

Introduction

The Division of Conservation Archaeology of the San Juan County Archaeological Research Center and Library has completed an archaeological clearance survey for Continental Oil Company, on lands under the jurisdiction of the Jicarilla Apache Tribe. The lands are to be impacted by the construction of nine well pads and associated access roads.

The survey was initiated at the request of Mr. Joe McKinney of Achinson Construction Company, Incorporated, on August 18, 1978. It was administered by Mr. B.E. Anderson of Continental Oil Company and by Dr. Meade Kemrer of the Division of Conservation Archaeology.

Legislation enacted by the Congress of the United States requires compliance with laws designed to protect archaeological resources. Laws such as the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (PL 91-852) and Executive Order No. 11593 entitled "Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment" prevent enterprises which might result in the destruction or alteration of cultural resources. Federal and State governments and the professional scientific community have come to realize that the material remains of a prior culture are a limited, non-renewable part of the environment. As such, the State of New Mexico has enacted legislation regulating archaeological resources. The Cultural Properties Act is analogous in content to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (PL 89-665), which provides for preservation of significant archaeological sites.

The field work was performed by John Schooley, assistant archaeologist, of the Division of Conservation Archaeology on August 22, 1978, under the provisions of a Jicarilla Tribal Council Resolution passed on February 2, 1978. Also present in the field were: Mr. Joe McKinney of Achinson Construction; Mr. B.E. Anderson of Continental Oil Company; and Mr. Fred Kerr and Rich Weaver of Kerr Land Surveying.

Field Procedures

The requested archaeological clearance survey of the proposed well pads and access roads was inspected on foot and the area was covered in a criss-cross fashion. In addition to the search for historic /prehistoric artifacts and features, information pertaining to the environmental setting was described.

Survey

The requested archaeological survey involved nine well pads and associated access roads on lands under the jurisdiction of the Jicarilla Apache Tribe. For specific details of location, please see the attached topographic maps and the paragraph descriptions below.

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