

## Introduction

On 22 February 1979, New Mexico Archaeological Services, Inc., (NMAS), Carlsbad, undertook for Continental Oil Company, Hobbs, 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 two drilling locations, their access roads, and the upgrading of an existing pipeline road. This project was administered by Mr. C.R. Paschal, Production Foreman, Areas 8 and 9, Continental Oil Company, and Dr. J. Loring Haskell, Principal Investigator, NMAS. Dr. Haskell conducted the reconnaissance under excellent field conditions.

## Survey Technique

Each of Continental Oil Company's proposed locations was investigated by walking them in a series of 20 ft wide, close interval ( $15^{\circ}$  or less), zigzag transects. In addition, an added zone, embracing a tract of land measuring 20 ft in breadth on each side of the 400 X 400 ft core areas, was reconnoitered as well by a similar means. Access roads were examined by traversing them in two 10 ft wide close interval, zigzag patterns. As for the existing pipeline road, it was walked in two, 20 ft wide, parallel, zigzag transects making it possible to examine not only its road bed but its shoulder and the zone lying beyond as well. The breadth of this latter reconnaissance was determined to be necessary in order to accommodate turnoffs needed during construction. Methodologically, these procedures served to maximize the visual examination of