

PHD 357081

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	DEC 15 1976
DATE ENTERED	NOV 9 1977

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Madrid Historic District

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER Approximately 25 miles southwest of Santa Fe, New Mexico
on State Highway #14.

CITY, TOWN

Madrid

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

#1

STATE

New Mexico

CODE
35

COUNTY

Santa Fe

CODE

049

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Various private property owners

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Madrid

VICINITY OF

STATE

New Mexico

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Santa Fe County Clerk's Office

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Santa Fe

STATE

New Mexico

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

New Mexico State Register of Historic Properties

DATE

December 6, 1974

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

State Planning Office, 505 Don Gaspar

CITY, TOWN

Santa Fe

STATE

New Mexico 87503

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Situated in a deep gulch amid the arid, cactus covered foothills of the Ortiz Mountains in central New Mexico, the village of Madrid is an excellent example of a company-owned western coal mining town. The townsite, which is twenty-five miles southwest of Santa Fe and forty miles northeast of Albuquerque, is bisected by New Mexico Highway #14 which runs along the bottom of the gulch and is also the community's main street where the buildings which housed the coal company offices, general store and more impressive residences are located. Running parallel to Main or Front Street and across the railroad right of way to the west is Back Street, the town's other thoroughfare on which most of the miners' houses still stand. Besides the townsite, the Madrid Historic District also includes the tipples, breakers, mine shafts, powder houses and auxiliary structures erected on both sides of the gulch when the mines were in production.

Except for some small operations which continued into the 1960's, the mines have been closed since 1954 and the town has been all but abandoned for twenty years. The years of disuse and neglect have taken their toll, and it is largely due to the dry climate that the structures have been preserved. There has been considerable settling of the buildings, but they are still in relatively good structural condition and are generally reparable, which is evidence of the quality of the original construction. Recently many of them have been sold and the new owners are undertaking extensive rehabilitations.

During the early years, the few miners conducting independent operations in the gulch constructed small stone and adobe houses whose foundations can still be seen on the hillsides outside the Historic District. Although Madrid became a town on its present location with the advent of the railroad spur into the gulch in 1892, it was not until control of the mines passed to the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company in 1896 that the community began its long history of monolithic company control. Dominated by the Rockefeller interests, CF&I was not known for generous treatment of its employees and life was primitive and difficult for the miners in Madrid.

The tree lined Main Street was the one redeeming feature of the otherwise typically drab coal mining town in the early 1900's. The company store, mine offices and tavern were set among simple two-story frame houses of five rooms which had been moved in by the CF&I from Carthage, another coal mining town southeast of Socorro, New Mexico. It is said that each house was cut into three pieces, transported to Madrid by flatcar and then reassembled. At this time, the houses rented for two dollars for each room per month. They were badly in need of repair and paint, only those along the main street had running water and none had bath tubs or inside toilet facilities. One of the three boarding houses had showers in the basement for the miners. The buildings were of frame construction with board and batten siding finished inside with tongue and groove paneling and oak floors. The ceiling of the recreation hall and other company buildings were covered with pressed metal. The company buildings and offices and the boarding houses had electric lights but the miners' houses were lighted by oil lamps or candles and were heated by coal-burning stoves. There were no telephones except those in the mine office and they were used only for company business.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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In 1906, after control of the mines and the town was taken over by George A. Kaseman's newly formed Albuquerque and Cerrillos Coal Company, living conditions began to improve in Madrid whose population had grown to approximately 1200. Employing the electrician gang from the mines, the houses were wired for electricity and then had a single light bulb hanging from a drop cord in the center of the ceiling of each room. At this time a Catholic Church was built and a priest came from the nearby town of Cerrillos to celebrate Mass. The church, a simple, rectangular building with a gabled roof and central bell tower still stands on the hillside at the western edge of town, although services are no longer held there. There was a Protestant Sunday School and for a short time a Baptist Church conducted services. A tract of land was donated to the Methodist Episcopal Church for a church and rectory but this was never used. A recreation hall was maintained on the first floor of a large frame building. The company store supplied the miners with general merchandise and the post office was located in the mine office. The company employed a doctor who treated the miners and their families. The first four grades of school were taught in a one-story frame building.

