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**Class III Cultural Resource Inventory Report  
for the Chevron Site Development Project  
in Garfield County, Colorado, for  
Chevron North America Exploration and Production**

GRI Project No. 2830  
3 September 2008

Prepared by

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Submitted to

Colorado State Historical Society  
Office of Archaeology & Historic Preservation  
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## **Abstract**

At the request of the Chevron North America, a Class III cultural resource inventory of two large block areas was conducted by Grand River Institute for the proposed Chevron Site Development Project located in the Clear Creek area north of Debeque, Colorado. The inventory and report preparation were conducted by Carl Conner (Principal Investigator), Travis Archuleta, Jim Conner, Nicole Darnell, and Barbara Davenport of Grand River Institute under BLM Antiquities Permit No. C-52775. As a result, a total of 2,528 acres of private land were subjected to intensive inventory during this project. Field work was performed between the 29<sup>th</sup> of May and the 29<sup>th</sup> of August 2008.

The Class III inventory was undertaken to identify resources within the project area, to evaluate these sites' eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, and to make management recommendations for those sites determined eligible.

Files searches for this project made through the offices of the Colorado Historical Society and the Government Land Office maps identified two historic sites; 5GF351 and 5GF4224.1 that would need additional assessment.

As a result of the Class III inventory, previously recorded sites 5GF351 and 5GF4224.1 were revisited and re-evaluated. Additionally, five historic sites 5GF4206 through 5GF4210, and one historic isolated find, 5GF4223, were newly documented. Site 5GF4208 was evaluated as need data because old buildings of a homestead are within an operating ranch with modern structures and access to the site was limited. The remaining historic cultural resources were field evaluated as not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Accordingly, a determination of "no effect" for the project is recommended pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (36 CFR 800). No further work is recommended.

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**Colorado Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation**  
**CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY MANAGEMENT INFORMATION**

Please complete this form and attach a copy behind the Table of Contents of each survey report.

**Project :** Class III Cultural Resource Inventory Report for the Chevron Site Development Project  
in Garfield County, Colorado for Chevron North American  
[GRI Project # 2830, 9/3/08]

**Acres of Potential Effect/Project:** Unknown **Class III Acres Surveyed:** 2528 **Private**         

**Legal Location of Project** (add additional pages if necessary)

Principal Meridian: 6<sup>th</sup> P.M.  
 Quad Map(s) Names: Mount Blaine Quad map date(s): 1971  
 Quad Map(s) Names:                                  Quad map date(s):                                   
 Township: 5 South Range: 98 West Sections 24, 25, 35 and 36  
 Township: 6 South Range: 98 West Sections 4, 9, 10, 15, 16 and 22  
 Township:                          Range:                          Sections                           
 Township:                          Range:                          Sections                         

Sites

Isolated Finds

Smithsonian Number	Resource Type				Eligibility				Management					Recommendation  Other (specify)	
	Prehistoric	Historical	Paleontological	Unknown	Eligible	Not Eligible	Need Data	Contributes to National Register	No Further Work	Preserve	Monitor	Test	Excavate		Archival Research
5GF351*		X			X				X						
5GF4206		X			X				X						
5GF4207.1		X			X				X						
5GF4208		X					X			X					Avoid
5GF4209.1		X			X				X						
5GF4210		X			X				X						
5GF4224.1		X			X				X						
<b>Total Sites</b>		7			6	1			6	1					
5GF4223		X			X				X						
<b>Total Isolates</b>		1			1				1						

