

DIVISION OF CONSERVATION ARCHAEOLOGY

San Juan County
Museum Association

March 30, 1978

23A

Mr. De Lasso Loos
Blackwood and Nichols
Box 1237
Durango, Colorado 81301

Dear Mr. Loos:

Enclosed is our archaeological survey report for four wells in the Navajo Dam area. Well #103 was inspected earlier this spring, but because of snow cover, a complete inspection was not possible. All areas are recommended for archaeological clearance, and final clearance will be granted by the Bureau of Land Management for three wells, and by the Bureau of Reclamation for well #103.

Also enclosed is our invoice for the survey.

Thank you for calling on us to perform the survey, and if there are any questions regarding the report or survey, please contact us.

Sincerely,

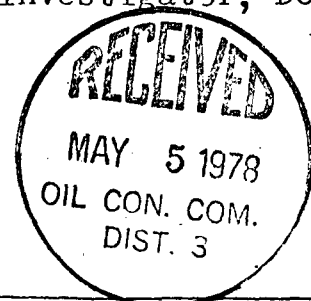
DIVISION OF CONSERVATION
ARCHAEOLOGY

Nancy Hewett

Mrs. Nancy S. Hewett
Staff Archaeologist

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Robert Caulkins, BLM
Mr. Jerry Long, USGS, Durango
Mr. Wayne Everitt, Bureau of Reclamation
Mr. Tom Merlan, State Planning Office
Mr. Stewart Peckham, Museum of New Mexico
Mr. Charles McKinney, Dept. of the Interior
Dr. Cynthia Irwin-Williams, Principal Investigator, DCA



Archaeological Survey Report
for
Blackwood and Nichols

Well Locations

Northeast Blanco Unit #23A ✓
Northeast Blanco Unit #66A
Northeast Blanco Unit #66
#103-A

Prepared by

Nancy S. Hewett

Submitted by

Dr. Cynthia Irwin-Williams
Principal Investigator

DIVISION OF CONSERVATION ARCHAEOLOGY

March 30, 1978



Introduction

The Division of Conservation Archaeology of the San Juan County Museum Association recently completed an archaeological survey near Navajo Dam, New Mexico on lands to be impacted by the construction of four gas wells by Blackwood and Nichols, Durango, Colorado.

The survey project was initiated at the request of Mr. O. B. Wittenburg of Blackwood and Nichols on March 20, 1978. It was administered by Mr. De Lasso Loos of Blackwood and Nichols and by Dr. Cynthia Irwin-Williams, Principal Investigator for the DCA.

The field work was conducted by Nancy S. Hewett of the DCA on March 23, 1978 under provisions of Federal Antiquities permit #78-NM-015 which has been issued to Eastern New Mexico University and used by the DCA with written permission. Also present in the field were Mr. Wittenburg, Blackwood and Nichols; Mr. Carl Barrick, USGS; Mr. Jim Hill, Allen Construction Company; Mr. Brantley Dickey, BLM; Mr. Leonard Trujillo, Bureau of Reclamation; and Mr. Bill Trotter, New Mexico State Park Department.

Survey

The requested archaeological survey involved three well pad locations on lands under the jurisdiction of Bureau of Land Management, one well under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Reclamation. For specific details of location please see the attached topographic maps and the paragraph descriptions below.

The general survey procedure was to walk the area of the proposed construction in a zig zag manner. Visual inspection was made of the ground surface for evidence of any artifactual materials of historic or prehistoric origin. Erosional gullies were checked for accumulations of materials deposited by slope wash. Floral, faunal, and geological observations were made to describe the environment.

Northeast Blanco Unit #23A

Land Jurisdiction: Bureau of Land Management minerals

Legal Description: 1800' F/NL ^{390'} ~~570'~~ F/WL Section 6 T30N R7W N.M.P.M. San Juan County, New Mexico.

Map Source: U.S.G.S. 15' Navajo Dam Quadrangle

Area Surveyed: 300' x 250' (pad) approx. 1200' x 20' (road)

Description: The access road will begin at an existing graded road and run down a moderate slope to the well pad. The well pad will be situated on the fairly level terrain of a ledge overlooking the

Pine River to the east. The vegetation consists of juniper (Juniperus sp.), pinon (Pinus edulis), sagebrush (Artemisia tridentata), snakeweed (Gutierrezia sarothrae), Mormon tea (Ephedra sp.), narrow leaf yucca (Yucca angustissima) and grasses. Throughout the area of the road and well pad there are unfilled pits where soil samples had been taken. Back dirt includes an abundance of cobblestones and gravels. The pipeline is staked to the east of the access road down steeper terrain. There is evidence of grazing, and the soil is a sandy clay loam of varying depths.

