

PHO 660973

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED **JAN 24 1978**

DATE ENTERED **MAY 22 1978**

**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 **Corral de Piedra**

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER *of San Luis Obispo*
One mile south on Price Canyon Road

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CITY, TOWN
San Luis Obispo

VICINITY OF **Edna**

16th

STATE
california

CODE
06

COUNTY
San Luis Obispo

CODE
079 ✓

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
Ammoil USA, Inc.

STREET & NUMBER
P.O. Box 2828

CITY, TOWN
Long Beach

VICINITY OF

STATE
California 90801

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. **San Luis Obispo County**

STREET & NUMBER
976 Osos Street

CITY, TOWN
San Luis Obispo

STATE
California 93401

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
California Archaeological Sites Survey

DATE
December 8, 1977

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS **1371 Avalon Street**

CITY, TOWN
San Luis Obispo

STATE
California 93401

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input 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

The Corral de Piedra site was identified and recorded in the winter of 1976 during a cultural resource field reconnaissance conducted by Dr. Robert Hoover, Associate Professor of Anthropology at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. The reconnaissance was performed to aid in the preparation of a cultural resource assessment of properties within an area suggested by Diamond Plastics as the site of an open-pit mining operation. The reconnaissance involved a complete surface inspection of the proposed project area. As a result of this reconnaissance, a prehistoric/prothistoric archaeological site was identified and recorded in addition to the historic site named above. The prehistoric site has been nominated for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

The boundaries of this site are depicted on the accompanying sketch map; they encompass an area of approximately one acre. The boundaries of the site were delimited using surface evidence, i.e. stone features. No evidence was observed to indicate the presence of a subsurface.

The site is composed of a rectangular dry stone wall enclosure and a mortared brick and stone feature, possibly the remains of a fireplace. The enclosure is constructed of small boulders averaging approximately 12 inches in diameter and has an average height of approximately 18 inches. The enclosure is open to the east. A smaller dry stone wall, having an L-shape configuration, is attached to the enclosure at its northeast corner; this wall extends approximately 15 meters northward and has an average height of 12 inches. The mortared brick and stone feature, having a height of 16 inches, is located approximately 45 meters north of the enclosure's northeast corner (see attached sketch map).

The site is located in an area of low sandstone hills covered by vegetation of the oak-woodland type. It is situated on the eastern aspect of one such hill overlooking the upper reaches of Price Canyon. A small intermittent streamcourse is located immediately east of the site and forms its eastern boundary. A large grassy clearing ringed by oak trees is located to the north of the site proper.

The site has retained good integrity and only minor disturbance of the stone features appears to have occurred. Modern intrusions upon the site consist of cattle grazing and the occasional use of the site by campers.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" 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 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 type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input 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 remains of Corral de Piedra constitute a part of the ever-dwindling observable evidence concerning land utilization practices during the Mexican period in California's historic past. The site's locale was noted for the large herds of "wild" cattle which were allowed to roam, unhindered by fences, during this period. Corrals of stone, such as the Corral de Piedra represents, were constructed to meet the needs of the owners of these herds. These corrals, or enclosures, were utilized to contain small parts of the herd during the times of branding and slaughtering of cattle to provide the owners with meat for their own use.

The importance of the Corral de Piedra is further enhanced by its association with Jose Maria Villaviciencio, an important Mexican Californian of the period, and its use in the identification of the land grant given to him. Villaviciencio, or Villa as he was sometimes called, played a prominent role in California's military events and politics of the period.

Villaviciencio, holding the rank of captain, served on the side of the rebels in the California Rebellion of 1836; upon the surrender of Monterey by Munoz, Villa was directed to take charge of the arms. He acted as administrator of San Antonio from 1837 to 1838 and San Fernando during the period 1840 to 1843; in addition to the above, he served as acting prefect of Monterey in 1840.

Villa was granted ownership of the Rancho Corral de Piedra in February of 1841. At this time he was given only three square leagues of land. In 1846, the grant was enlarged to include seven square leagues. The grant was named after the stone enclosure located within the area given and was shown on the grant diseno (map).

After acquiring ownership of the Rancho Corral de Piedra, Villa served as juez de paz (justice of the peace) and captain de defensores for San Luis Obispo.

The Rancho de Piedra was also one of the first properties purchased by the famed Steele brothers who are credited with the establishment of the dairy industry within the San Luis Obispo area.

Historically, the extant remains of the Corral de Piedra site is significant for its association with Jose Maria Villaviciencio and the Mexican California period. Predating 1841, the Corral represents a rare historic archaeological resource.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bancroft, Hubert Howe, 1885, History of California, San Francisco, A.L. Bancroft and Company, Publishers.