\*denotes revisited site

Principal Investigator Name: Carl E. Conner

Signature: *Carl E. Conner*

Date: September 3, 2008

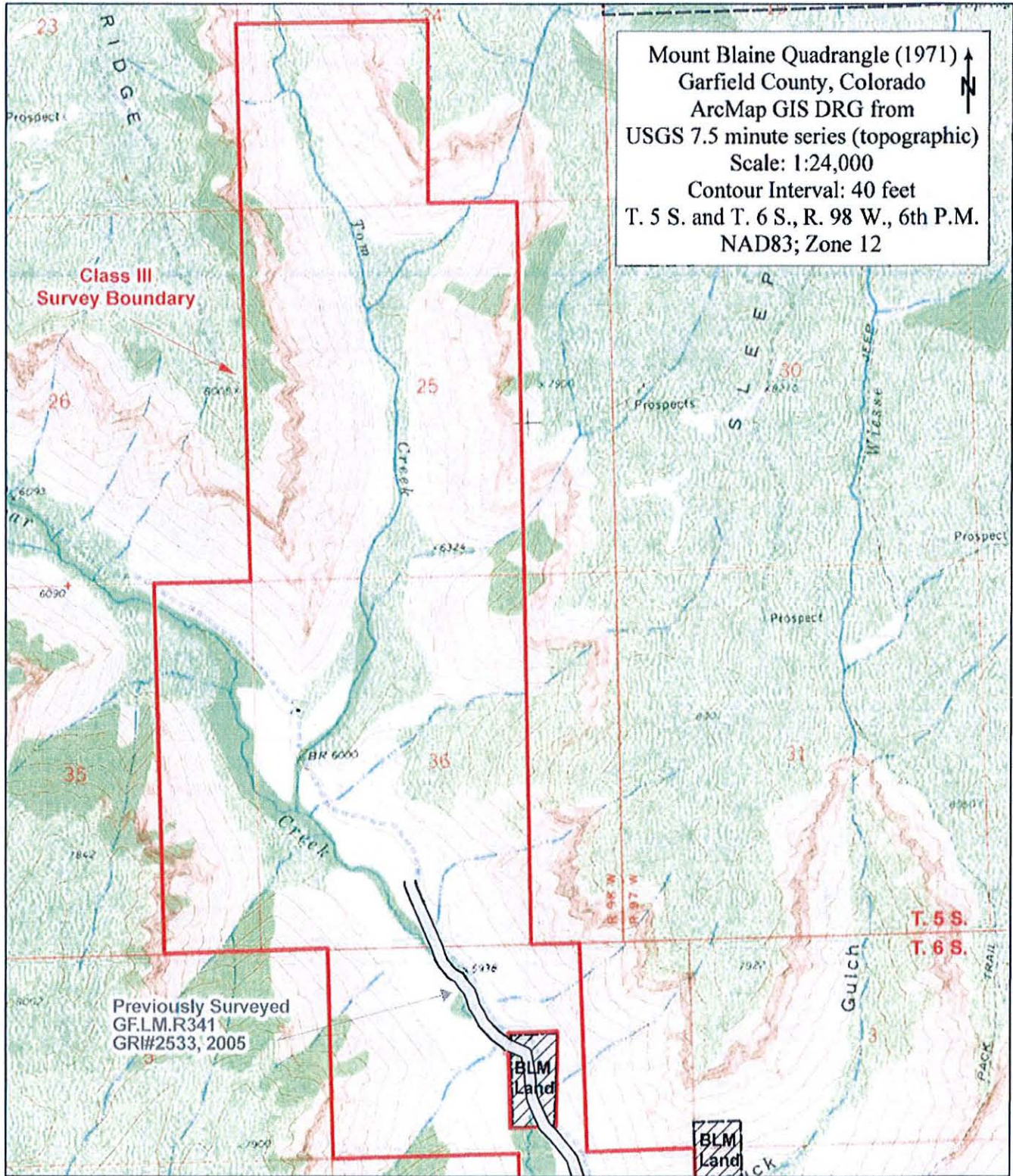


Figure 1. Project location map (1 of 2) for the Class III cultural resource inventory report for the proposed Chevron Site Development Project in Garfield County, Colorado for Chevron North America. Project area is indicated. [GRI Project #2830, 9/3/08]

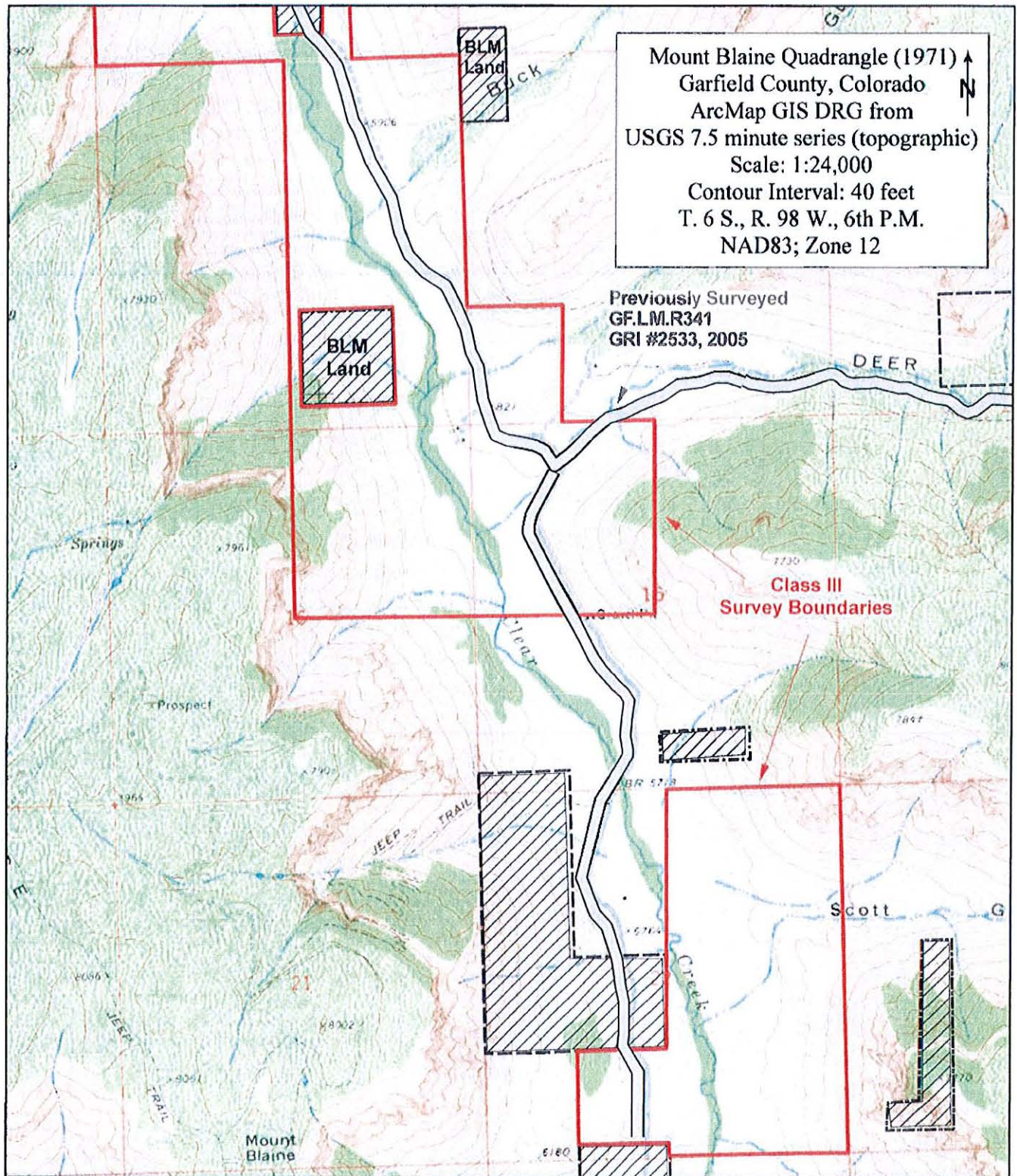


Figure 2. Project location map (2 of 2) for the Class III cultural resource inventory report for the proposed Chevron Site Development Project in Garfield County, Colorado for Chevron North America. Project area is indicated. [GRI Project #2830, 9/3/08]

