

MUSEUM OF NEW MEXICO

OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL STUDIES

LIMITED AUGER TESTING AT RETENTION POND NO. 5 ALONG NM 47 IN
PERALTA, VALENCIA COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

Addendum to Quivira Research Center Publications 324

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MNM Project No. 41.5991
NMSHTD Project No. TPO-0047(15)31, CN 2105

ADDENDUM

At the request of the New Mexico State Highway and Transportation Department, the Office of Archaeological Studies conducted limited subsurface testing at the site of a potential retention pond along NM 47 (Fig. 1). In her survey of the area, Condie (1996:15) found two ceramics from different vessels in an area with little surface visibility and recommended further investigations to determine if subsurface materials exist in that area. On December 3, after consulting with the private land owner and receiving permission, 11 auger holes were placed in the parcel (Table 1). Two red-slipped historic ceramics were observed on the surface and subsurface materials were found in the southeast corner of the property (Fig. 2). A NMCRIS form was completed on December 6, 1996.

In December, the area was still covered by relatively dense vegetation, mostly grasses, up to a meter high. Surface survey of the parcel located two red-slipped historic ceramics but not the black-on-cream sherd observed by Condie. The surface scatter undoubtedly extends beyond the area of subsurface deposits but is obscured by vegetation. The area has been farmed and the former owner told us that he had observed sherds when plowing, especially in the southeast corner. He also stated that 48 years ago there was a two-room adobe house in the northeast corner of the parcel. He dismantled the structure and no remains are currently visible. Pockets of trash from this habitation could be encountered during construction of the retention pond.

The site, LA 116034, is a small subsurface and surface scatter of early historic ceramics. Boundaries are incomplete as portions extend under the gravel driveway and parking area of the business to the south and beneath the NM 47 pavement. Subsurface deposits are confined to an area about 2.5 m diameter at the corner of the parcel and the presence of these deposits has been used to define the site boundaries. The surface ceramics are just outside of this area but because the area has undergone years of plowing, their location is not considered determinative.

Subsurface deposits consist of dark charcoal-stained soil, mottled clay, and ceramics. Charcoal-stained soil was found in Auger Holes 1 and 8 and ceramics in Auger Holes 1 and 7. The general deposition (Table 1) in the area consists of an upper layer of dark brown loamy clay containing plant parts, roots, precipitates, and sparse charcoal extending from the surface to as deep as 35 cm. Beneath this is 25 to 40 cm of alluvial deposits comprised of reddish sand or sandy silt occasionally grading into clayey silt. Where present, the cultural/charcoal-stained deposits are within this layer. This overlies another alluvial layer of finer orangish silt with rust staining. At the base is a coarser multicolored alluvial sand at anywhere from 55 to 90 cm below the surface.

The few ceramics observed are orange or red-slipped utility wares typical of the Spanish Colonial and later period in this area. These wares (probably Isleta Red-on-tan and/or Carnuel Plain) are generally considered to date from about A.D. 1700 to as late as the 1920s (Franklin 1990:20). Based on these estimated dates, this site could represent trash deposits from one of the many ranchos scattered along this portion of the Rio Grande. Major flooding damaged and removed many of the structures in the Valencia area (Mensel 1996:14-16), leaving only pockets of trash among the alluvial deposits.

Before construction of the ponding area, limited testing is recommended to confirm that the deposits located by the auger tests represent no more than pockets of trash with no associated structures or features. This testing should include the adjacent right-of-way, as the site appears to extend beneath NM 47.

R.2E.

