INTRODUCTION

An archaeological reconnaissance was recently completed by the Agency for Conservation Archaeology, Eastern New Mexico University for Petroleum Development Corporation in Eddy County, New Mexico. The reconnoitered area will be impacted by the construction of a well pad. The project was administered by Mr. Charles Sanders, Petroleum Development Corporation and Dr. Peter S. Miller, Director, for ACA. This report was prepared by the Roswell office of ACA, Roc MacLennan, manager.

The field work was conducted on November 5, 1979 by Rod MacLennan. This survey was conducted under Federal Antiquity Permit Number 79-NM-049. A search of the National Register has been made and properties within this area are not on the National Register. Field and weather conditions were good during the course of the survey.

SURVEY TECHNIQUE

Visual inspection of the well pad was completed by walking a series of parallel transects. Each transect was covered in a tightly spaced zigzag pattern. The distance between transects was 20 feet. This method maximized the opportunity of observing any cultural resources within or near the proposed area of impact.

Coastal State Sweeney Federal No. 1

The proposed well pad is located 14 miles south southeast of Loco Hills, New Mexico, near the Querecho Plains. The pad measures 400 X 400 feet and is situated as follows:

NW¹₄NW¹₄, Section 13, T19S, R31E, NMPM, Eddy County, NM (BLM)

Map Reference: USGS Clayton Basin Quadrangle 15 Minute series, 1942 (Figure 1).

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TERRAIN

The proposed well pad is located near the Querecho Plains and is 1000 feet north west of Greenwood Lake. It is situated on a northeasterly sloping plain. The elevation is 3580 feet. The soils encountered in the area are predominantly sandy clay. Lithic inclusions within this soil consist of large amounts of fragmented caliche. Taxonomically this soil can be classified as a member of the Haplargids-Torripsamments association.

FLORISTICS

ACA encountered a sparse floral assemblage in this vicinity.