

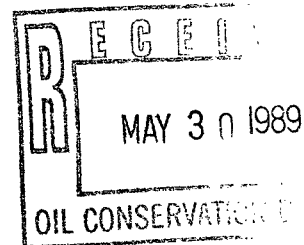
MERIDIAN OIL

Copy sent to E. Bosch
5/30/89

NSL-2665

May 24, 1989

Mr. William LeMay
New Mexico Oil Conservation Division
Post Office Box 2088
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504



Dear Mr. LeMay:

This is a request for administrative approval for an unorthodox gas well location in the Basin Fruitland Coal Pool.

It is intended to locate the El Paso Natural Gas Company Allison Unit #113 at 820' from the South line and 600' from the West line of Section 19, T-32-N, R-6-W, San Juan County, New Mexico.

This location is non-standard due to archaeology ruins.

All surrounding lands are within Allison Unit boundaries and El Paso Natural Gas Company is the operator of the Allison Unit.

Plats showing the proposed well location and the terrain in Section 19, along with an ownership plat, are attached.

Sincerely yours,

Peggy Bradfield
Peggy Bradfield

encl.

E. Bosch, verified
Approved
6/16/89

Don Walker
326-9738

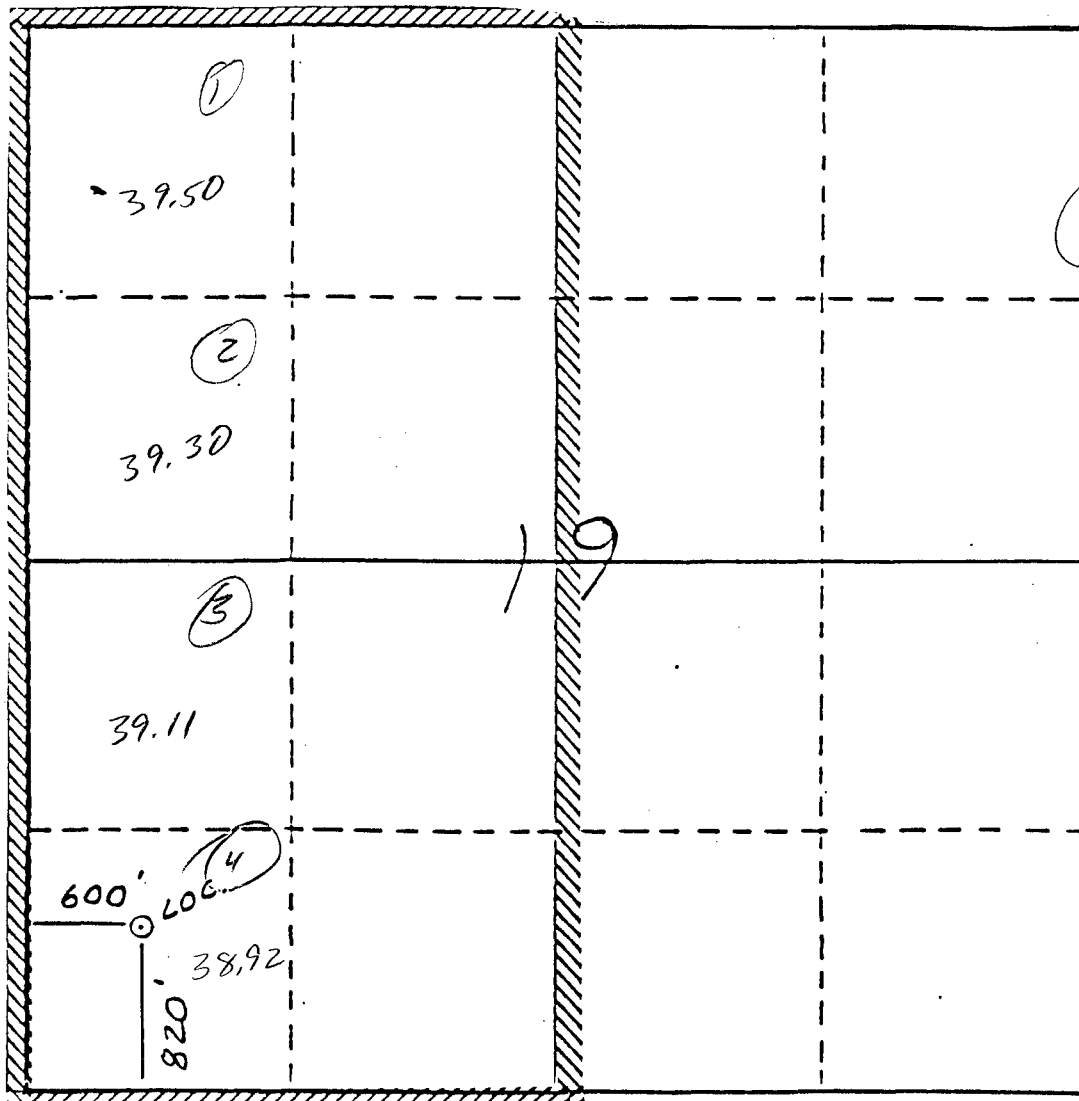
EL PASO NATURAL GAS COMPANY

Well Name Allison Unit #113

Footage 820' FSL; 600' FWL

APPLICATION FOR NON-STANDARD LOCATION

County San Juan State New Mexico Section 19 Township 32N Range 13W



Remarks All surrounding lands are within Allison Unit boundaries - El Paso Natural Gas Company, Operator