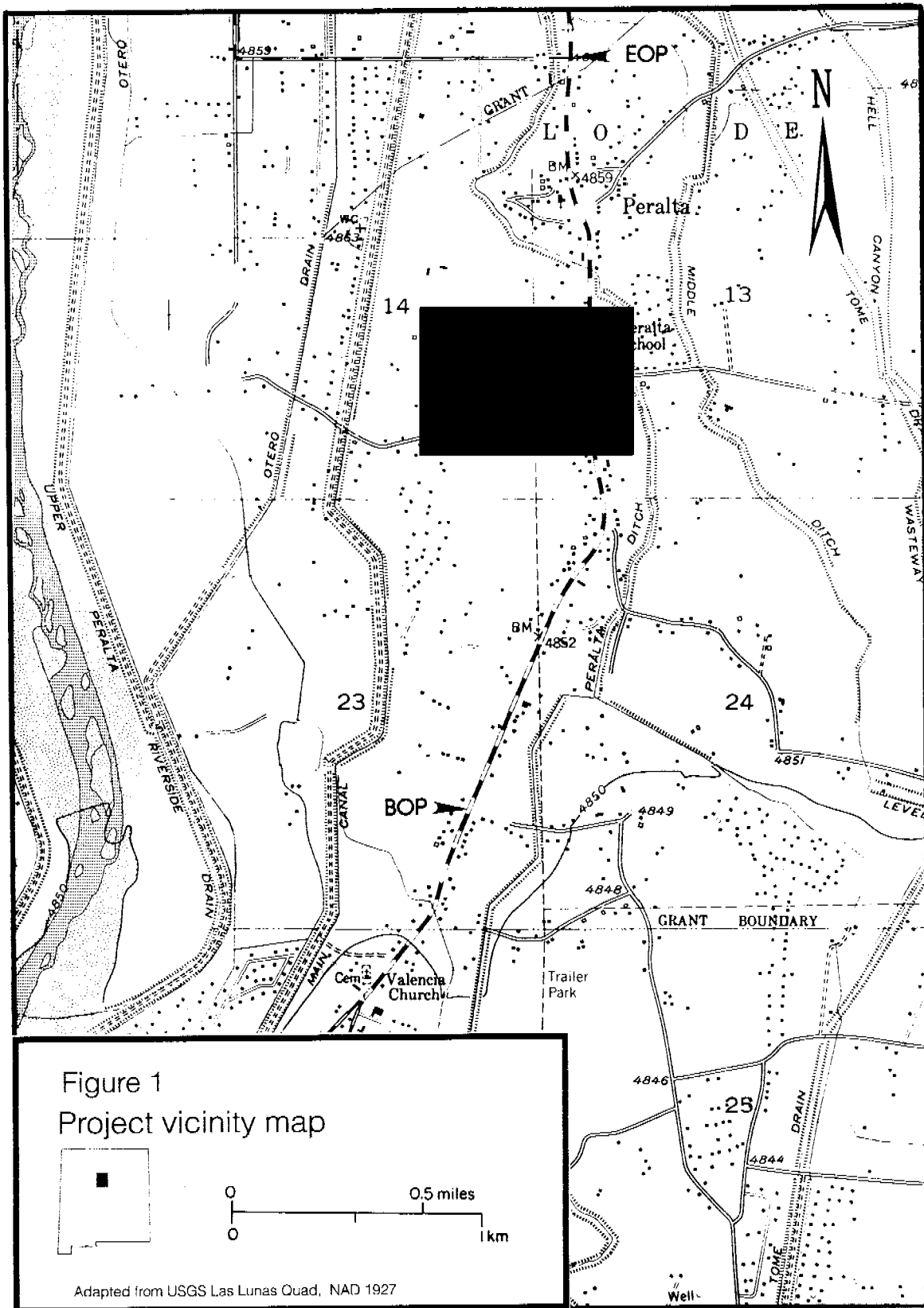


Figure 1
Project vicinity map



Adapted from USGS Las Lunas Quad, NAD 1927

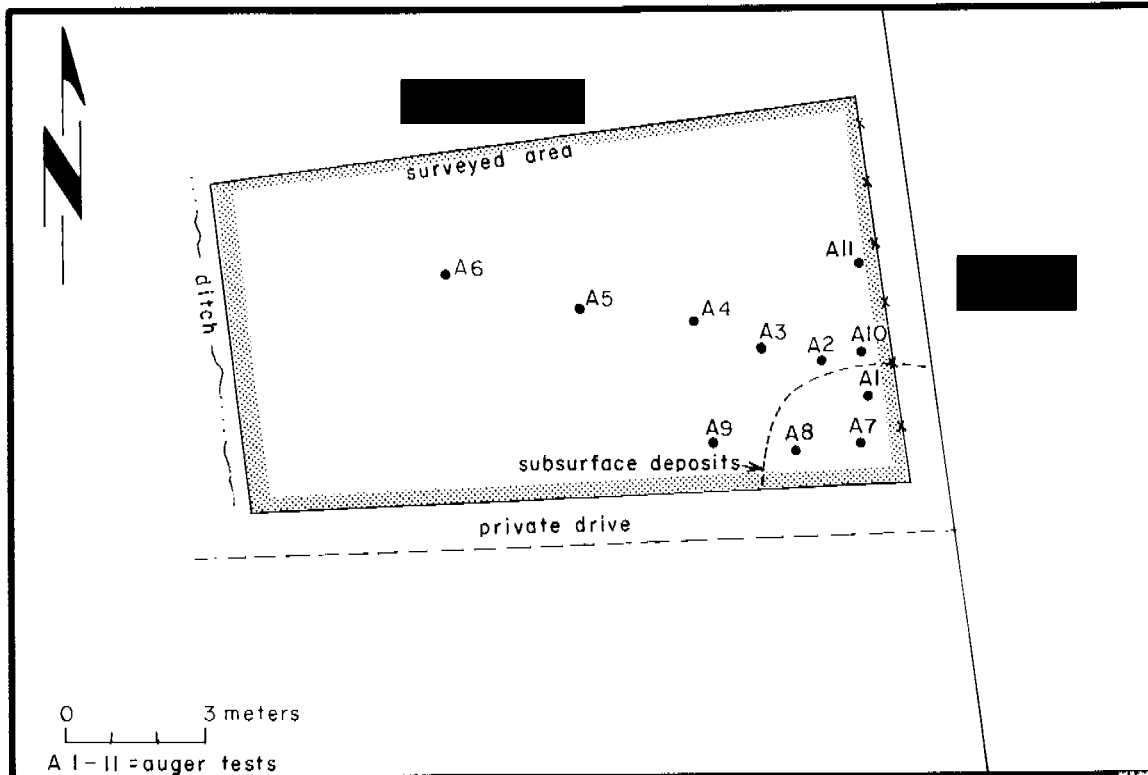


Figure 2. LA 116034 site map.

Table 1. Results of Auger Tests at LA 116034

| Test Number | Depth below surface (cm) | Comments |
|-------------|--------------------------|--|
| 1 | 0-25 | wet sandy clay with some loam; red ware ceramic at 15 - 20 cm, charcoal throughout |
| | 25-35 | redder sandy silt with mottled clay and charcoal |
| | 35-40 | dark charcoal stained soil, silty clay |
| | 40-55 | fine orangish silt |
| | 55-65 | clean fine sand |
| | 65-75 | oranger, finer sand |
| | 75-105+ | coarse multicolored sand |
| 2 | 0-30 | dark brown loamy clay with decaying plant material and sparse charcoal flecks |
| | 30-60 | fine orangish silt |
| | 60-75 | oranger, finer sand with rust staining |
| | 75-102 | coarse multicolored sand |

