

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet

Item number 1, 4, 7, 8

Page 102

#311 Tierra Amarilla Community Ditch, ills. 87, 123; Map 12.Vic. Tierra Amarilla.

4. Owners: Tierra Amarilla Community Ditch Association,
Tierra Amarilla, NM 87575

7. Description: The general appearance and operation of area ditches described in the Description section above (p.60-1) applies to the Tierra Amarilla Community Ditch. Dug in 1862 and registered in the State Engineer's Office in file #0430, the ditch serves 75 plots and bisects Tierra Amarilla, irrigating residential garden plots.

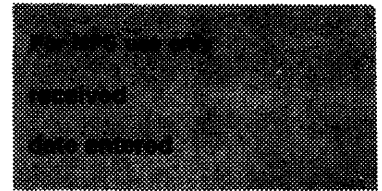
It diverts from Rito de Tierra Amarilla 2 miles ESE of Tierra Amarilla; desague (or discharge point) 0.2 miles N of La Corridera Road, 1.7 miles W of Tierra Amarilla Courthouse. Major features: concrete headgate; concrete, metal, and wood lateral gates; one major contra acequia: High Line Lateral; total length: 4.4 miles; acreage: 21.3 acres; irrigates: 710 acres; midway dimensions: bottom width 6', top width 9', depth 1.5'.

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 Tierra Amarilla 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 Tierra Amarilla 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.

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet

Item number 10

Page 103

10. Acreage: 21.3 acres

<u>UTM References</u>	<u>Zone</u>	<u>Eastings</u>	<u>Northings</u>
A'	13	363500	4060480
B'	13	363000	4059380
C'	13	359180	4062900
D'	13	360340	4064000

Boundary: A polygon, roughly 20' by 4.4 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.