Cultural Resources ✓ Approximately 15 meters north of the well stake a fork stick hogan was found. Two of the nine major poles were forked, and the hogan has a diameter of 4M. Associated with the remains is a simple hearth 1 meter east, and a very light scatter (6) of small (less than thumbnail size) ceramic sherds. One pink chert waste flake was also noted near the hogan. In the general area of the well pad there are several burned out juniper tree stumps.

Recommendations ✓ During the survey the well stake was relocated 130' to the west, and the site (DCA-78-33) was flagged for avoidance. Mr. Hill of Allen Construction (the dirt contractor) assured me that he would supervise initial construction of the well pad and the site would not be disturbed. Archaeological clearance is recommended for the road and well pad with the stipulation that the site remain intact.

Northeast Blanco Unit #66A

Land Jurisdiction: Bureau of Land Management minerals

Legal Description: 2100' F/NL 300' F/WL Section 31 T31N R7W N.M.P.M. San Juan County, New Mexico.

Map Source: U.S.G.S. 15' Navajo Dam Quadrangle

Area Surveyed: 300' x 250' (pad) 2500' x 20' (road)

Description: The access road will traverse the north-facing side of a moderately steep slope. The well pad is situated on broken, sloping terrain which has abundant surface cover of cobblestones. The vegetation includes juniper, pinon, sagebrush, narrow and broad leaf yucca (Y. baccata), sparse mountain mahogany (Cercoparpus montanus), antelope bitterbrush (Purshia tridentata), and Mormon tea.

Cultural Resources: No artifacts were noted.

Recommendation: Archaeological clearance is recommended.

July - 7 1980

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEYSUBMIT IN TRIPLICATE*
(Other Instr. on re-
verse side)Form approved,
Budget Bureau No. 42-R1424.

5. LEASE DESIGNATION AND SERIAL NO.

SF079042

6. IF INDIAN, ALLOTTEE OR TRIBE NAME

SUNDRY NOTICES AND REPORTS ON WELLS

(Do not use this form for proposals to drill or to deepen or plug back to a different reservoir.
Use "APPLICATION FOR PERMIT—" for such proposals.)

1.

OIL WELL ☐ GAS WELL ☒ OTHER

2. NAME OF OPERATOR

Blackwood & Nichols Co., Ltd.

3. ADDRESS OF OPERATOR

P. O. Box 1237, Durango, Colorado 81301

4. LOCATION OF WELL (Report location clearly and in accordance with any State requirements.*
See also space 17 below.)
At surface

1800 F/NL - 390' F/WL

14. PERMIT NO.

15. ELEVATIONS (Show whether DF, RT, GR, etc.)

6385' GL

12. COUNTY OR PARISH

San Juan

13. STATE

New Mexico

16.

Check Appropriate Box To Indicate Nature of Notice, Report, or Other Data

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO:

SUBSEQUENT REPORT OF:

TEST WATER SHUT-OFF

PULL OR ALTER CASING

WATER SHUT-OFF

REPAIRING WELL

FRACTURE TREAT

MULTIPLE COMPLETE

FRACTURE TREATMENT

ALTERING CASING

SHOOT OR ACIDIZE

ABANDON*

SHOOTING OR ACIDIZING

ABANDONMENT*

REPAIR WELL

CHANGE PLANS

(Other)

(Other)

Change location footage XX

(NOTE: Report results of multiple completion on Well
Completion or Recompletion Report and Log form.)

17. DESCRIBE PROPOSED OR COMPLETED OPERATIONS (Clearly state all pertinent details, and give pertinent dates, including estimated date of starting any proposed work. If well is directionally drilled, give subsurface locations and measured and true vertical depths for all markers and zones pertinent to this work.)*

As per attached Archaeological report we were requested to change the drill site location.

APPROVED

MAY 2 1978

CARL A. BARRICK

ACTIVE DISTRICT ENGINEER

18. I hereby certify that the foregoing is true and correct

SIGNED DeLasso LoosTITLE District ManagerDATE 4-12-78

(This space for Federal or State office use)

APPROVED BY

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL, IF ANY:

TITLE

RECEIVED

DATE

APR 12 1978

*See Instructions on Reverse Side

U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
DURANGO, COLO.