316.83

39.5

39.3

38.8

39.11

117.91

38.92

156.83

16

BURNT MESA QUADRANGLE

NEW MEXICO

7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

LA PLATA CO
SAN JUAN CO

R 7 W R 6 W 277

107

ALLISON COLO. 2.2 MI. 279000m.E. 1

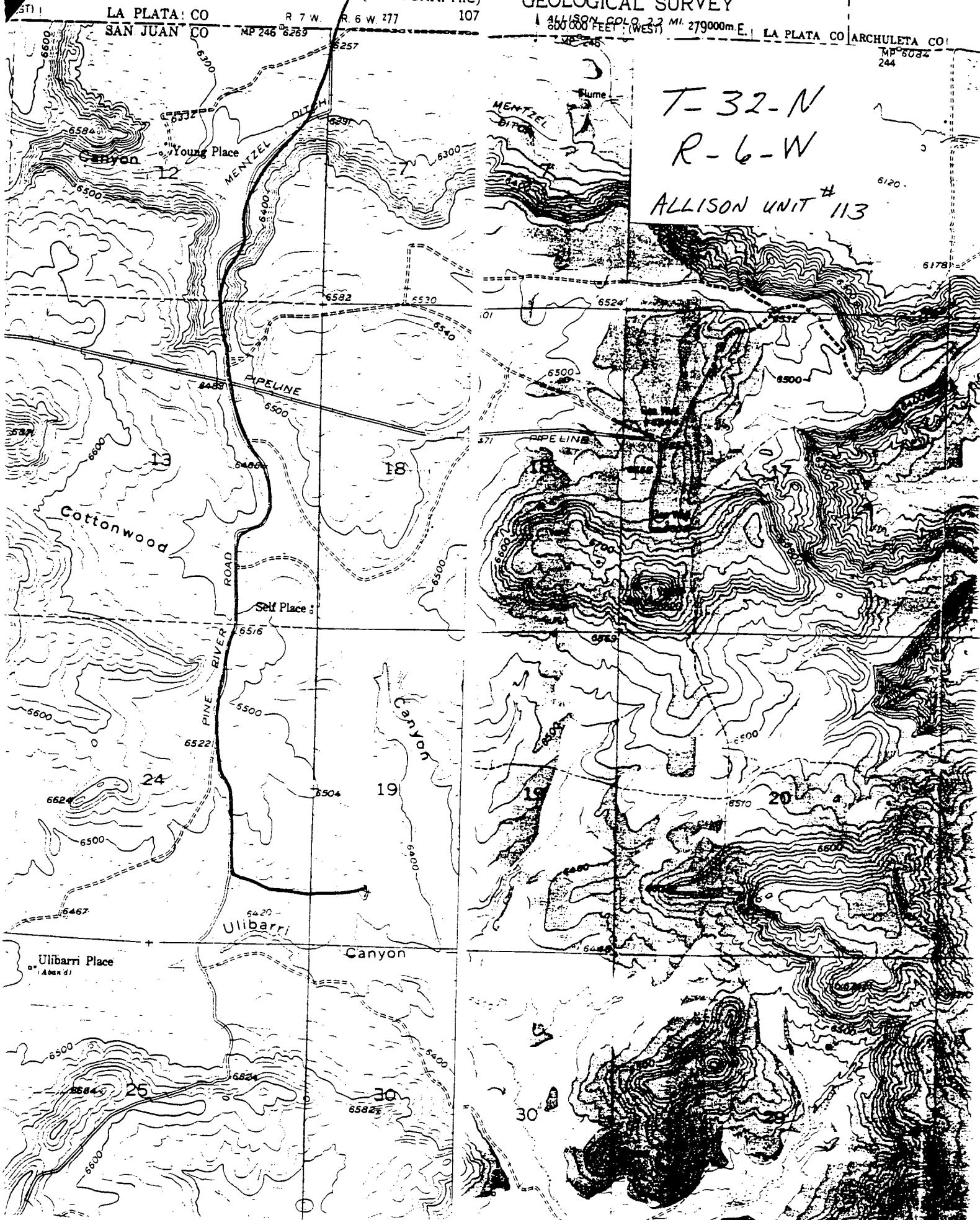
LA PLATA CO ARCHULETA CO

MP 6082
244

T-32-N

R-6-W

ALLISON UNIT #113



All distances must be from the outer boundaries of the Section.

