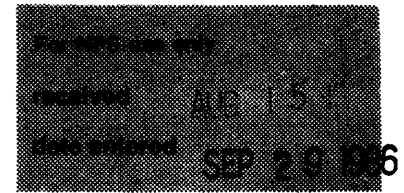


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#316 El Barranco Community Ditch, ill. 128, Map 12

Vic. Los Brazos.

4. Owners: El Barranco Community Ditch Association,  
Los Ojos, 87551

7. Description: The general appearance and operation of area ditches described in the Description section above (pp. 60-1) applies to the El Barranco Community Ditch. Dug prior to 1907 and registered in the State Engineer's Office in file #02566, the ditch irrigates the Chama River floodplain above Los Brazos, serving sixteen plots.

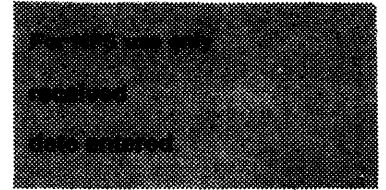
It diverts from Chama River at Chama Division; desague (or discharge point) at Upper Brazos Ditch. Major features: follows contour away from Chama River with a diversion dam; concrete, metal and wooden lateral gates; total length: 3.8 miles; total acreage: 18.5 miles; irrigates: 340 acres.

Since it is being nominated for its historic role in local governance and in the shaping of the cultural landscape (see Significance below) and not as an example of construction or engineering, the diversion dam, headgate and lateral gates, most of which are recent additions, are not recognized as historically significant features. (Note: this irrigation system is counted as one contributing structure.)

8. Significance: Like the other nominated ditches and as described above in the Significance section (pp. 64-7), the El Barranco Community Ditch played a primary role in shaping the cultural landscape as the boundary between agricultural lands and the arid sage brush sand hills above and as a field and property boundary which predated all fences and most roads. Through its Ditch Association, it also provided the residents of Los Brazos their most important focus for the communal obligation (see Part I, pp. 12-13), organization and decision-making which was central to the agrarian Hispanic villages of northern New Mexico. Since the village is not incorporated and the association continues to function, the ditch provides a vital social link with the historic cultural roots of the area.

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10. Acreage: 18.5 acres

<u>UTM</u> <u>References</u>	<u>Zone</u>	<u>Eastings</u>	<u>Northings</u>
E'	13	361500	4073000
F'	13	361000	4068000
G'	13	360000	4068000
H'	13	359200	4073590

Boundary: A polygon, roughly 20' by 3.8 miles, formed by two lines parallel to and ten feet from mid-ditch, extending from the headgate to the desague. The boundary has been drawn tightly to include the ditch and its embankments.