m cube of stone is dug out from the mine. It estimated that the mine reserves have 237 million tonnes of ore, containing 710 000 tonnes of nickel metal.



The depth of the pit 330m, as tall as the Eiffel tower and is expected to increase to 500 m in the next years.

There are 17 vehicles removing stone from the pit after the explosion. The machine scoops 70 tonnes of stone in one go. 220 tonnes of stone are transported by each vehicle. They climb up from the pit at a speed of 20-26 km per hour, powered by diesel-run electric engines and equipped with pantographs, allowing better coordination between the vehicles.

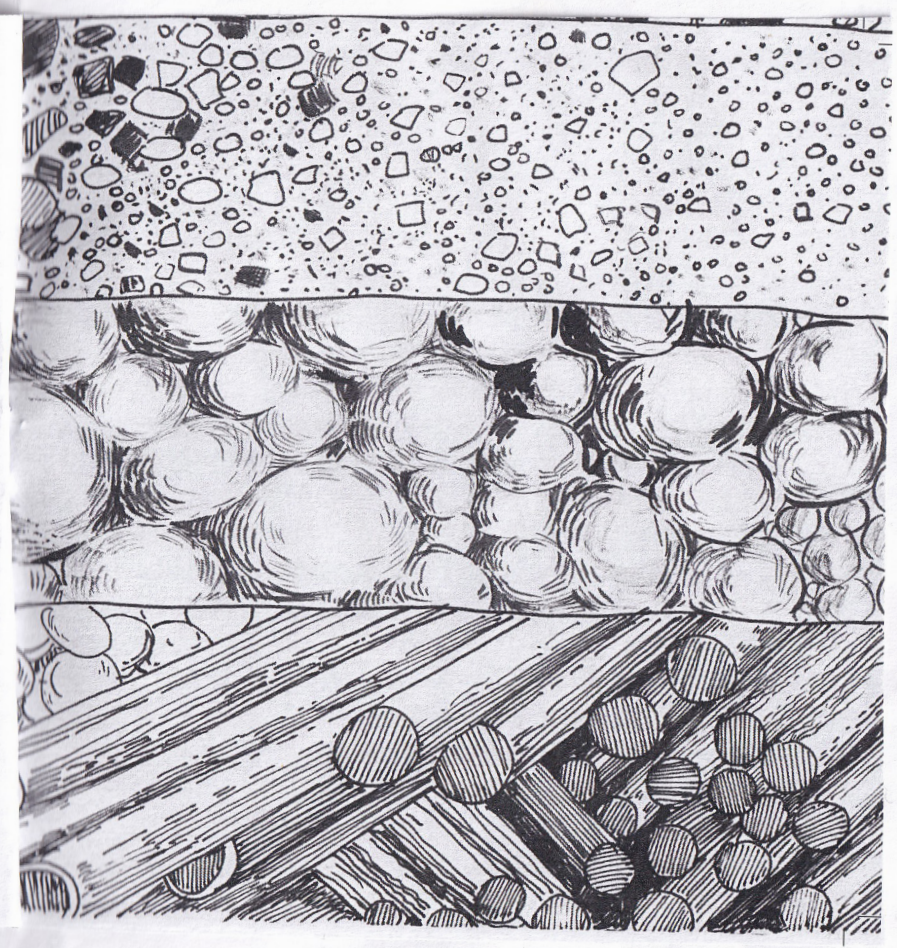


They split the mineral ore from the waste stones and sort the ore into 3 "fingers" - 3 piles, 350 000 tonnes each, according to the quality of the ore, from where the ore is taken to the processing stage. Each finger contains similar kind or ore, so the settings of the processing do not need to be adjusted, and the operations run smoothly.

But first, the bedrock is studied- from the air, from the ground, by probing, diamond core drilling, by sending vibrations and electro-magnetic waves. The bedrock is analyzed, calculated, evaluated for its economic value. It is recreated as a 3d model.

The bedrock is exploded, removed, sorted, put into a pile, transported 330m up, ground into smaller pieces, turned into dust, turned into foam, soaked with chemicals, drained, dried, turned into nickel and copper sand, put into storage, filtered with water, packed into trucks and transported.

The ore concentrate is a final product that is transported to Kemi by trucks. There are 13 trucks altogether. 12 of them travel 2 times a day between Kemi and Kevitsa mine, which is around 300 km one way.



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This zine is part of the academic project
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