Abeloe, William N., 1966, Historic Spots in California, Stanford University Press, Stanford, CA.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1 acre

QUADRANGLE NAME _____

QUADRANGLE SCALE _____

UTM REFERENCES 280

A 10 726760 381961900

B [] [] []

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C [] [] []

D [] [] []

E [] [] []

F [] [] []

G [] [] []

H [] [] []

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Portion of Rancho Corral de Piedra, Lot 60. Vicinity of Edna, one mile south on Price Canyon Rd. On U.S.G.S. 7.5 Arroyo Grande NE sheet (1965).

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Dr. Robert L. Hoover, Associate Professor (staff revision) 3/26/77

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Social Sciences Department

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

California Polytechnic State University

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

San Luis Obispo,

California

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

Knowlton

TITLE State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE 1/20/78

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

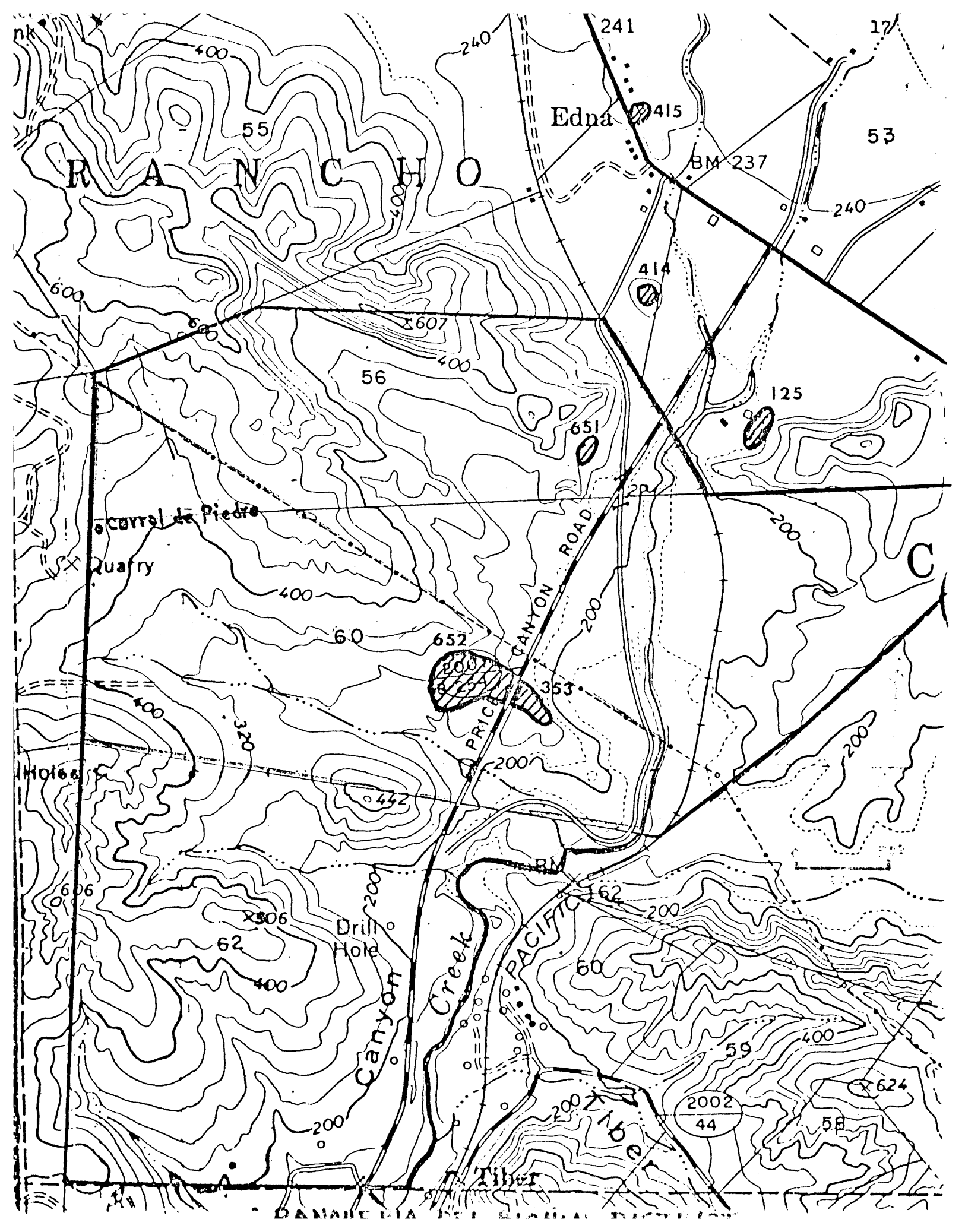
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