When Oscar Huber became superintendent of the mines in 1919, additional improvements were made. Houses were repaired, modernized and painted, and a number of new one-story ones with varying floor plans were built by carpenter gangs and other crews from the mines. One group was rectangular in plan, others were rectangular with a porch at the center of the house sheltering the front door, and a third group was symmetrical with one room projecting towards the front with a porch in the resulting corner. The houses typically had two bedrooms, kitchen and living room. Of frame construction on pier foundations, the houses were sided with vertical board and batten, a builders' design known as "Stick Style" which had reached its zenith of popularity in the East in the last half of the nineteenth century. Finished inside with lathe and plaster walls, the exteriors were painted a "light, harsh blue" and were topped by roofs of red or green composition shingles.

The houses on Front Street had running water but those on Back Street had only outdoor faucets. There were two separate water systems: one recycled water previously used in the mines for the yards and gardens; the other piped drinking water to the houses after it had been transported by railroad tank car from the siding at Waldo six miles north. The town did not have its own well until 1967.

During the 1920's Front Street was paved. The first four grades of school were moved to a larger two-story building adjoining the recreation hall. Grades five through eight were taught on the second floor of the recreation hall, which also housed the motion picture theatre. In 1929 a

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a frame and stucco elementary school was built and nine years later a stone high school was erected next to it.

By the late 1920's, when coal production was at its peak, the town had a population of 2500. The last houses built in Madrid were constructed during this period. They were substantial, comfortable bungalows erected for company officials and foremen along Front Street, in some cases replacing older frame houses. Unlike the earlier buildings, the new bungalows were stuccoed. Rooms and indoor plumbing were added to the older houses as the miners' families grew with materials supplied by the company and labor by the miners.

Fire was a constant danger at Madrid both in the mines and the town. Many buildings were destroyed including the largest boarding house which burned down in 1929. It was immediately rebuilt and later converted into apartments for couples without children. The hospital burned more recently. One group of houses at the north end of town, which was called "Hollywood" has been destroyed by various fires over the years.

The company town was probably inevitable in the development of the coal industry. There was little incentive for home ownership near the mines, since there was no assurance that they would not someday close. Many miners arrived in the coal fields practically penniless and the system offered credit in the company store and a place to live. Manager-owner Oscar Huber explains the economic situation thus:

It would have been difficult to operate the property other than as a company town. . . Many men came to work thru the instigation of friends and came direct from Italy, Czechoslovakia, etc. to Madrid and in most instances with practically no funds whatever. If the mines were to work this was about the only class of help that was available so somebody had to provide a place for them to live and finance them until such time as they produced coal. . . If anyone would have suggested at this time that a miner purchase his own home the miner would have thought it ridiculous, and the company, of course, wanted to maintain the town as a unit which they controlled.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Madrid Historic District, which includes the entire village of Madrid, New Mexico is part of one of the oldest mining areas in the western United States where turquoise, gold and finally coal were extracted at various times. Situated in the rugged hills on the north slope of the Ortiz Mountains, it is approximately five miles southwest of Mount Chalchihuitl where Pueblo Indians worked extensive turquoise diggings circa 900-1100 A.D. Most important in later years as a coal producing district, it is unique in that both anthracite and bituminous beds are found in close proximity and at one time were taken from the same shaft. Although there was some settlement in the area as early as 1869, Madrid did not become an established community until 1892 when subsidiaries of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad built a "company town" to exploit the mineral deposits there. During the 1950's economic conditions forced the closing of the mines and since then Madrid has been in decline. For many years the whole town was offered for sale as a unit but because this approach was unsuccessful, the lots and houses still standing in 1975 were offered piecemeal which resulted in extensive sales. Individual ownership has given the community a new sense of purpose which may prevent further deterioration and destruction of the remaining structures.

A brief 1828 gold strike in the Ortiz Mountains during Mexican sovereignty in New Mexico led to the first use of coal from the Madrid district. By the 1830's Mexican miners in the area, using primitive carts powered by mules or simple windlasses were digging the small amounts necessary to fire the crude vassos (furnaces) in which the gold bearing ore was then refined. With U.S. occupation of New Mexico in 1846 there was some demand for fuel at army posts such as Fort Marcy in Santa Fe and Fort Union north of Las Vegas, but it was not until after the arrival of the railroad in 1880 that a significant market developed. The deposits in Miller Gulch and Waldo Gulch just south of the Santa Fe right of way were the first to be exploited but following discovery of the size and quality of the coal fields at Madrid three miles further south, the older mines were abandoned.

