

Introduction

An archaeological reconnaissance was recently completed by the Agency for Conservation Archaeology, Eastern New Mexico University, Portales, New Mexico for La Rue and Muncy in Eddy County, New Mexico. The reconnoitered area will be impacted by the construction of a well pad and access road. The project was jointly administered by Mr. Burt Muncy, La Rue and Muncy and Dr. Peter S. Miller, Director, Agency for Conservation Archaeology. This report was prepared by the Roswell Office of ACA, Rod MacLennan, Manager.

The field work was conducted on 3 August 1979 by Rod MacLennan. Good field and weather conditions prevailed throughout the course of this survey. The survey was carried out under Federal Antiquities Permit No. 79-NM-049. A search of the National Register has been made and properties in this locality are not listed on the National Register.

Survey Technique

The area was inspected by means of a series of parallel transects which covered the length and breadth of the proposed construction site. Each transect was walked in a slightly zigzag pattern, which covered a 50 ft. interval along the side of the pad. This method maximized the opportunity of observing any cultural resources within or near the proposed area of impact.

Gates Federal #5

Location:

The proposed pad and access road are located 9 miles southwest of Loco Hills, New Mexico in the Loco Hills. The pad measures 400 X 400 ft. and is situated as follows:

NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$, Section 22, T18S, R30E, NMPM, Eddy County, New Mexico (BLM)

The access is by means of an existing dirt road into the north side of the pad.

Map Reference: USGS Clayton Basin Quadrangle, 15 minute series, 1942 (PR 1965) (see figures 1 and 2)

Terrain

The proposed location is situated in the Loco Hills, just west of the Nimenin Ridge. It is situated on top of a small hill covered by sand dunes. The elevation is 3651 ft.

The soils encountered in the area are predominately aeolian sands. Taxonomically, this soil can be classified as a member of the Haplargids-Torripsamments association.