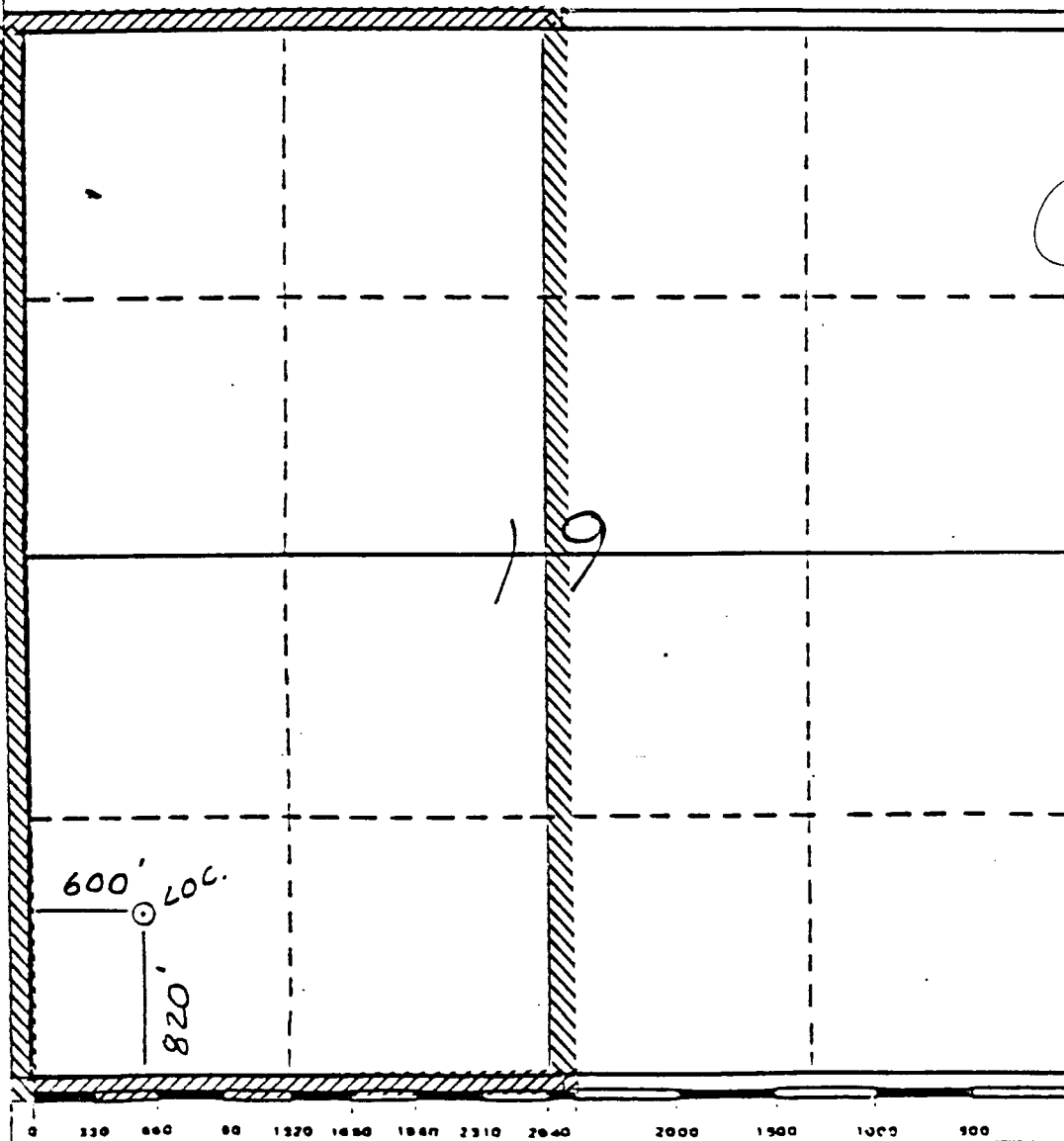
Operator El Paso Natural Gas		Lease Allison Unit (SF-081155)		Well No. 113	
Unit Letter M	Section 19	Township 32 North	Range 6 West	County San Juan	
Actual Footage Location of Wells 820 feet from the South line and 600 feet from the West line					
Ground Level Elev. 6437'	Producing Formation Fruitland Coal		Pool Basin	Dedicated Acreage: 320	

1. Outline the acreage dedicated to the subject well by colored pencil or hatchure marks on the plat below.
2. If more than one lease is dedicated to the well, outline each and identify the ownership thereof (both as to work interest and royalty).
3. If more than one lease of different ownership is dedicated to the well, have the interests of all owners been consolidated by communitization, unitization, force-pooling, etc?

☒ Yes ☐ No If answer is "yes," type of consolidation unitization

If answer is "no," list the owners and tract descriptions which have actually been consolidated. (Use reverse side of this form if necessary.)

No allowable will be assigned to the well until all interests have been consolidated (by communitization, unitization, forced-pooling, or otherwise) or until a non-standard unit, eliminating such interests, has been approved by the Division.
* Non-standard due to archeology. Note: reissued to show moved location



CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the information contained herein is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Neale C. Edward
Name

Regulatory Affairs

Position
El Paso Natural Gas

Company
11-30-88

Date

I hereby certify that the location shown on this plat was plotted from notes of actual surveys made by me under my supervision, and that the same is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Neale C. Edward
Date Surveyed

11-17-88

Registered Professional Engineer
and/or Land Surveyor

Neale C. Edward

Certificate No.

