Report 77-SJC-204
Permit - New Mexico Forest Service

An Archaeological Clearance Survey of Five Proposed Well Locations & One Access Road Conducted for Schalk Production Company

Submitted by
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On December 2, 1977, Dabney Ford of the Cultural Resource Management Program, NMSU, San Juan Campus, conducted an archaeological clearance survey at the request of Mr. J. E. Schalk, Schalk Production Company. Mr. John Ahlm, Schalk representative, was present during the survey. All of the well locations and the access road are on Carson National Forest land and were surveyed under a New Mexico Forest Service permit.

The most recent listings of the National Register of Historic Places have been consulted and no sites which appear on the Register and no sites which have been nominated to the Register occur on the project area. This proposal complies with the provisions of the Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and with Executive Order 11593. It is recommended that archaeological clearance be given.

METHODOLOGY

The well locations were surveyed by walking transects, 75 feet wide, over the entire easement. The access route was inspected by walking down the centerline the length of the road.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

No cultural resources warrenting relocation of well locations or road were found and full archaeological clearance is recommended.

SCHALK 29-4 #6 Carson National Forest

The proposed well location, 300 X 300 feet, is in the NE¼ of the SW¼ of the SW¼ of Section 25, Township 29 North, Range 4 West, N.M.P.M., in Rio Arriba County, New Mexico (Figure 1). The north boundry of the location borders on an existing access road thus no additional construction is necessary.

Piñon, juniper, Yucca baccata, mullen, sagebrush, indian rice-grass, blue grama, Gambel's oak, and snakeweed are growing in the sandy clay loam. The well, on the north edge of La Jara Mesa, is in broken terrain. Drainage is both northerly and southerly with alluvial and talus surface deposits. Local outcrops of sandstone are abundant.

No cultural resources were found and clearance is recommended.

SCHALK 29-4 #7 Carson National Forest

The proposed well location, 300 X 300 feet, is in the SW¼ of the NE¼ of the SW¼ of Section 26, Township 29 North, Range 4 West, N.M.P.M., in Rio Arriba County, New Mexico (Figure 1). The access road, 20 feet wide and approximately 4,000 feet long, takes off from the Leandro -Dry Lake Cañon road in Section 35. It traverses the North ½ of the North ½ of Section 35, enters the West ½ of the East ½ of the SW¼ of Section 25, and approaches the location from the southwest.

Vegetation includes juniper, piñon, sagebrush, snakeweed, blue

grama, alkali sacaton, and Gambel's oak growing in a sandy loam. The valley bottom is level with a northeasterly slope into La Jara Cañon. Alluvium is the dominant surface deposit and sandstone outcrops are abundant.

No cultural resources were found on the well location and archaeological clearance is recommended.

Three to five Rosa gray sherds and less than five lithics were found along the access road. Extensive examination of the surrounding area revealed a PII - PIII occupation site, SJC-153, on a bench directly above the area in question (see map 1 and accompanying site description and survey report). The sherds and lithics found in the road right-of-way have washed off the sandstone bench and are not in original context. There is no evidence (concentration of artifacts, soil stain, depressions, or hearth area) that the site extends down off the bench into the road easement. The site is not visible from the road and is in no danger of being disturbed during construction. Therefore, full archaeological clearance of the access road right-of-way is recommended.

SCHALK 29-4 #8 Carson National Forest

The proposed well location, 300 X 300 feet, is in the SE¼ of the NW¼ of the SW¼ of Section 27, Township 29 North, Range 9 West, N.M.P.M., in Rio Arriba County, New Mexico(Figure 1). The well is adjacent to an existing access road and no additional construction is necessary.

Piñon, juniper, blue grama, galleta, sagebrush, and buckbrush

are growing in the sandy clay loam. The terrace ridge top is level with a southerly drainage. Surface deposits are alluvium and sandstone outcrops locally.

No cultural resources were found and clearance is recommended.

SCHALK 29-4 #9 Carson National Forest

The proposed well location, 300 X 300 feet, is in the SE¼ of the NW¼ of the SW¼ of Section 22, Township 29 North, Range 4 West, N.M.P.M., in Rio Arriba County, New Mexico (Figure 1). The western boundry of the location borders on an existing location and will utilize the existing access.

Vegetation includes pinon, juniper, sagebrush, Gambel's oak, indian ricegrass, blue grama, Eriogonum, tumbleweed, and seeded grasses growing in the sandy clay loam. The terrace slope is broken with a west southwesterly drainage. Sandstone outcrops are abundant and alluvium is the dominant surface deposit.

No cultural resources were found and clearance is recommended.