W. J. ... Cole








DATE 5-22-78

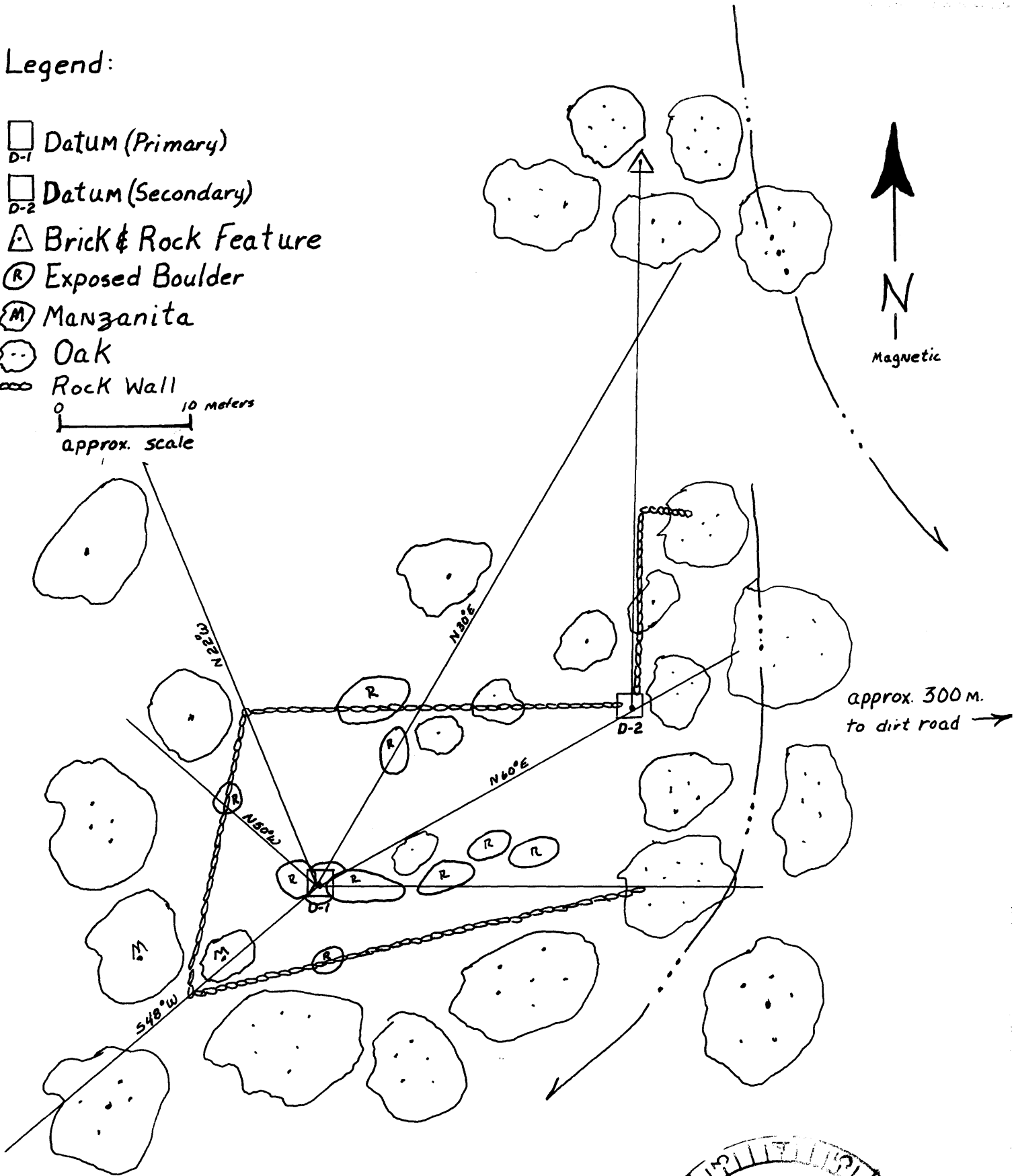
DATE 5-17-78

CHIEF OF REGISTRATION



Legend:

-  Datum (Primary)
 -  Datum (Secondary)
 -  Brick & Rock Feature
 -  Exposed Boulder
 -  Manzanita
 -  Oak
 -  Rock Wall
- 0 10 meters
approx. scale



Corral de Piedra Site