6857

Project No. 171-88-C

Cultural Resource Use Permit
7-2920-89-I (NM BLM)

An Archaeological Survey of
the Abandoned Meridian Oil Company Allison 111 and 113 Gas
Well Locations in the Northeast Corner of San Juan County, New Mexico

for

Meridian Oil Company

Allison 113 moved to 5735 Gown - cleared
Allison 111 moved to 5480 N. 1000' - Drilled

by

Jerry D. William
Supervisory Archaeologist

Submitted by

Byron P. Johnson
Director

DIVISION OF CONSERVATION ARCHAEOLOGY

Technical Report No. 1522
San Juan County Archaeological Research Center and Library

April 14, 1989

ABSTRACT

On November 1 and 5, 1988 and on March 25, 1989, the Division of Conservation Archaeology of the San Juan County Museum Association completed an archaeological survey of two well locations in the Cottonwood Canyon area of northeast San Juan County, New Mexico for Meridian Oil Company. The survey areas are located in Sections 18 and 19 of T32N, R6W and are under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management. Approximately 19.4 acres were intensively inventoried.

Two very large sites (DCA-88-248 and DCA-89-46) were found during the survey. One site was located at each of the two proposed locations and each covered a major portion of the survey area.

Archaeological clearance is not recommended for either of the locations. The locations were abandoned during the initial visit to the areas on November 1, 1988.

INTRODUCTION

On November 1 and 5, 1988 and on March 25, 1989, the Division of Conservation Archaeology (DCA) of the San Juan County Museum Association conducted an archaeological survey for Meridian Oil Company of Farmington, New Mexico. Mr. Odell Farley of Meridian Oil requested the survey on October 31, 1988 and Mr. Charles Werner administered the project for Meridian Oil Company. Byron P. Johnson administered the project for DCA.

In recognition of the limited, nonrenewable nature of archaeological remains, the federal government has enacted legislation that is designed to conserve and protect these resources. The principal legislation includes the Antiquities Act of 1906 (PL 52-209), the Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (PL 89-665) and, as amended (PL 96-515), the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (PL 91-852), the 1971 Executive Order No. 11593, the Archaeological and Historical Conservation Act of 1974 (PL 93-291), and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (PL 96-95). In addition, the Navajo Nation and the states of Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, and Colorado have enacted laws to ensure compliance with federal legislation and to protect archaeological resources within their jurisdiction. Work undertaken in the course of this project is intended to comply with these statutes and is governed by the stipulations of Cultural Resource Use Permit 7-2920-89-I (NM BLM).

Jerry D. William and Jeffrey Wollin, DCA archaeologists, surveyed the project areas for cultural remains. Mr. Odell Farley of Meridian Oil Company accompanied the archaeologists during the fieldwork.

METHODS

The area was surveyed by walking parallel transects of 12-15 m intervals. A 650 x 650 ft area was surveyed for each of the locations. This area was centered over the 300 x 350 ft staked pad. Both sites were found and the pads abandoned prior to beginning survey of access road areas; therefore, access roads were not surveyed. The archaeologists recorded all cultural remains. Those whose information potential exceeded what could be extracted during the survey phase were assigned site status. Other cultural remains were documented as isolated loci (IL). Pertinent environmental data were also recorded.

In addition to field inspection, DCA staff conducted a search of the records at the DCA and the Farmington Resource Area Bureau of Land Management (BLM) offices to determine if any sites had been recorded in the project area. Site and project records required by the BLM and the New Mexico Historic Preservation Division were completed.

PREVIOUSLY RECORDED SITES

Forty previously recorded sites are within one mile of the survey areas. The locations of these sites in relation to the current project locations are provided on a supplement map for the BLM report copy. Two sites are within 1000 ft of the project areas. Both are just to the east of the abandoned Allison 113 location. The information for these sites is summarized in Table 1.

Table 1. Previously recorded sites within a 1000 ft radius of the project location

Site No.	Affiliation	Description
<u>Allison 113</u>		
LA 4531	Anasazi/PI/Rosa-USJ*	pithouse and jacal roomblock
LA 4532	Anasazi/PI/Piedra-USJ* Navajo/WWII-present	possible jacal structure, ceramic scatter sweatlodge, historic trash

* Upper San Juan

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Allison 111

Legal Description: T32N, R6W, Section 18, SE 1/4 NW 1/4 SE 1/4
NE 1/4 SW 1/4 SE 1/4
NE 1/4 SE 1/4 SE 1/4
SW 1/4 NE 1/4 SE 1/4
1190' F/SL, 1450' F/EL
N.M.P.M., San Juan County, New Mexico

Map Source: U.S.G.S. 7.5' Bancos Mesa NW, New Mexico - 1954, photorevised 1971

Land Jurisdiction: Bureau of Land Management

Project Area: 300' x 350' (well pad)

Surveyed Area: 650' x 650' (well pad with buffer)
9.70 Acres

Description: This location is near the west end of a mesa overlooking Cottonwood Canyon to the southwest (Figure 1). The location covers most of the mesa top from north to south in the area. A peak which rises some 160 ft above the location is ca. 1300 ft to the east. The entire area is in pinyon-juniper woodland (Pinus edulis and Juniperus sp. respectively). Other vegetation includes broadleaf yucca (Yucca baccata), Gambel oak (Quercus gambelii), mountain mahogany (Cercocarpus sp.), prickly pear (Opuntia sp.), and various grasses. A sandstone outcrop forms a steep slope on all sides of the mesa and this is within the survey area on the north and south sides.