SCHALK 29-4 #10 Carson National Forest

The proposed well location, 300 X 300 feet, is in the NW¼ of the SW¼ of the SW¼ of Section 23, Township 29 North, Range 4 West, N.M.P.M., in Rio Arriba County, New Mexico (Figure 1). The north edge of the location borders on an existing road thus no additional access is required.

Vegetation includes juniper, piñon, sagebrush, Yucca baccata, blue grama, indian ricegrass, seeded grasses, Eriogonum, rabbitbrush, and snakeweed growing in the sandy clay loam. La Jara mesa top is level with a southerly drainage. Alluvium is the dominant surface deposit and sandstone outcrops are abundant.

No cultural resources were found and archaeological clearance is recommended.

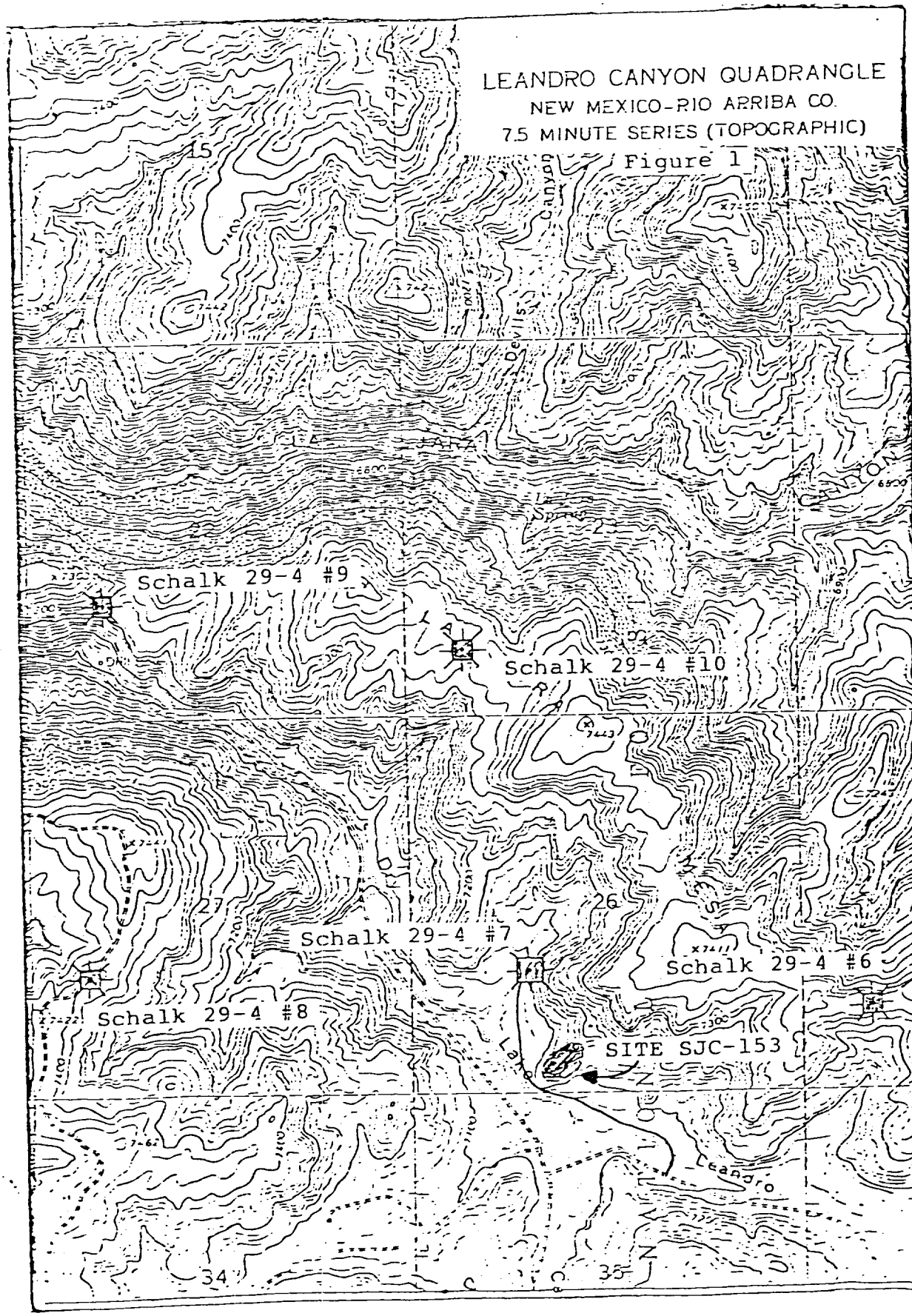
SITE SJC-153

The site consists of an extensive sherd and lithic scatter covering an area approximately 30m X 100m. It is located atop a low sandstone bench extending in a southerly direction into Leandro Canon. The sherds have a maximum density of 10 - 15 sherds per square meter over a 10 X 20 meter square area. The majority are Gallena gray wares with less than 5% corrugated gray wares. One sherd of red ware was found but is probably an oxidized Gallena and a carbon painted black on gray, probably Rosa or Gallena black on white. The lithics, 98% chert 2% obsidian were in the form of flakes, debitage, one core, and one projectile point. Maximum density of the flaked rock is 3 - 5 lithics per square meter over a 10 X 20 meter square area.