## **Introduction**

At the request of the Chevron North America, a Class III cultural resource inventory of two large block areas was conducted by Grand River Institute for the proposed Chevron Site Development Project. The inventory and report preparation were conducted by Carl Conner (Principal Investigator), Travis Archuleta, Jim Conner, Nicole Darnell, and Barbara Davenport of Grand River Institute under BLM Antiquities Permit No. C-52775. As a result, a total of 2,528 acres of private land were subjected to intensive inventory during this project. Field work was performed between the 29<sup>th</sup> of May and the 29<sup>th</sup> of August 2008.

The research was undertaken by Chevron for the identification, evaluation, and protection of fragile, non-renewable evidences of human activity, occupation and endeavor reflected in districts, sites, structures, artifacts, objects, ruins, works of art, architecture, and natural features that were of importance in human events. Such resources tend to be localized and highly sensitive to disturbance.

## **Location of the Project Area**

The project area is located on both sides of Clear Creek north of the town of DeBeque within Garfield County, Colorado. In general, the two discrete block areas are located in T. 5 S., R. 98 W., Sections 24, 25, 35 and 36; and T. 6 S., R. 98 W., Sections 4, 9, 10, 15, 16, and 22; 6<sup>th</sup> P.M. (Figures 1-2).

## **Environment**

The proposed project is within the Piceance Creek Basin, one of the major geologic subdivisions of Colorado. The Piceance Creek Basin is an elongate structural downwarp of the Colorado Plateau province that apparently began its subsidence approximately 70 million years ago during the Laramide Orogeny. Sediments from surrounding highlands were deposited in the basin, accumulating to a thickness of as much as 9000 feet by the lower Eocene epoch, when subsidence ceased. Regional uplift occurred in the Late Tertiary, and erosion of the area has continued since (Young and Young 1977:43-46).

The Parachute Creek Member and Lower part of the Green River Formation occur in most of the study area. These consist of oil shale, marlstone and siltstone for the former and shale, sandstone, marlstone and limestone for the latter. The Wasatch formation underlies the southern-most block. It consists of a series of interbedded variegated mudstones, sandstones, and siltstones of varying colors--brick red, tan, white, and purple. Sediments are stream, floodplain, and swamp deposits.

The project area occurs within the Roan Plateau in a steep-sided mountain valley. The topography is valley bottom and slopes on the east and west sides of Clear Creek. Elevations range from about 5600 to 7400 feet. These elevations have three vegetation communities including sagebrush/ grasslands, pinyon juniper woodlands, and riparian along the Creek. Ground visibility ranged from 30% in the sagebrush and greasewood to about 90% in the disturbed areas along the main road. These communities support a variety of wildlife species although the present day land use of the project area (including energy development, grazing, ranching and farming) has pushed most large mammals into the surrounding mountains. There, mule deer, elk, coyote, and black bear are common, as are cottontail rabbits, beavers, and various rodents. Mountain lion, bobcat, fox, skunk, badger, and weasel are also likely inhabitants. Bird species observed in the area include the jay, raven, red-shafted flicker, long-eared owl, and various raptors.

There is little climate variation within the study area. These relatively low elevations are host to a cool semiarid climate where temperatures can drop to -10°F during the winters and summer temperatures may reach 95°F (average annual temperatures of 49° - 53°F); there is a maximum of 120 frost free days and the annual precipitation is about 14 inches. The surrounding higher elevations are characterized as cooler and moister. Annually, the high mountain temperatures could average 5 degrees cooler and the precipitation as much as 14 inches greater than the surrounding low elevations (USDA SCS 1978:244).

## **Field Methods**

A 100 percent, intensive (Class III) cultural resource survey of the two block areas was conducted by two to four archaeologists walking zig zag parallel transects spaced at approximately 15 meter intervals. Slopes over 30 percent grade were not inventoried. The survey was limited by heavy vegetation. Crew members worked from USGS 7.5 minute series maps.

Cultural resources were sought as surface exposures and were characterized as sites or isolated finds. A site is the locus of previous human activity (50 year minimum) at which the preponderance of evidence suggests either a one-time use or repeated use overtime, or multiple classes of activities. For example: a) Isolated thermal feature such as hearths are to be designated as sites, due to the interpretable function of such utilization and the potential for chronometric and economic data recovery, b) Single element rock art panels are to be designated as sites due to the interpretable nature of such an event and the potential diagnostic value of the motive, c) Similarly, isolated human burials are to be designated as sites, or d) Loci exhibiting ground stone and flake stone in association.

An isolate refers to one or more culturally modified objects not found in the context of a site as defined above. Note that this definition makes no reference to an absolute quantitative standard for the site/isolate distinction. For example: a) A discrete

concentration of flakes from the same material regardless of the number of artifacts present likely represents a single, random event and is properly designated as in isolate, or b) Similarly, a ceramic pot bust is to be recorded as an isolate, regardless of the number of sherds that remain.