Cultural Resources: One site, DCA-88-248, was found during the survey of this area. The site covers the entire west end of the mesa. It is quite large and encompasses most of the well pad as well as significant portions of each buffer zone.

DCA-88-248. This is a large habitation site with an extensive scatter of cultural material (Figure 2). The scatter covers most of the west end of a mesa top. A number of artifact clusters were present on the site. Two of these clusters (near the west end of the site) are associated with large areas of carbon-stained soil. A third cluster is associated with a burned jacal structure. The clusters occur along the low ridge line which separates the north-south drainage patterns on the mesa top. The main scatter of material is in the northeast portion of the site (Figure 3), but a sparse scatter continues across the entire area.

Ceramics included graywares with sandstone and crushed rock temper and whitewares. The artifacts are believed to represent an Anasazi PI-PII origin. Chipped stone is present in the form of flaking debris, cores, and chipped stone tools. Noted lithic raw material types include chalcedony, chert, quartzite, and quartzitic sandstone. Groundstone is common, especially quartzite cobble manos. Ceramics are very common, especially in the northeast portion of the site, and are frequently found in association with the two artifact clusters and stains on the west side of the site.

Recommendations: This site should be avoided. The well location has been abandoned by Meridian Oil Company.

Allison 113

Legal Description: T32N, R6W, Section 19, SE 1/4 NW 1/4 SW 1/4
SW 1/4 NE 1/4 SW 1/4
SE 1/4 NE 1/4 SW 1/4
NW 1/4 SE 1/4 SW 1/4
1535' E/SL, 1495' E/WL
N.M.P.M., San Juan County, New Mexico

Map Source: U.S.G.S. 7.5' Bancos Mesa NW, New Mexico - 1954, photorevised 1971

Land Jurisdiction: Bureau of Land Management

Project Area: 350' x 300' (well pad)

Surveyed Area: 650' x 650' (well pad with buffer)
9.70 Acres

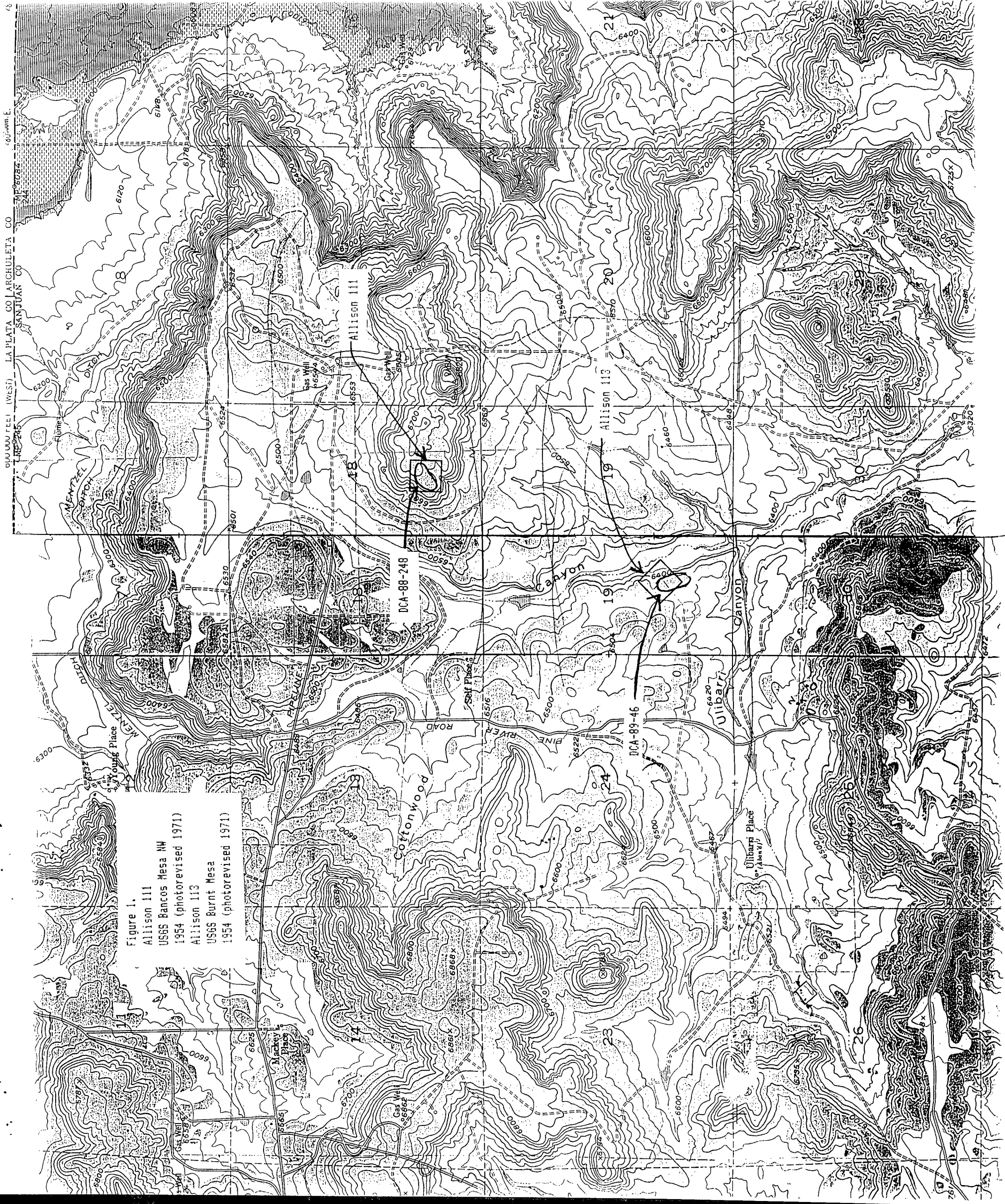
Description: This area is on a broad relatively flat hill near the floor of Cottonwood Canyon (Figure 1). It is on a west side of the canyon just ca. 1500 ft north of the junction of Cottonwood Canyon and Ulibarri Canyon. Most of the area is in pinyon-juniper woodland, but a small portion on the southwest side is in a transition zone between woodland and scrubland. Vegetation in the woodland includes ball cactus (Mammalaria sp.), broadleaf yucca, juniper, pinyon, prickly pear, sagebrush (Atemisia tridentata), snakeweed (Gutierrezia sarothrae), and various grasses. A sandstone outcrop which forms a short steep drop to the valley floor is present on the east side of the survey area.