Although no readily definable structures can be seen on the surface, the possibility of pithouses is strong. There are two subtle depressions on the south side of the bench. The grass and sagebrush in these depressions are slightly more lush than the surrounding vegetation. There are no artifact concentrations or soil stains to provide a more comclusive statement.

It appears that the site continues along the entire southern edge of the bench which forms the southern limit of La Jara mesa. The canon bottom of the Leandro Dry Lake drainage is broad and flat, offering ample potential crop land, and the alluvial fans at the base of the bench would provide excellent farming soil.

The site has had considerable alluvial deposition thus the cultural fill should be protected and relatively deep. Potential is high for recovering pollen, flotation, and carbon samples in good context. There is an existing road on the flood plain below the site which will be utilized as a well access road (to Schalk 29-4 #7). The site is not visible from this road and the road will not endanger the site.


LEANDRO CANYON QUADRANGLE
NEW MEXICO-RIO ARRIBA CO.
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
Figure 1
Schalk 29-4 #9
Schalk 29-4 #10
Schalk 29-4 #7
Schalk 29-4 #6
Schalk 29-4 #8
SITE SJC-153
15
26
27
34
35

;U San Juan Campus Archeological Survey Schalk Project SITE NO.: L.A.

Site name SJC-153 Field number same

S½X¼ of the SE ¼ of the SW¼, Sec. 26, T. 29 (N) S., R. 4 (W) E, County Rio Arriba State NM

Map source USGS 7.5 min. Leandro Canyon, New Mexico Elevation 7100

Drainage: primary Leandro Canyon secondary La Jara Canyon

Location on a low sandstone bench jutting out (in a southerly direction) into Leandro Canyon

Nearest town Gobernador Nearest highway (17) Accessibility: foot X sedan X 4-wh. dr. ___ backhoe ___

Ownership Carson National Forest

Informant

Stake location

SITUATION *(check ✓)*: Valley bottom ___ Bench X Slope ___ Ridge ___ Mesa top ___ Cliff edge ___ Overhang ___ Cave ___ Dune ___

Other Area of site 300m X 100m

FEATURES *(Indicate number)*: Pit houses X Kivas ___ Surface rooms: Slab ___ Masonry ___ Adobe ___ Other ___

Refuse area *(direction)* S&E Hearths ___ Burials ___ Sherd/Chipping area N, S, E Grids/Dams/Terraces ___ Pictographs/Petroglyphs ___

Trails/Steps ___ Other ___

PLAN: 1-room ___ Linear ___ Arc ___ L-shaped ___ C-shaped ___ F-shaped ___ E-shaped ___ ( )-shaped ___ Enclosed plaza: by a wall ___

by rooms ___ Scattered X Indeterminate ___ Other ___

Single-tier ___ Double-tier ___ ___-tiers ___ Part double-tier ___ Part ___ tier ___ Orientation ___ Exposure S SE

Nature & depth of fill alluvial deposition - 1-2.5m Est. Wall height 2m Stratified? ___

Condition: Undisturbed ___ Eroded ___ Pot-hunted ___ Pottery/Artifact abundance: 10's, 100's, 1000's, 50-75 . Modern structure ___

Surface: Level ___ Uneven ___ Slopes to *(direction)* S Surface deposits: Alluvium X Colluvium ___ Aeolian ___ Talus ___

Residual Sandstone Soil: Rocky ___ Gravelly ___ Sandy X Clayey ___ Other silty loam

Local rock outcrops: Sandstone X Limestone ___ Shale ___ Caliche ___ Basalt ___ Tuff ___ Other ___

Arable land *(type, distance & direction)* Farm floodplain and alluvial fan 50m W,S,and E

Water *(distance & direction)*: River ___ Arroyo 75m Confluence ___ Spring ___ Seeps ___

Bedrock pool ___ Permanent? ___ Local vegetation patterns pinon, juniper, blue grama, sagebrush, alkali sacaton, snakeweed, gambel's oak

Photo: B/W ___ Color ___

Other resources within 1.5 miles of La Jara Canon with springs & seeps and less than ½ mile from spring in Dry Lake Canyon.

Field remarks Excellent location for habitiation site. Alluvium deep for pithouse construction. Flood plain and especially alluvial fans optimal for non-arable agriculture.