All cultural resources that qualify as sites, such as prehistoric open camps, lithic scatters, occupied overhangs/rockshelters, and evidence of historic occupation, were recorded as they were encountered to standards set by the BLM and the SHPO. These were then evaluated for determining eligibility for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

Sites were recorded using the following methods of mapping and note taking. The basic approach to the data collection was the continuous mapping of observed artifacts and features by recording UTM coordinates (NAD 83 Datum) using a Trimble Geo XT. Site maps were created using corrected GPS data and ARCMAP. Photographs were taken at each site and included general views and specific artifacts or features. Field notes and photo negatives for this project are on file at Grand River Institute, while the photographs are submitted to the BLM. No artifacts were collected.

### Summary of Files Search and Literature Overview

Records searches for the project area were conducted through the Preservation Office of the Colorado Historical Society (Compass website). In addition, GLO Plats were checked for evidence of trails, buildings, irrigations systems, and other historic properties. The tables below list the previous projects (Table 1) and cultural resources (Table 2) that were located as a result of the files research.

**Table 1. List of previous cultural resource inventories within or near the project area.**

<b>Project #</b>	<b>Title/ Author/ Date/ Contractor</b>
GF.PA.R9	Title: Cultural Resources Inventory Baseline Report Clear Creek Property, Garfield County, Colorado Author: La Point, Halcyon, Bryan Aivazian, and Sherry Smith Date: 10/01/1981 Contractor: Laboratory of Public Archeology for Environmental Research & Technology, Inc. and Chevron Shale Oil Company
GF.PA.R16	Title: Cultural Resources Survey for the Pacific Shale Project Environmental Baseline Study (Original and Addendum) Author: Newkirk, Judith A. and Lucy Hackett Bambrey Date: 04/01/1983 Contractor: Gilbert Commonwealth for Camp Dresser & McKee, Inc.

Project #	Title/ Author/ Date/ Contractor
GF.LM.R273	<p>Title: Archaeological Survey of Three Seis Pros Seismic Lines, Garfield County, Colorado  Author: Hartley, John D. and John P. Sullivan  Date: 09/06/1984  Contractor: Grand River Consultants, Inc. for Seis Pros Inc. and the Bureau of Land Management</p>
GF.LM.NR261	<p>Title: Class III Cultural Resources Inventory of Oil Well No. 19-27H and Access Road, Chevron USA, Inc. Garfield County, Colorado  Author: Carrasco, E. Dederick  Date: 10/12/1989  Contractor: Huerfano Consultants for Chevron USA, Inc. and the Bureau of Land Management</p>
GF.LM.NR268	<p>Title: a Class III Cultural Resources Inventory of Oil Well No. 15-22H and Access Road, Chevron U.S.A., Inc., Garfield County, Colorado  Author: Carrasco, E. Dederick  Date: 10/12/1989  Contractor: Huerfano Consultants for Chevron USA and the Bureau of Land Management</p>
MC.LM.R58	<p>Title: Grant Norpac Cultural Resource Inventory for the Western Piceance Basin Geophysical Project, Rio Blanco and Garfield Counties, Colorado  Author: Scott, John M.  Date: 05/01/1992  Contractor: Metcalf Archaeological Consultants, Inc.</p>
GF.LM.NR361	<p>Title: a Class III Cultural Resource Inventory of the Northern Geophysical Seismic Line NPC-2 Garfield County, Colorado  Author: Frizell, Elizabeth and Jon Frizell P.  Date: 11/10/1992  Contractor: North Platte Archaeological Services for Northern Geophysical and the Bureau of Land Management</p>
GF.LM.R341	<p>Title: Class III Cultural Resource Inventory Report for Two Proposed Pipeline Route Segments (8.50 Miles) in Clear Creek and Deer Park Areas of Garfield County, Colorado, for Chevron/Texaco (GRI No. 2533)  Author: Conner, Carl E. and Barbara J. Davenport  Date: 06/03/2005  Contractor: Grand River Institute</p>

Project #	Title/ Author/ Date/ Contractor
GF.LM.R341	Title: Class III Cultural Resource Inventory Report for Two Proposed Pipeline Route Segments (8.50 Miles) in Clear Creek and Deer Park Areas of Garfield County, Colorado, for Chevron/Texaco (GRI No. 2533) Author: Conner, Carl E. and Barbara J. Davenport Date: 06/03/2005 Contractor: Grand River Institute

**Table 2. List of previously recorded cultural resources within or near the project area.**

Site ID	Site Type	Assessment	UTM Coordinates
5GF.351	Historic, Recreation (within project area)	Needs Data - Field	12:7 29 605mE 43 80 572mN 12:7 29 662mE 43 80 596mN
5GF.1100	Historic Shed/dugout (out of project area)	Not Eligible - Officially	12:7 30 770mE 43 76 560mN
5GF.1103	Historic Newton Ranch (out of project area)	Not Eligible - Officially	12:7 30 360mE 43 80 190mN

### **Relevant Prehistoric Background**

Local and regional archaeological studies suggest nearly continuous human occupation of west-central Colorado for the past 12,000 years. Manifestations of the Paleoindian Era, big-game hunting peoples (ca. 11,500 - 6400 BC); the Archaic Era hunter/gatherer groups (ca. 6500 - 400 BC); the Formative Era horticulturalist/forager cultures (ca. 400 BC- AD 1300); the Protohistoric Era pre-horse hunter/gatherers (Early Numic, ca. AD 1300 - AD 1650) and early historic horse-riding nomads (Late Numic, ca. AD 1650 - AD 1881). An overview of the prehistory of the region is provided in documents published by the Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists' entitled Colorado Prehistory: A Context for the Northern Colorado Plateau (Reed and Metcalf 1999). The following provides a brief discussion of each of the major prehistoric cultural/temporal eras.