| Test Number | Depth below surface (cm) | Comments |
|-------------|--------------------------|--|
| 3 | 0-15 | area where 2 red slipped historic sherds were observed; brown loamy clay with sparse flecks of charcoal |
| | 15-40 | sandy, lighter colored silty clay with charcoal flecks and precipitate inclusions; redder than fill just above |
| | 40-70 | fine orangish silt with rust staining |
| | 70-85 | coarser multicolored sand; loosely packed and clean |
| 4 | 0-25 | dark brown loamy clay with sparse charcoal flecks |
| | 25-50 | orangish sand with rust staining and occasional flecks of charcoal |
| | 50-55 | orangish silt with smears of light brown and tan clay |
| | 55-65 | coarser multicolored sand |
| 5 | 0-32 | dark brown loamy clay with roots and plant parts; clayey after 15 cm and containing sparse charcoal flecks |
| | 32-50 | orangish silt; clay decreases with depth |
| | 50-90 | fine reddish sand becoming somewhat sticky from increasing clay content at 70 cm |
| | 90-93 | coarser multicolored sand |
| 6 | 0-35 | dark brown loamy clay with precipitates and sparse charcoal at base of layer |
| | 35-65 | orangish silt, clay decreases with depth |
| | 65-85 | light brown, fine silty sand |
| | 85-92 | coarser multicolored sand |
| 7 | 0-10 | loamy clay with decayed and decaying plant material; 10 YR 4/4 m |
| | 10-25 | sandy silt with charcoal flecks; a red-on-tan sherd from a jar at 18-20 cm; 10 YR 5/4 m |
| | 25-55 | siltier, smooth textured with no charcoal; 10 YR 5/4 m |
| | 55-85 | fine sand; 10 YR 6/4 m |
| | 85-88 | coarser multicolored sand; 10 YR 5/4 and 6/4 m & d |
| 8 | 0-30 | dark brown loamy clay with roots and organic material, some charcoal and precipitates |
| | 30-70 | reddish silt with dense charcoal between 35 and 55 cm; sparse charcoal after 55 cm |
| | 70-78 | coarser multicolored sand |
| 9 | 0-25 | dark brown loamy clay with some precipitates and sparse charcoal |
| | 25-40 | reddish silt with mottled tan clay |

| Test Number | Depth below surface (cm) | Comments |
|-------------|--------------------------|---|
| | 40-55 | clean red silt |
| | 55-65 | coarser multicolored sand |
| 10 | 0-5 | dark brown loamy clay |
| | 5-30 | reddish silty clay |
| | 30-50 | clean silt with rust staining |
| | 50-70 | yellowish brown sand |
| | 70-82 | coarser multicolored sand |
| 11 | 0-30 | dark brown loamy clay, organic stained with sparse charcoal and precipitates |
| | 30-55 | reddish silty clay becoming sandier with depth then clayier; color is the same with no clear boundaries |
| | 55-70 | coarser multicolored sand |

References Cited

Condie, Carol J.

- 1996 *Cultural Resources Investigations on State of New Mexico and Private Land, From the South Bosque Loop South to Valencia Road, Lo De Padilla (Peralta) Grant, Peralta, Valencia County, Mexico*. Quivira Research Center Publications 324. Albuquerque.

Franklin, Hayward II.

- 1990 Native American Ceramics from Valencia, NM (LA 67321), the Historic Component. Report submitted to the Office of Contract Archaeology, University of New Mexico.

Mensel, Macy

- 1996 *Archaeological Investigations along NM 47 and a Data Recovery Plan for LA 67321, Valencia County, New Mexico*. Office of Archaeological Studies, Archaeology Notes 181. Museum of New Mexico, Santa Fe.

APPENDIX 2. LABORATORY OF ANTHROPOLOGY PROJECT/ACTIVITY RECORD

1. PROJECT DATA -----

NMCRIS Project Number: _____ Parent Project Number: _____

Sponsoring Agency: Office of Archaeological Studies.

Project ID: 41.5991

Project Name: Peralta / NM 47
Testing

Project Dates (dd-mmm-yyyy): 06-Dec-1996.

Project Type (choose one):

- cultural resource management
- regional or topical overview research project
- other project type: Limited testing.

Project Description (optional): Limited auger testing to determine if subsurface deposits exist in the area of an IO.