Because the town's location lies within an area claimed by two conflicting Spanish and Mexican land grants, the Ortiz Mine Grant to the south and the Mesita de Juana Lopez to the north, extensive litigation was necessary before the Cerrillos Coal and Iron Company was able to establish title to 26000 acres in 1884-5. In 1892 a Santa Fe subsidiary, the Cerrillos Coal Railroad, contracted for all mining rights in the area, built a six mile standard gauge spur from Waldo on the main line and erected the town of Madrid on its present site. At first the greatest demand was for

(See Continuation Sheet Page 3)

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Territorial Archives of New Mexico, State Records Center and Archives, Santa Fe, New Mexico.
 Records of the Secretary of the Territory, 1851-1911, Records of Incorporations.
 Santa Fe County Records, Santa Fe County Courthouse, Santa Fe, New Mexico. Deed Record Books J, N, X, J-1, N-1, 40.
 (See Continuation Sheet Page 5)

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Approx. 200 acres.

UTM REFERENCES

A	13	39,508.0	3,919.03	B	13	39,507.0	3,918.07
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	13	39,502.0	3,917.07	D	13	39,407.5	3,917.08

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the Madrid Historic District begins at a point on the north side of the village of Madrid at the intersection of the entrance to the baseball park from State Highway #14. It extends 350 yards in a northerly direction to a point on the cliff directly west of the north tipple at the bottom of the gulch; thence in a westerly direction to a point at the top of the first level of hills west of the tipple; thence in a southerly

(See Continuation Sheet Page 6)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME/TITLE John O. Baxter, Archivist, State Records Center and Archives;
 Sylvia Cook, Architectural Historian, State Planning Office

ORGANIZATION	DATE
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
CITY OR TOWN	STATE

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE _____ LOCAL _____

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE *Thomas W. McClure*
 TITLE *State Historic Preservation Officer* DATE *12-9-76*

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
ATTEST: <i>Walter J. Cole</i>	DATE <i>11/9/77</i>
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	DATE <i>11-7-77</i>

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bituminous coal to fuel the Santa Fe's locomotives but a market soon developed both in New Mexico and adjoining states for the anthracite, which was of extremely high quality, as a home heating fuel. After finding that some of the bituminous coal was of coking quality, ovens were built at Waldo and the coke was sold to smelters in Pueblo and El Paso. The coal mines at Madrid and other New Mexico locations developed rapidly and as one author has noted "by the end of the century this relatively unromantic, little prospected, industrial mineral became the leading product of New Mexico mining" due to high demand for coal and the collapse of silver prices in 1893.

Extensive production of coal and impressive sales did not guarantee profits, however, and because the mines and town were intimately associated with the fortunes of the Santa Fe and other national corporations, their early history is characterized by frequent changes in ownership and management. Following a reorganization of the Santa Fe in 1895 the mines were leased to the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company of Pueblo who operated them for ten years. At that time George A. Kaseman, a rising Albuquerque businessman, who had been conducting a large wholesale and retail coal business in that city as president of W. H. Hahn and Company, formed the Albuquerque and Cerrillos Coal Company to take over the CF&I leases at Madrid. In 1919 Kaseman selected one of his salesman, Oscar Huber, to be superintendent of the mines and it was Huber who dominated Madrid's history for the next forty years. Following Kaseman's death in an oil well explosion in 1938, Huber arranged to continue the leases until 1948 when he purchased both the mines and the entire town from the Cherokee and Pittsburg Coal and Mining Company, another subsidiary of the Santa Fe.

Throughout its history Madrid has been owned and operated as a company town in which the corporation or individual who ran the mines also controlled every aspect of life in the town. The company allocated housing, provided all municipal services and owned all commercial enterprises including the local garage, bar and general store. In lieu of credit the company issued its own coinage or scrip in various denominations from one cent to five dollars which could be used by employees at all company businesses. If a miner who was deeply in debt failed to report for work, a company representative was dispatched to find out why he was not on the job. Those workers who were known to be making substantial earnings were encouraged to purchase automobiles or major appliances, all through the company store, of course. The company provided and controlled all medical and recreational facilities. It also sponsored a semi-professional baseball team which was a source of great pride in the community.