#### Paleoindian Era

The oldest evidence of human occupation in the region is provided by both surface finds of diagnostic artifacts of the Paleoindian Era and radiocarbon dates ranging from ca.

10250 to 6000 BC (Schroedl 1991:7). Surface finds of Clovis, Folsom Hell Gap/Agate Basin and Cody complex points indicate that the entire PaleoIndian period is represented in the region (Pitblado 1993). While the association of fluted points and extinct megafauna has not been documented in the region, analysis of the location of both shows that they are found in similar settings: around and in canyons of the major drainages of the Green and Colorado Rivers (Schroedl 1991:9). In the Grand Junction Resource Area thirty three locations of Paleoindian diagnostic artifacts have been recorded (O'Neil 1993:280). Copeland and Fike (1988) documented three Clovis and seven Folsom points in Grand County, Utah. One of the sites is the Montgomery Folsom site (Davis 1985), which is one of the three documented Folsom sites in Utah. The site is located adjacent to the Green River, north of Moab and contained two Folsom points. Data from excavated Paleoindian sites are scant for western Colorado. In Mesa County, dates of 8980±950 BP and 8100±620 BP were taken from a non-cultural context at SME3789, while two buried features at SME6798 yielded dates of 9340±140 BP and 9200±90 BP (BLM, GJRA site records; Piontkowski 1995, personal communication). In recent years, the majority of Paleoindian Era artifacts in western Colorado are comparable to ones from the Foothill-Mountain Paleoindian Tradition that date ca. 8,000-6,000BC (Frison 1991: 67-71, 75, 80).

### Archaic Era

Regarding the Archaic Era, this document has relied on the temporal divisions of Early, Middle, and Late Archaic as presented by Pierson 1980. Reed and Metcalf (1999: 6) have divided the Archaic Era into four periods as follows:

Pioneer period:	6400-4500BC
Settlement period	4500-2500BC
Transitional period	2500-1000BC
Terminal period	1000-400BC

The appearance of the Archaic Era reflects a shift in the availability of food resources caused by climatic changes at the end of the Pleistocene epoch. This shift is apparently responsible for a transition from a hunting/mobile subsistence pattern to a hunting-gathering/semi-sedentary one, based upon the more current species of flora and fauna. In Colorado's central mountains, the disappearance of the Cody Complex (Middle PaleoIndian Period) is followed by a distinct Archaic Lifeway that may have developed *in situ*, as small scale immigration from adjacent areas, or as long-distance immigration (Black 1986:201). Black refers to this as the [Archaic] Mountain Tradition. Diagnostic artifacts from the earliest Archaic Era sites to those dating near the middle of that Era (dating roughly between 6500 to 3500 BC) include Pinto Series points, Gatecliff Split-stem points, and Mount Albion Complex points. From that time until about 1000 BC, a variety of large side- and corner-notched points, and the lanceolate-style McKean Complex and Humbolt Concave types (many of these exhibit grinding along the stem) are often found on local sites. The most recent period of the Archaic Era dates from about 1000 BC to possibly about 400 bc and

could extend as late as AD 200 in west central Colorado. A deeply corner-notched point similar to the Pelican Lake type from the Northern Plains is characteristic of this period, as are San Rafael Stemmed points, and the large contracting stem points that are collectively called Gatecliff Contracting Stem types.

Important in the understanding of the Archaic Era in western Colorado, is that it exploited multiple biotic zones based upon changes in elevation: the desert shrub (<4600 ft.), the pinyon-juniper belt (4600 - 6500 ft.), the pine-oak belt (6500 - 8000 ft.), the fir-aspen belt (8000 - 9500 ft.), and the spruce-fir belt (9500 - 10,500 ft.). The occurrence of storage and habitation structures within some of the various biotic zones of the region is documented. The oldest pithouse in Colorado, from the Early Archaic Period, is the Yarmony site near Kremmling, which dated ca. 5180 BC (Metcalf and Black 1988:15). It is located at an elevation of 7140 feet. At altitudes of 8000 feet or more in Colorado, what were apparently pole and mud structures have been found in the Curecanti National Recreation Area near Gunnison and the Windy Gap site near Granby. Radiocarbon dates of ca. 5270-4980 BC and ca. 3590-1810 BC from the Curecanti sites compare with Windy Gap's dates of ca. 6500 BC, ca. 2740 BC, and ca. 2280 BC (Cassells 1983:73-80). It appears that at various times, some ecological niches in the different biotic zones provided conditions stable enough for the maintenance of a sedentary or semi-sedentary lifestyle.

Three basin shaped, roughly circular depressions approximately 3 meters in diameter and 25 cm deep were identified at the Indian Creek Site (5ME1373). The features were determined to be evidence of pole and brush structures with peripheral and centrally located post holes and no internal hearths. Though they are individually undated, they were stratigraphically dated to the Middle Archaic Period.

Three Late Archaic sites that contained structural remains have been found in west-central Colorado. Colorado Department of Highways archaeologists found linear, low-walled (10-40 cm) surface structures and a burial site, 5EA128, near Dotsero. Nothing was recorded within the structures; however, a burial found in an adjacent crevice yielded a C-14 date of ca. 1180 BC (Hand and Gooding 1980).

