

Reconnaissance Excavation Analysis Explanation Curation

NMAS

New Mexico Archaeological Services, Inc.

P. O. Box 1341

Carlsbad, New Mexico 88220 (505) 887-7646

27 April 1979

Mr. Walter W. Krug Wallen Drilling and Production P.O. Box 1960 Midland, Texas 79702

Dear Mr. Krug:

Enclosed please find NMAS! Archaeological Clearance Report for Wallen Production Company's proposed Madine Well No.2 and access road in Lea County, New Mexico. No cultural resources were recorded during this reconnaissance, and hence NMAS is suggesting clearance.

If you have any questions pertaining to our report, rlease call my office. Thank you for asking HMAS to do this reconnaissance.

Loring Haskell rincipal Investigator

Enclosure

Mr. Thomas Zale, BLM, Carlsbad

Ms. Ann Ramage, BLM, Roswell Mr. Jim Simms, USGS, Hobbs Mr. Stewart L. Peckham, Laboratory of Anthropology,

Mr. Thomas W. Merlan, SHPO, Santa Fe

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Introduction

On 26 April 1979, New Mexico Archaeological Services, Inc., Carlsbad, undertook for Wallen Production, Midland, an archaeological reconnaissance of lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management in Lea County, New Mexico. Reconnoitered areas will be impacted by the construction of a drill location and an associated access road. This project was administered by Mr. Walter Krug, President, Wallen Production Company, and Dr. J. Loring Haskell, Principal Investigator, NMAS. Dr. Haskell was assisted in the field by Mr. Charles A. Aylward, Staff Archaeologist, NMAS.

Survey Technique

Wallen Production Company's proposed location was investigated for evidence of man's past activities by walking it in a series of 20 ft wide, close interval (15° or less), zigzag transects. In addition, an added zone embracing 20 ft on each side of the location, and hence lying outside the 400 X 400 ft core area, was examined by a similar means as was the access road. Combined these technique served to promote optimal conditions for the visual examination of areas to be impacted by construction-related activities.

Nadine Well No.2

Location

This location will measure 100.X 400 ft on federal lands and will be situated 660 ft from the north line and 660 ft from the west line of: [58] d Will

Section 23, T195, R38E, NMPM, Les County, NM

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Thus it will be situated in the:

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The assoicated access road will measure 12 X 450 ft on federal land.

NW NW NW, Section 23, T195, R38E, NMPM, Lea County, NM Map References:
USGS Hobbs East, 7.5 Minute Series, 1969.
USGS Hobbs West, 7.5 Minute Series, 1969.

Terrain

Topographically, the investigated location is situated on a broad and featurdess plain south of Hobbs. An extensive subsidence basin lies to the south-southeast and is of probable Pleistocene age. Associated soils consist of silty clay loams and clay loams containing occasional caliche inclusions. In general, peds are thin and calcareous in nature. A zone of semi-stabilized dunes and deflation basins lies to the southeast. Floristics

Soil individuals supports a sparse overstory of Prosopis juliflora which ranges between 1 and 3 m in height. At the present time, the understory is dominated by a more or less unbroken mat of flowering annuals. Principal types include:

Phacelia sp., Erigeron sp., Nama sp., Sphaeralcea sp.,

Penstemon sp., and Lesquerella sp. In addition, Circium sp.,

Senecio longilobus, Solamun eleaegnifolium and Gutierrezia sarothrae were noted. Grassis wife hot abundant, include Aristida sp., Bouteloua eriopoda, and Setaria macrostochya.

Cactaceae is limited to Opuntia spc. (cylindropuntia and platyopuntia).

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Cultural Resources

No archaeological sites or isolated manifestations were recorded during this reconnaissance. Locally, archaeological sites occur principally in dune fields situated to the northeast and southeast of the project area. Isolated manifestations in the form of solitary projectile point or scrapers occur on a random basis elsewhere on this landform. Related-activities centered on hunting and attendant tasks.

Recommendations

NMAS recommends clearance for Wallen Production Company's proposed Nadine Well No. 2 and its associated access road and suggests that work-related activities proceed in accordance with existing plans.

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