Proposed Action:

- research project drill hole mining
- materials pit/stockpile railroad road/highway
- buried pipeline/cable transmission line
- seismic line fence line trail
- military target site land exchange
- land management project building/facility reservoir/dam water system

Other action: _____

Other Permitting Agencies: _____

2. ACTIVITY DATA -----

NMCRIS Activity Number: 54949

Performing Agency: Office of Archaeological Studies

Activity ID: _____

Activity Name: _____

Activity Dates (dd-mmm-yyyy): 06-Dec-1996.

Activity Type:

- research design preparation
- cultural resources overview or literature review (Class 1 Survey) archeological testing
- archeological excavation

- Archeological survey (Class 2 or 3 Survey)
 - collections and non-field studies
 - archeological monitoring or damage assessment
- ethnographic study other activity: _____

Activity Description (optional): _____

Limited testing to determine if subsurface deposits exist in the area of an IO observed on a parcel of private property proposed for use as a retention pond area. Two ceramics were observed on the surface during a survey conducted by Quivira Research (Condie 1996).

Studies and Analyses Performed:

- lithic technology lithic tool typology
- ceramic technology ceramic typology faunal analyses human osteology archeomagnetic dating
- obsidian hydration dating radiocarbon dating
- tree ring dating pollen, phytolith analysis
- macrobotanical analysis site distribution
 - isolated artifact distribution architectural studies historic artifact analyses historic records studies
- soils, stratigraphy, geomorphology
 - geology, lithic materials sourcing
 - ethnographic interviews/oral history studies
 - other studies: Auger testing and recording of subsurface stratigraphy

3. SURVEY ACTIVITIES -----

Total Area Surveyed: _____

Total Activity Area (if <100% coverage): _____

Survey Intensity (choose one):

- intensive (BLM Class 3; 100%)
- reconnaissance (BLM Class 2; < 100%)

Survey Configuration: number of survey units: _____

- block survey units linear survey units
- other survey units: _____

Survey Scope (choose one): non-selective selective/thematic

Survey Coverage (choose one):

- systematic pedestrian coverage other coverage method

Standard Survey Interval: _____ Standard Crew Size: _____

Source Graphics:

- copies in report copies attached to report or form
- USGS 7.5' topographic maps

- other topographic maps (Scale:___)
- rectified aerial photos (Scale:___)
- unrectified aerial photos (Scale:___) GPS Unit
- other source:___

Survey Results:

Sites Discovered and Registered: 1
 Sites Discovered and Not Registered:
 Previously Recorded Sites Revisited:
 Total Number of Sites Visited: 1
 Total Isolated Occurrences: Non-Selective IO Recording?

| Land Ownership | State | Acres Surveyed |
|----------------|-------|----------------|
| Private | | |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |

Counties/States Surveyed:

| USGS Quadrangles Included in Surveyed Area: Quadrangle Name/Date | Quadrangle Code |
|---|-----------------|
| Los Lunas | 34106-G6 |
| _____ | _____ |

Previously Registered Sites (LA nos.):

New Sites (LA nos.): LA 116034

4. NON-SURVEY ACTIVITIES -----

Investigated Sites (LA nos.):

5. REPORT INFORMATION -----

Document Type (choose one):

- report, monograph, or book
- title in an edited collection manuscript
- volume in a report series article in a journal article in a magazine dissertation or thesis
- paper presented at meeting other document type:

Year Issued: 1997 no date draft?:

Main Author: Nancy Akins

Additional Authors:

Title #1: Limited Subsurface Testing Along NM 47 in Peralta, Valencia County, New Mexico.
Title #2 (additional citation data): ____

Prepared By: Office of Archaeological Studies
Preparing Agency Report No.: ____

Published By (publisher, city, state): Museum of New Mexico, Office of Archaeological Studies.

Report Recipient: ____ Other Agency Report Nos.: ____

LABORATORY OF ANTHROPOLOGY SITE RECORD

1. IDENTIFICATION & OWNERSHIP -----

LA Number: 116034 [] Site Update?