A pithouse excavated at 5GF126, the Kewclaw Site, in the townsite of Battlement Mesa, had a roughly circular floor four meters in diameter, a central hearth, and walls that rose abruptly 30 to 60 centimeters. The walls showed evidence of having been smoothed with water or mud glazed. Eight small, shallow holes around and within the pithouse and a single large hole at the center of the floor implied the presence of a superstructure, presumably constructed of wooden poles. This site dated ca. 1100 BC and may be a cultural relative of the Dotsero burial site (Conner and Langdon 1987:7.44).

The Sisyphus Rockshelter, located just north of the Colorado River and east of the town of Debeque, contained the ruins of a structural feature of Late Archaic origin dating 550 BC (Gooding and Shields 1985). Uncovered were a sandstone slab-lined oblong floor

and three stone foundation walls. It is assumed that this was a habitation structure, and its presence implies at least a semi-sedentary lifestyle.

### Formative Era

The Formative Era from 400BC-AD1300 (as defined by Reed and Metcalf 1999: 6) is represented the Fremont, Anasazi/Ancstral Puebloan, Gateway, and Aspen Traditions. The Fremont Tradition people are likely the most represented in the region and may have occupied it from ca. AD 200-1500; but there remain many unanswered questions concerning the Fremont. It is generally agreed, however, that various horticulturalist (Formative) groups--possibly of diverse origins and languages, but sharing similar material traits and subsistence strategies--occupied selected areas in Utah and western Colorado during that time.

The local Formative Era groups adopted many of the Anasazi traits, yet remained distinct in several characteristics including a one-rod-and-bundle basketry construction style, a moccasin style, trapezoidal shaped clay figurines and rock art figures, as well as a gray coiled pottery (Madsen 1989:9-11). They also apparently retained many Archaic subsistence strategies such as relying more on the gathering of wild plants and having less dependence on domesticated ones--corn, beans, and squash. Maize horticulture was practiced in selected areas throughout the region, as indicated by excavations in east central Utah and west-central Colorado. Lister and Dick (1952) and Wormington and Lister (1956) documented the presence of "Fremont-Basketmakers" as they uncovered unbaked, molded clay figurines and evidence of corn horticulture at rock shelter sites in Glade Park, southwest of Grand Junction, Colorado. These and other sites in Glade Park also are known for their splendid Fremont rock art of the Classic Sieber Canyon style (Conner and Ott 1978). Another significant concentration of the Fremont have been identified in the Douglas Creek area of Northwestern Colorado. Characteristics of this group include dry and wet-laid masonry structures on promontories, granaries in overhangs, and slab-lined pithouses.

What have been defined as Fremont ceramics are occasionally found in west-central Colorado, often in association with Anasazi decorated and corrugated Puebloan wares. Anasazi wares have been recovered from the Mesa/Collbran area and were comparatively dated between AD 1000-1300 (Annand 1967:57). Groups I and II of the analyzed pottery in Annand's study were not assigned a cultural affiliation but from the descriptions given, may be Fremont. Gray ware ceramics have recently been dated at two sites in the Douglas Creek area. Sites 5RB2828 and 5RB2829 yielded sand-tempered gray ware, named the Douglas Creek Gray ware, and had associated dates of AD 570±40 and AD 790±60 (Hauck 1993:252). Comparative dates and ceramics were obtained from 5RB2958 (Baker 1990). Other Fremont ceramics known in the area include Uinta Gray Ware and Emery Gray Ware.

Evidence of Formative cultures' influence in the area south of the Roan Plateau is found in excavated and surface contexts near Battlement Mesa, where small corner-notched

projectile points and the partial remains of a pit structure were identified at site 5GF134 (Conner and Langdon 1987). The structure dated AD 690±90. A second occupation level was identified and dated to AD 1085±55 (ibid:7-44). A transition to the small side-notched point is noted for the last recorded Formative occupation of Battlement Mesa. At site 5GF133, the Uinta Side-notched point was found in association with Kayenta Anasazi tradeware ceramics, which were dated by comparison to about AD 1225-1300 (ibid:8-5).

### Protohistoric Era

The apparent end of the Formative Era (although the Fremont Tradition may have extended until ca. AD 1500) in the region is roughly coincident with the drought of AD 1275-1300 and the ensuing influx of people from the Southwest into the Great Basin and Colorado Plateau. The newcomers, now assumed to be the Utes, were--and are--part of a larger group of Numic Speakers (Shoshonean) of the Uto-Aztecan language phylum (Smith 1974:10). Linguists are fairly certain that the Numic speakers were in southwestern Colorado by AD 1300. Their appearance in the Fremont territory ca. AD 1200 is based on finds of Shoshone pottery mixed with the upper strata of Fremont artifacts in many cave sites in Utah (Jennings 1978:235). Unfortunately, evidence of their early cultural material is scant, which precludes a precise description of their lifeway.

As shown in the studies by Jennings, a crude brownware made with a coarse temper of crushed rock and fired at low temperatures, may be a chronological indicator of early Ute sites. It was first named by Buckles as Uncompahgre Brownware and was stratigraphically assigned a date of AD 1550 to 1881 (Buckles 1971:505). However, the date for the pottery has been pushed back by recent finds. Grand River Institute recovered charcoal and Uncompahgre Brownware from a washed out hearth feature in site 5RB2929, located in the Piceance Basin. Charcoal from the hearth produced a calibrated date of AD 1350±85 (580±80 BP, Beta-37819).

At the Pioneer Point Site, located in the Curecanti National Recreation Area, Uncompahgre Brownware ceramics (micaceous and non-micaceous tempered) were also recovered and dated. Over seven hundred sherds were recovered. These were associated with features dating ca. AD 1476, 474±70 BP, and AD 1466, 484±80 BP (Dial 1989:19).

