

Introduction

On 10 March 1980, New Mexico Archaeological Services, Inc., (NMAS), Carlsbad, undertook for CONOCO, INCORPORATED, Hobbs, an archaeological reconnaissance of federal lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management in Lea County, New Mexico. Reconnoitered areas will be impacted by the construction of drill locations, associated access roads, electrical distribution lines, and quarry expansions. This project was advanced by Mr. Delbert Cates, Production Foreman, CONOCO, INCORPORATED, and administered by Dr. J. Loring Haskell, Principal Investigator, NMAS, Inc. This reconnaissance was undertaken by Mr. Charles A. Aylward, Reserach Associate, NMAS.

Survey Technique

For this investigation, CONOCO's proposed locations were reconnoitered for evidence of man's past activities by walking them in a series of 20 ft wide, close interval (15° or less), zigzag transects. In addition an added zone embracing to 20 ft on each side of the staked 400 X 400 ft locations, and hence lying outside the bounds of the proposed work area, was reconnoitered by a similar means as were their access roads, and the quarry pits. This zone extends backward from the edge of each quarry, on each side, for a distance of 50 ft. Methodologically, this procedure served to promote optimal conditions for the visual examination of areas to be impacted by construction-related activities.