Cultural Resources: One large site, DCA-89-46, was found during the survey of this pad area. The site covers most of the pad and much of the survey area as well as extending to the south of the 650 ft square (Figure 4). The site extends along the top of the hill and partially down the east and west sides. It overlooks both the Cottonwood and Ulibarri canyons. A barb wire fence, a powerline, and a two-track road cross the site, but there is no major damage from construction at this time.

DCA-89-46. The site is a habitation site with a dense scatter of cultural material between the center stake and the south edge of the survey area. This scatter is especially dense in the vicinity of the fenceline. A burned jacal roomblock is also present on the site and this is associated with the densest scatter of artifacts. The main portion of the site is surrounded by a sparser scatter and other smaller artifact clusters.

Chipped stone artifacts observed at the site include flaking debris, flake tools, cores, tested raw material, and bifacial tools. Raw material types represented are obsidian, chalcedony, petrified wood, chert, quartzite, and quartzitic sandstone. Groundstone artifacts are present as both unifacial and bifacial work surface manos and metates. Ceramics include Rosa Brownwares and Rosa Black-on-whites. Upright slabs in the vicinity of the burned structure suggest the presence of slab-lined hearths and/or storage pits.

Recommendations: This site should be avoided by construction. The well location has been abandoned by Meridian Oil Company.