Descriptions of life in Madrid vary considerably depending on whether the author is sympathetic to the company or to the miners. Although rents were
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low (\$8.90 to \$17.80 per month during the thirties) deductions for living costs incurred during summer lay-offs plus expenses for miners' lamps, powder and fuse and medical fees eroded monthly pay checks which for many men were no more that \$50 during this period. A local of the United Mine Workers, #6920, was organized in Madrid in 1934 but was not recognized as an official bargaining agent for ten years and was never particularly effective. Following the defense buildup prior to World War II many miners left Madrid permanently seeking positions offering not only higher pay but more personal freedom.

Between the two World Wars Madrid was best known for the large and elaborate Christmas displays erected annually by the townspeople. Beginning in about 1922 with simple electric lights and small trees in front of individual miner's houses, the concept was soon taken up by the company and the decorations grew rapidly in both complexity and notoriety. During the 1930's they covered not only Madrid itself but also featured large illuminated tableaux of the Nativity, angels and similar scenes which were placed on the steep hillsides flanking the town. During this era it is estimated that the display was seen by 100,000 visitors each year and was so popular that airline pilots detoured their flights so that the passengers could enjoy the view.

Although the display was enthusiastically supported by the Madrid Employees Association, some of the miners resented the check-off which was used to purchase the decorations and the fact that they were required to put up the display on their own time without pay. In addition, the employees were charged \$1.25 each for the small evergreens which decorated their houses even though the surrounding hills were covered with them. The program was ended in 1941 because of problems associated with World War II and was not resumed when peace was restored.

Throughout the war years demand for Madrid's coal exceeded the capabilities of the diminished labor force to dig it. This situation was accentuated by the high priority needs of the nearby Los Alamos laboratories where the federal government was conducting the atomic bomb experiments. Filling these government contracts often meant that regular customers were neglected. In the late 1940's and 1950's, however, coal markets rapidly dwindled following the dieselization of most railroads and the growing use of natural gas and fuel oil for home heating. In early 1954, sales had declined so much that the main mining operation was closed and the population of Madrid rapidly drifted away although production continued on a limited scale until 1961 when Huber was badly injured in an automobile accident. On June 17, 1954 the following advertisement appeared in the Real Estate for Sale column of the Wall Street Journal:

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#8

Entire Town

200 houses, grade and high school, power house, general store, tavern, machine shop, mineral rights, 9000 acres, excellent climate, fine industrial location. . .

At various times during the 1960's and early 1970's a number of proposals were advanced for the sale or utilization of Madrid. The residents of the community which by then had reached "ghost town" status consisted primarily of dropouts from conventional life drawn to the area by the rural setting and cheap rents asked for the crumbling houses. When the Huber heirs determined that sale of the entire town was probably not possible, these tenants were given the first opportunity to purchase the rental properties which many of them did. This group has joined other purchasers, many of whom are interested in the community as a location for vacation or retirement homes, in efforts to solve such vexing problems as providing an adequate water supply and acceptable sewage disposal facilities. If these efforts are successful and the small crafts enterprises which now characterize the town's economy are viable, Madrid may enjoy a renaissance and again experience the community spirit which characterized the town of its hey-day. Perhaps new mining technology and demand for coal created by present energy shortages will make it economically feasible to resume exploitation of the estimated 50 million tons of coal remaining at Madrid.

#9

Margaret McKittrick Papers. State Records Center and Archives, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