Potential diagnostics of the Ute occupation in western Colorado are Desert Side-notched variants with basal notches, or small side-notched points having a concave base, and the narrow unnotched points referred to as Cottonwood Triangular. Besides the Pioneer Point Site, two other single component sites found in west-central Colorado and east-central Utah containing these point types have been dated. Site 42GR2236, an open campsite located near Moab, yielded a date of ca AD 1280 (Reed 1990). Desert Side-notched and Cottonwood projectile points were also found at the Pioneer Point Site. Metal points were a fairly recent addition to the projectile types and probably do not date earlier than the 1800's. Campsites that the Utes occupied within the past 100 to 200 years may have remains of

small tepees and wickiups. A more permanent cultural manifestation of the Utes is their rock art, which adorns many canyon walls, caves and boulders in the region.

### **Relevant Historical Background**

The following section provides background information on the early Euro-American exploration and settlement of the of the area. This includes details concerning the early explorers, fur trappers, and settlers of the region. Overviews of the history of the region are presented in the Colorado Historical Society's publication entitled Colorado Plateau Country Historic Context (Husband 1984) and in the BLM publication Frontier in Transition (O'Rourke 1980).

#### Early Exploration

The small party of travelers descended the northwestern flank of Battlement Mesa, threading its way through the evergreen and aspen, the oakbrush and chokecherry, and finally the sagebrush covering the low terraces bordering the river. Behind the group rose the jagged basalt ramparts of Housatop and Horse Mountains, their slopes striped by narrow, verdant stream valleys. To the north, across the river "which our own call San Rafael and the Yutas, Red River", lay the Roan Cliffs--"a chain of high mesas, which are of white earth from the top down to the middle and from the middle down evenly striated with yellow, white, and not too deeply tinged with red ochre" (Chavez and Warner 1976:37).

So was the arrival of the Dominguez-Escalante expedition at the Colorado River crossing near Una chronicled by Fray Francisco Silvestre Velez de Escalante. The date was 5 September 1776. Led by Fray Francisco Antanasio Dominguez and his junior partner Escalante, the expedition was into day thirty-nine of its one hundred fifty-nine-day trek. Its purpose: to find an overland route from Santa Fe to the recently established missions in California. Reaching the Delta area, the ten-member party had ascended the North Fork of the Gunnison River Valley, followed the Muddy and Cow Creek drainages to the top of Grand Mesa, skirted Bronco Knob on the south side, descended Plateau Creek to Jerry Gulch via which they surmounted Battlement Mesa, and followed Alkali Creek down to the Colorado River. Forging the river near Una Crossing, five miles downstream from Battlement Mesa, they spent the night on the "northern edge on a meadow of good pastures and a middling poplar grove" (ibid). The following day, the group abandoned the Colorado River Valley, turned northwest up Roan Creek, and made their way over the Roan Plateau into the White River drainage. They traveled west as far as central Utah, but were soon forced homeward by inclement weather. The Dominguez-Escalante Expedition returned to Santa Fe on 2 January 1777, having failed to reach California but having explored much of the Colorado Plateau and generating interest in the area for years to come.

Although the Dominguez-Escalante group is the earliest recorded Euro-American

presence in the vicinity of the study area, other Spanish parties had penetrated western Colorado from the south (Santa Fe) as early as the 17th century (Vandenbusche and Smith 1981:15). Many came seeking gold, which reputedly lay in immense deposits on the Western Slope, just awaiting discovery. Some came to trap the many streams emanating from the Rockies, seeking to get rich in the traffic of beaver pelts. Still others came as members of Spanish raiding parties whose purpose was to weaken their increasingly aggressive Ute neighbors to the north. Documentation of these precursory (and usually illegal) Spanish infiltrations is lacking, but it is probable that the study area was visited by at least some of these parties.

Official expeditions into Western Colorado began in 1765 when Juan Maria de Rivera's exploring party crossed the Uncompahgre Plateau to the Gunnison River valley and stopped at the present site of Delta (ibid:16). Over the next decade, other expeditions followed Rivera's route into Gunnison River country, charged by the Spanish government with identifying prospective mining grounds and establishing communication routes. At the time, the Western Slope belonged to the Spanish empire and, since trade with foreigners was deemed illegal, expeditions were officially restricted to exploratory activities.

For a variety of reasons--increasingly intense encounters with the Utes, an apparent dearth of gold, and a harsh geography and climate--Spanish interest in Western Colorado waned after the major expeditions of Rivera and Dominguez and Escalante in the 1760s and 1770s. From that time until the 1820s, there were few incursions into the area, and its native inhabitants enjoyed a relatively undisturbed existence.

### Fur Trapping

The third decade of the 19th century brought the mountain man and the fur trapping era to Western Colorado. Prior to 1821, the year of the Mexican Revolution, only a few individuals had dared to venture into the area to trap the then-plentiful beaver. However, when Spain's control of the area was terminated by Mexico's separation, men of French, Spanish, and Anglo-American blood descended upon the rivers and streams of Western Colorado to make their fortunes in the fur trade. From the San Juan River, which was worked in the 1820s, the trappers moved northward. By 1830, the Eagle, Roaring Fork, and Colorado Rivers had been actively trapped; and by 1837, most rivers of Colorado and Wyoming had been worked (Vandenbusche and Smith 1981:20). Fort Robidoux (Fort Uncompahgre), established on the Gunnison River near Delta in 1828 by Antoine Robidoux, and Brown's Hole (Fort Davy Crockett), located on the Green River in Northwestern Colorado by William Ashley in 1826, were the two busiest supply and trading centers on the Western Slope.