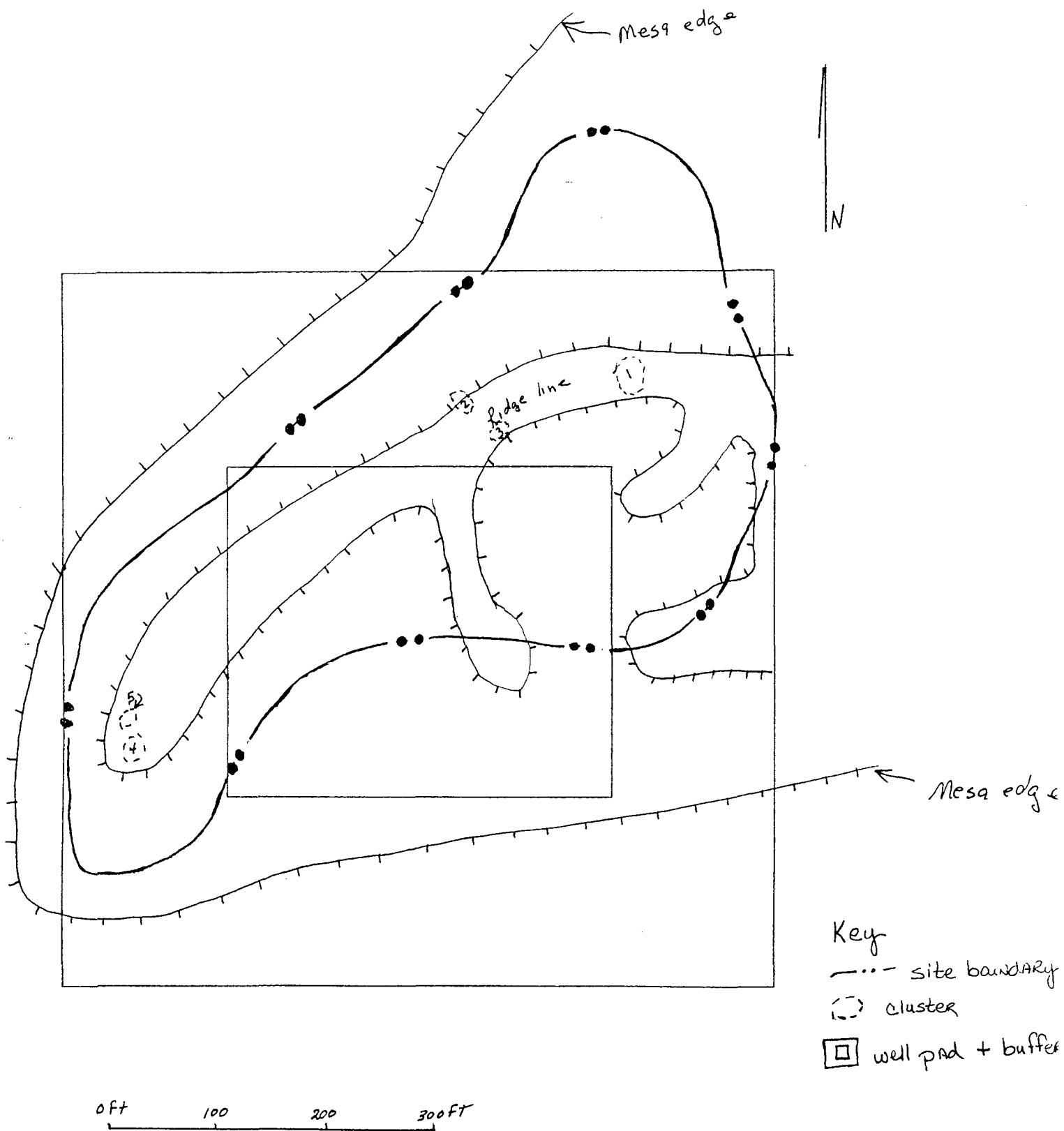


Figure 2. Allison III pad area and DCA-8 8-248.