Site Name(s):

Other Site Numbers: Agency Assigning Number:

IO 1 (Condic 1996) Quivira Research Center

Current Site Owner(s):

Private

2. RECORDING INFORMATION -----

NMCRIS Activity Number: Field Site Number:

54949

Site Marker?: [x] no [] yes (specify ID#):

Recorder(s): Agency:

N. Akins and M. Mensel

Office of Archaeological
Studies, Museum of New Mexico

Recording Date (dd-mmm-yyyy): 06/Dec/1996

Site Accessibility (choose one):

[] accessible [X] buried [] flooded [] urbanized
[] not accessible

Surface Visibility (% visible; choose one):

[] 0% [x] 1 - 25% [] 26-50% [] 51-75% [] 76-99% [] 100% Remarks: Parcel of land is an undeveloped field with high grasses that limit surface visibility and is probably at least possibly destroyed by NM 47 and a gravel driveway to the south

Recording Activities:

[X] sketch mapping [] instrument mapping
[] surface collection [] in-field artifact analysis [] photography [] shovel or trowel tests
[] test excavation [] excavation (data recovery) [x] other activities: Eleven auger tests were used to determine the presence and extent of subsurface deposition.

Description of Analysis or Excavation Activities:

Photographic Documentation: site overviews

Surface Collection (choose one):

[x] no surface collections [] uncontrolled surface collections [] collections of specific items
[] controlled surface collections (sample)

- controlled surface collection (complete)
- other collection method: _____

Surface Collection Methods:

Records Inventory:

- site location map
- sketch map(s)
- instrument map(s)
- excavation, collection, analysis records
- photos, slides, & associated records
- field journals, notes
- NM Historic Building Inventory (HBI) form
- other records: Auger testing forms

Repository for Original Site Records:

ARMS

Repository for Collected Artifacts:

3. CONDITION -----

Archeological Status:

- surface collection
- test excavation
- partial excavation
- complete excavation

Disturbance Sources:

- wind erosion
- water erosion
- bioturbation
- vandalism
- construction/land development
- other source: plowing and levelling

Vandalism:

- defaced glyphs
- damaged/defaced architecture
- surface disturbance
- manual excavation
- mechanical excavation
- other vandalism: _____

Percentage of Site Intact (choose one):

- 0%
- 1 - 25%
- 26-50%
- 51-75%
- 76-99%
- 100%

Observations on Site Condition:

The site is located in an undeveloped field, under NM 47, and possibly a gravel driveway to the south. Elm trees, heavy weeds, and grass cover obscure virtually all of the ground surface within the field. The former owner stated that he had plowed and farmed the area and had observed pottery but no indications of anything more substantial than trash pockets.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS -----

National Register Eligibility (choose one):

- eligible
- not eligible
- not sure

Applicable Criteria:

criterion a criterion b criterion c
 criterion d

Basis for Recommendation:

Assessment of Project Impact:

If placed at this location, the retention pond and its preparation could eliminate this portion of the site. It may be possible to avoid and preserve this small corner of the parcel and not impact the site.

Treatment Recommendations:

Testing is recommended to determine the full extent of the deposits if it cannot be avoided.

5. SHPO CONSULTATIONS (SHPO use only) -----

HPO Determination (choose one):

eligible not eligible not determined

Applicable Criteria:

criterion a criterion b criterion c
 criterion d

Date (dd-mmm-yyyy): - - .

HPD Log No.: ____

Register Status:

listed on National Register listed on State Register formal determination of eligibility

State Register No.: ____

Remarks: ____

6. LOCATION -----

Source Graphics:

copies in report copies attached to report or form
 USGS 7.5' topographic maps
 other topographic maps (Scale: ____)
 rectified aerial photos (Scale: ____)
 unrectified aerial photos (Scale: ____) GPS Unit
 other source: ____

UTM Coordinates (center of site):

██████████ ██████████ North ██████████

Nearest Named Drainage (name, dist. & dir.): Rio Grande is 2.2 km west.