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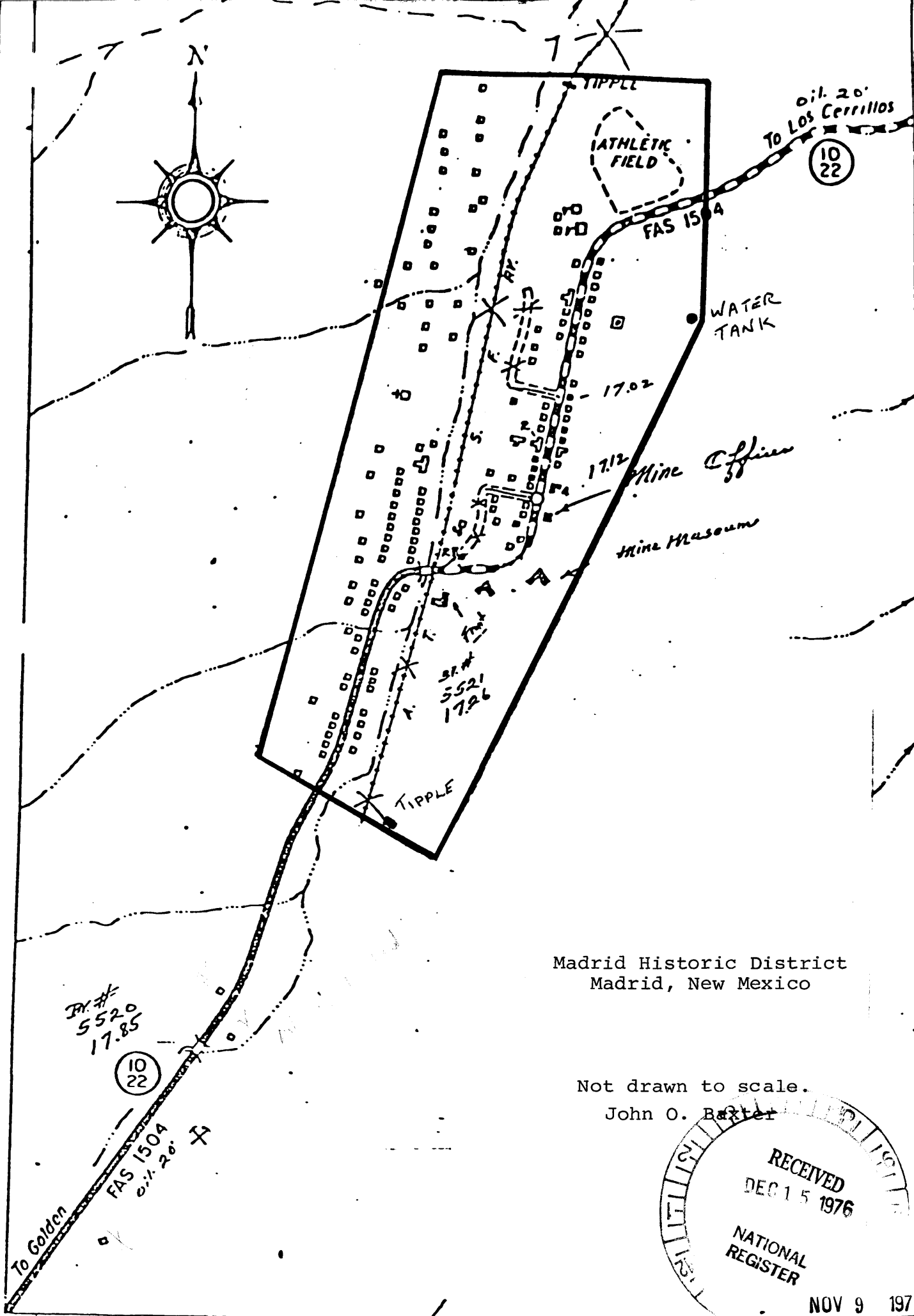
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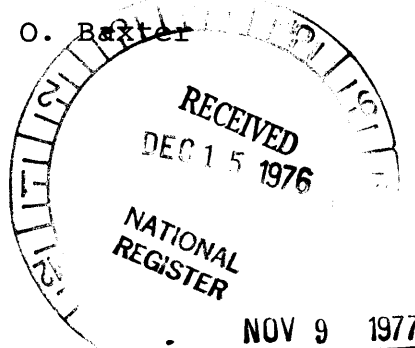
PAGE 6

direction approximately 2000 yards; thence in a southeasterly direction across State Highway #14 passing to the south of the hoist engine house and the south tipple up the slope to the highest level of the old road bed of the mine railway; thence in a northeasterly direction approximately 1400 yards following the road bed around the contour of the hills to the water storage tank; thence in a northerly direction to the point of beginning.



Madrid Historic District
 Madrid, New Mexico

Not drawn to scale.
 John O. Baxter



Dist. #
 5520
 17.85

10
 22

FAS 1504
 Dist. 20

FAS 1504

WATER
 TANK

Mine Office

Mine Museum

TIPPLE

TIPPLE

ATHLETIC
 FIELD

Dist. 20
 To Los Cerrillos
 10
 22

St. #
 5521
 17.26

17.02

17.12

To Golden