References Mera '35, Hall '44, Dick '76, Hawley Ellis '36 Report 77-SJC-204

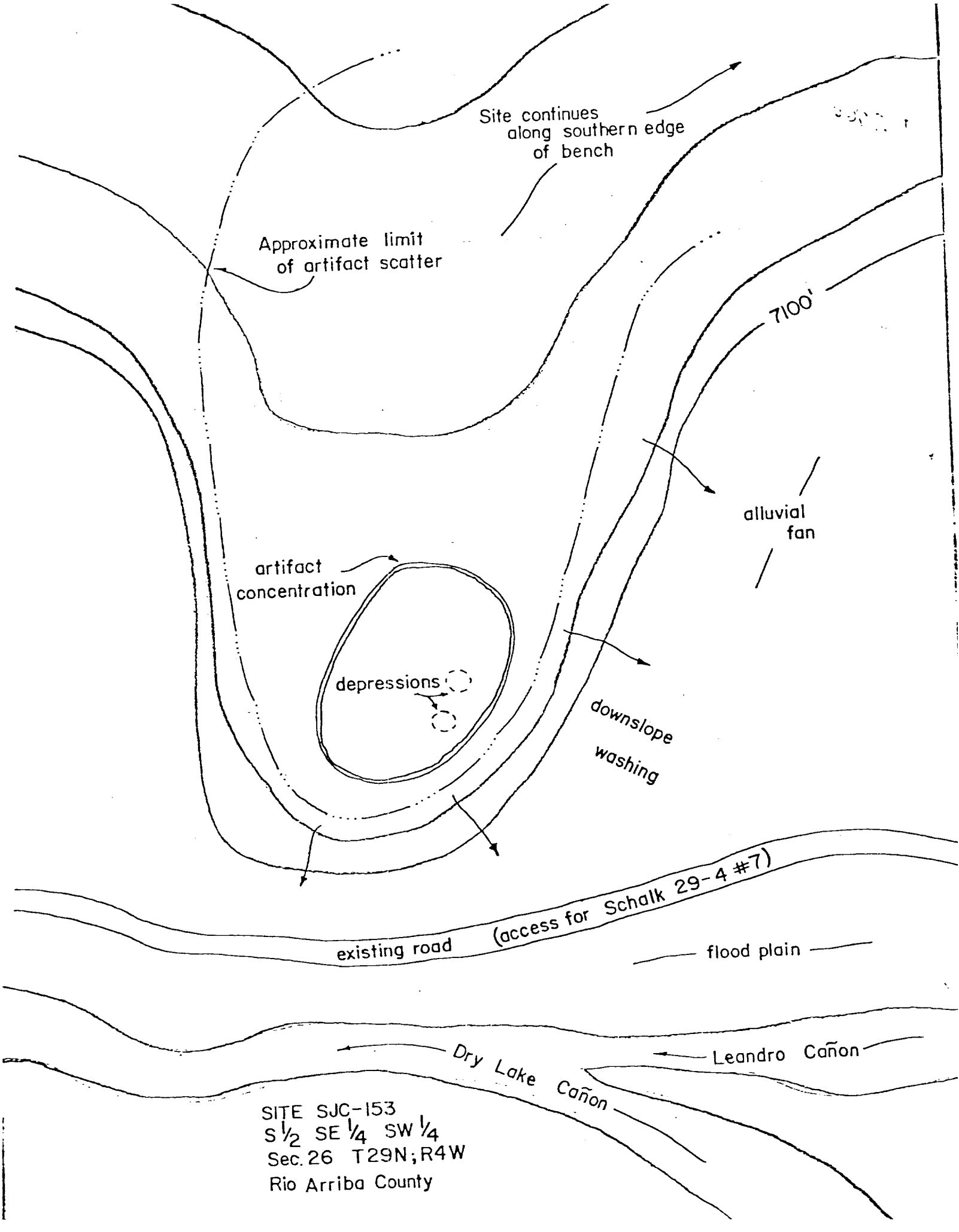
Excavation requirements: Labor FOR INFORMATION ONLY 5 person crew Time 10 days Equipment ___

CULTURE Largo Gallina / Anasazi Phase/Date PII - PIII / 1150 - 1250 AD

Zone ___ Locality ___ Lab. class 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 ___

Lab. remarks ___

Field recorder Dabney Ford Date 12/2/77 Collections storage: Catalogue Nos. ___


Site continues
along southern edge
of bench
Approximate limit
of artifact scatter
7100'
alluvial
fan
artifact
concentration
depressions
downslope
washing
existing road
(access for Schalk 29-4 #7)
flood plain
Dry Lake Cañon
Leandro Cañon
SITE SJC-153
S 1/2 SE 1/4 SW 1/4
Sec. 26 T29N; R4W
Rio Arriba County