Nearest Numbered Road (name, dist. & dir.): [REDACTED]

Directions to Site:

Town (if in city limits): Peralta

State: NM

County: Valencia

USGS Quadrangles:

Quadrangle Name and Date: Los Lunas 1974
Quadrangle Code: 34106-G6

PLSS Reference:

PLSS Meridian: [] Unplatted [REDACTED]] Protracted

7. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION -----

Site Dimensions: maximum length: 2.5+ m **maximum width:** 2.5+ m
Basis for Dimensions (choose one): [X]estimated []measured

Site Area: 6.25+ sq m
Basis for Area (choose one): [X]estimated []measured

Elevation: 4,800 feet

Site Boundaries Complete? (choose one): []yes
[x]no (explain): Site potentially interrupted by NM 47 to the east and a gravel drive and business located to the south.

Basis for Site Boundaries:

- [] distribution of archeological features & artifacts
- [] modern features or ground disturbance
- [] topographic features [] property lines
- [X] other criteria: Auger tests indicating subsurface deposition

Depositional/Erosional Environment:

- [x] alluvial [] aeolian [] colluvial [X] residual
- [] not applicable [] other process: _____

Stratigraphy & Depth of Archeological Deposits (choose one): [] unknown/not determined [] no subsurface deposits present [x] subsurface deposits present
[] stratified subsurface deposits present

Estimated Depth of deposits: 30-40 cm

Basis for Determinations:

Estimated shovel or trowel tests
 core or auger tests excavations road or arroyo cuts rodent burrows other observations: _____

Observations on Subsurface Archeological Deposits:

up to 25 cm of plow zone - clayey loam overlying fine sand to silt with charcoal and cultural material down to 40 cm; all overlying various types of alluvial sands, some with slight silt content.

Nearest Water Source (choose one):

spring/seep perennial stream/river
 intermittent stream/arroyo perennial lake
 intermittent lake/playa other source: _____

Distance from Site: 2.2 km

Local Vegetation (list observed plants in decreasing order of dominance): **Overstory :** Elm and walnut
Understory: weedy annuals, tall grasses

Vegetation Community (choose one or two):

forest woodland scrubland grassland
 desert scrubland marshland/riparian/meadow
 other community: Overgrown field

Topographic Location:

Alluvial Fan Arroyo/Wash Badlands Base of Cliff Base of Talus Slope Bench
 Blow-Out Canyon Rim Cave Cliff/Scarp/Bluff Constricted Canyon
 Flood Plain/Valley Hill Slope/Slope Hill Top
 Lava Flow (Malpais) Low Rise Mesa/Butte
 Mountain Mountain Front/Foothill Open Canyon Floor Plain/Flat Playa Ridge
 Rockshelter Saddle Talus Slope Terrace Other location: Dune

Observations on Site Setting:

Site is located on the Rio Grande floodplain approximately 2.2 km from river. Extensive development and agricultural activities obscure past topography. The area is currently flat. An irrigation ditch is west of the site, NM 47 is east of the site, and a gravel drive is south of the site.

8. ASSEMBLAGE DATA -----

Assemblage Content

Lithics:

lithic debitage chipped-stone tools
 diagnostic projectile points non-local lithic materials stone tool manufacturing items ground stone tools

Prehistoric Ceramics:

whole ceramic vessel diagnostic ceramics
 other prehistoric ceramics

Historic Artifacts:

- diagnostic glass artifacts other glass artifacts
- diagnostic metal artifacts other metal artifacts
- whole ceramic vessel diagnostic ceramics
- other historic ceramics

Other Artifacts and Materials:

- bone tools faunal remains macrobotanical remains architectural stone burned adobe
- fire-cracked rock/burned caliche other items: _____

Assemblage Size:

Lithics (choose one):

- 0 1s 10s 100s 1,000s >10,000
- counts (if < 100): _____

Prehistoric ceramics (choose one):

- 0 1s 10s 100s 1,000s >10,000
- counts (if < 100): N=6

Historic artifacts (choose one):