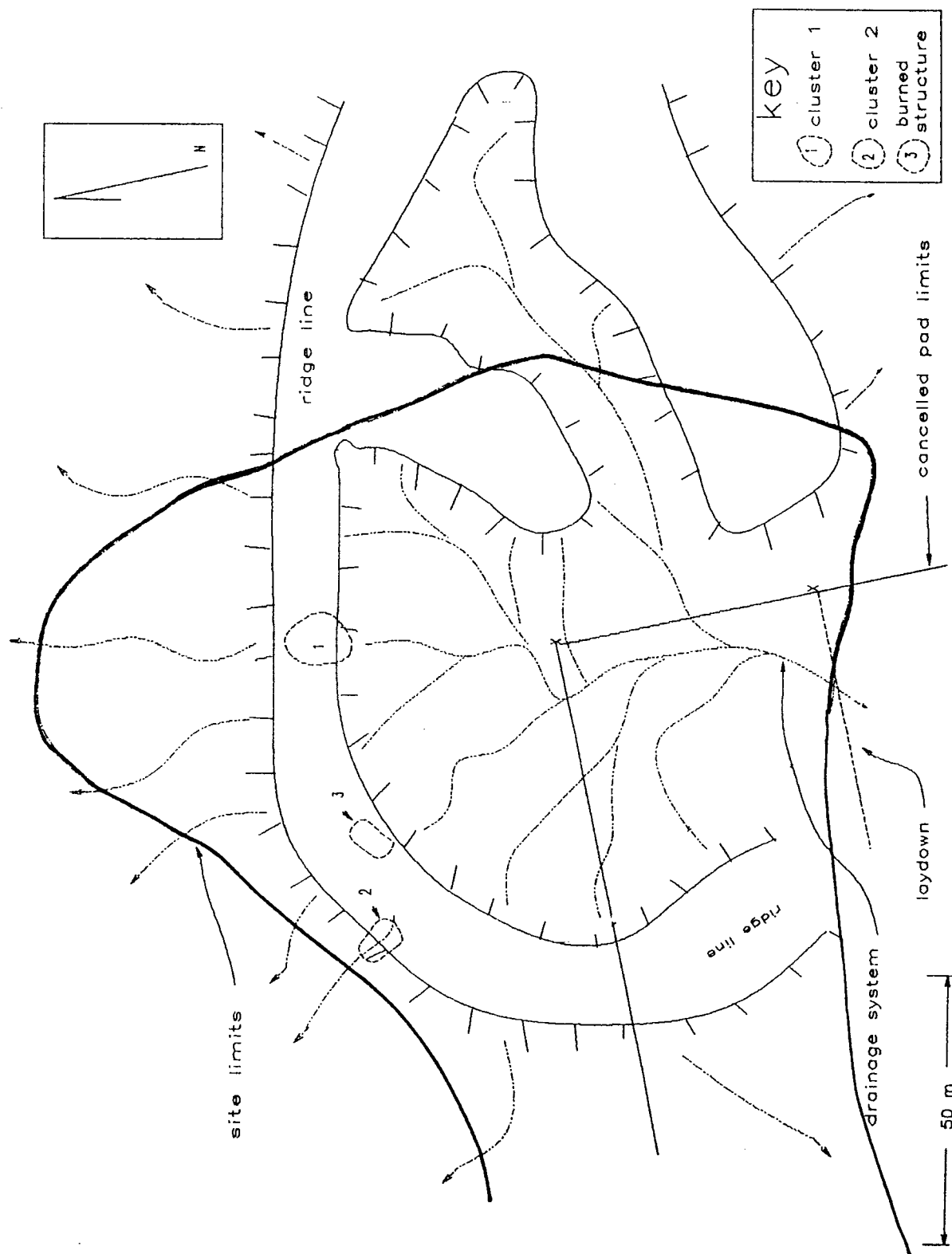


Figure 3. Blowup of the northeast portion of DCA-88-248.

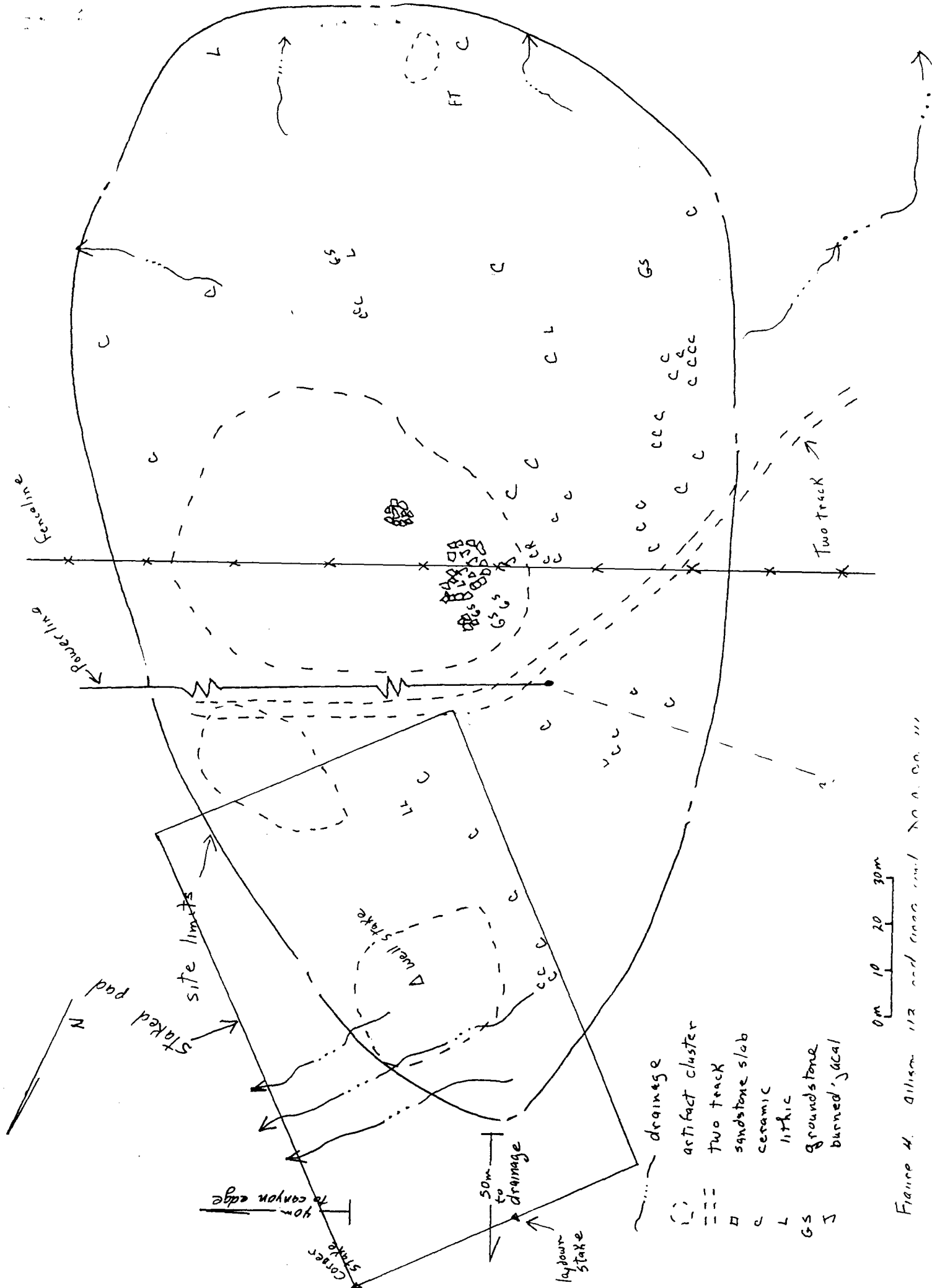


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