- 0 1s 10s 100s 1,000s >10,000
- counts (if < 100): _____

Total assemblage size (choose one):

- 0 1s 10s 100s 1,000s >10,000
- counts (if < 100): N=6

Dating Potential:

- radiocarbon dendrochronology archeomagnetism
- obsidian hydration relative dating methods
- other methods: _____

Assemblage Remarks:

Two ceramics, a black-on-cream ware, and an orange utility ware were noted during survey (Condie 1996). Additional utility wares, with oxidized orange surfaces were noted on the surface during testing. All ceramic types are consistent with a historic occupation of the area.

9. CULTURAL/TEMPORAL AFFILIATIONS -----

Number of Defined Components: 1

Component #1 (earliest)

Cultural Affiliation (choose one):

- Paleoindian Archaic Anasazi
- Mixed Mogollon and Anasazi Mogollon Casas Grandes Hohokam Plains Village
- Plains Nomad Navajo
- Apache Ute Pueblo Hispanic
- Anglo/Euro-American Unknown affiliation
- other affiliation: _____

Basis for Temporal Affiliations (choose one):

- not applicable (temporal affiliations unknown)
- based on associated chronometric data or historic records
- based on associated diagnostic artifact or feature types
- based on analytically derived assemblage data or the recorder's archeological experience

Period of Occupation (leave Begin/End Date blank to use default occupation dates):

Earliest Period: Spanish Colonial **Begin Date:** 1700

Latest Period: Territorial **End Date:** 1928

Dating Status:

- radiocarbon
- dendrochronology
- archeomagnetism
- obsidian hydration
- relative dating methods
- other methods: local history

Observations on Cultural/Temporal Affiliations:

Historic records indicate that the Spanish Colonial settlements occupied in the early 1700s were plazas or dispersed farmsteads or ranchos.

Site/Component Type (choose one):

- Simple Feature(s)
- Artifact Scatter
- Artifact Scatter with Features
- Single Residence
- Multiple Residence
- Residential Complex/Community
- Industrial
- Military
- Transportation/Communication
- Ranching/Agricultural
- other type: _____

Remarks: scatter could indicate more substantial features

Associated Phase/Complex Names:

(additional components....)

10. FEATURE DATA -----

| Feature Type | Reliability of Identification* | Number of Features | Associated Components |
|--------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

*(Enter "?" for uncertain ID)

For Associated Components enter component numbers from section 9, or enter "0" for unknown associations

Feature ID, Notes:

Feature Remarks:

11. REFERENCES -----

Condie, Carol J.

1996 Cultural Resources Investigations on State of New Mexico and Private Land, From the South Bosque Loop South to Valencia Road, Lo De Padillas (Peralta) Grant, Peralta, Valencia County, New Mexico. Quivira Research Center Publications 324. Albuquerque.

Written Sources of Information (skip this item if a LA Project/Activity Record has been completed; use American Antiquity style citations): ____

Other Sources of Information: ____

12. NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION -----

The area is a parcel proposed for use as a retention pond area. Initial cultural resources survey in this densely vegetated area located two ceramics in an overgrown field and recommended additional investigations to determine if more than isolated objects were represented (Condie 1996). Limited auger tests determined that subsurface deposits exist in the southeast corner of the parcel.

Auger tests were placed in a diagonal transect from the southeast corner (the location of the original sherd observations) to the northwest corner of the property. Auger test 1 recovered an orange utility ware sherd at 15 to 20 cm and dark charcoal stained soil was present from 30 to 40 cm below the current ground surface. Fill from 15 to 30 cm also contained charcoal, but it was not as dense. As a result, two additional transects were placed along the eastern and southern boundaries of the parcel to define the subsurface deposits. Auger testing indicates that there is subsurface trash that may be related to a rancho or other habitation located in the vicinity.

13. SITE RECORD ATTACHMENTS -----

site location map (required)

sketch map or site plan (required) | continuation forms | other materials (itemize): ____