The fur boom in Western Colorado lasted approximately a quarter of a century, until the 1840s. By then, silk was replacing beaver as the fashionable material in the European hat market (the price of pelts had dropped to less than a dollar apiece), the streams and rivers

had been badly over-trapped, and the Utes were becoming increasingly hostile with respect to Euro-American encroachment upon their hunting grounds. Thus, the era of the mountain/trapper drew to an end. The pursuit of the brown, paddle-tailed beaver soon occupied only a scattered few individuals whose trapping was confined mainly to the smaller tributary streams. Two such fellows were the Kimball brothers, who worked Parachute and Roan Creeks (just across the Colorado River from Battlement Mesa) during the winter of 1882-1883 and reportedly reaped \$3500 for their efforts (Murray 1973:12).

### Government Exploration

Despite the incursions of the early trappers and traders, Colorado's Western Slope remained, in 1840, essentially uncharted and unknown, still the uncontested domain of the Ute Indians. However, flamed by tales of the men of buckskin, interest in the land beyond the Rockies was growing among both westward-bound emigrants seeking a place to settle and those visionaries who foresaw the commercial potential of a transcontinental rail-way. Pressured by these interests, the U.S. government dispatched numerous exploration and survey parties to the West between 1840 and 1880.

The first of the expeditions to pass through west-central Colorado was that led in 1843-1844 by John C. Fremont, who was en route from Missouri to California and back to South Park. The following year, 1845, Fremont again set out from Independence, Missouri, and, with Kit Carson as a guide, led his party west to California via the Arkansas, Eagle, Grand (Colorado), White, and Green River valleys. It is unclear just where the group left the Grand Valley and headed north to enter the White River Valley, but it was probably in the vicinity of Rifle or farther downstream near the study area. In 1848, Fremont once more entered west central Colorado, this time trying to evaluate the 38th parallel as an all-weather, year-round railroad route to the Pacific. However, extreme winter temperatures and heavy snowfall immobilized the group in the San Juans and many perished, which disparaged somewhat the reputation of the "Pathfinder of the West." (Vandenbusche and Smith 1981:26; Mehls 1982:22-23).

Exploration efforts intensified in the 1850s, in large part because of the United States' acquisition of the southwest part of the country at the close of the Mexican War in 1848. Upon consolidation of the nation, a transcontinental railroad now seemed more possible. Lieutenant Edward Beale, Captain John Gunnison, and the diehard Fremont all led expeditions into west central Colorado in 1853. They followed essentially the same route--over Cochetopa Pass, into the Gunnison and Uncompahgre River valleys, past the confluence of the Grand and Gunnison Rivers at present day Grand Junction, and westward. While Beale's party made it to Los Angeles without event and Fremont's trek to Utah was successful, Gunnison and seven of his men were killed and mutilated by the Paiute in southwest Utah (Vandenbusche and Smith 1981:28). Enthusiasm over a transcontinental railroad slackened somewhat in the wake of Gunnison's demise and even more so in anticipation of the Civil War, the North and South being unable to agree on a railroad route.

each demanding that it run through its territory. Federal exploration of the Western Slope came to a halt.

Into the late 1860s and early 70s, west central Colorado, including the Grand Valley, remained largely unknown, suspected to harbor great riches but unexplored, undeveloped, and still the province of Uintah (White River Basin), the Uncompahgre (Gunnison and Uncompahgre River Basins), and the Parianuc (Grand River Valley) Ute Indians (Fishell 1982:9-A). However, at the termination of the Civil War, attention turned once more to the West, and efforts to catalogue the lands beyond the Rockies were renewed. Both the U.S. Army and the U.S. Geologic Survey dispatched exploration parties, the Army searching for post sites and possible roads, the USGS locating agricultural and mining lands.

The first of the post-war expeditions to investigate the Grand Valley was led by Major John Wesley Powell in 1868. His group assembled in Middle Park and spent the summer working its way down the Grand River (past Battlement Mesa) to the confluence with the Green River. Much environmental information was gathered about the upper drainage of the Grand River by Powell's expedition (Mehls 1982:26).

Several other expeditions touched on west central Colorado, but the most noteworthy were those led by Ferdinand Vandeveer Hayden between 1873 and 1876. Sponsored by the USGS, Hayden's yearly expeditions involved topographers, surveyors, geologists, botanists, and photographers, who together mapped and reported on almost every mountain and valley of Colorado's western slope. In 1873, one of Hayden's parties, consisting of J.T. Gardner, Henry Gannet, A.C. Peale and others, surveyed the Grand Valley between Glenwood Springs and Grand Junction. The local flora and fauna and soils were noted and assessments as to the arability of the Valley's lands were developed; on Battlement Mesa, in particular, the volcanic ash was judged to be quite suitable for farming (ibid:27).

Lured by the trappers' tales of the Rocky Mountain wilderness and further encouraged by the reports of the government surveys, many west-ward-bound settlers set their sights on western Colorado. However, this territory had been the domain of the Ute for centuries, and was not simply "up for grabs." A Ute-Euro-American struggle was inevitable--it promised farms and ranches and prosperity for the winners, unimaginable defeat and tragedy for the losers.

### Historic Euro-American Settlement

The Ute people occupied large areas of Western Colorado until about 1881. Due to the White River Ute's discontent that led to the "Meeker Massacre," as the incident became known, a congressional investigation led to the Treaty of 1880 that stipulated the removal of the White River bands to the Uintah Reservation in northeastern Utah. The Uncompahgre band was to be given a small reservation in the vicinity of the confluence of the Colorado and Gunnison Rivers. Aware of the value of these agricultural lands, however, the

commission charged with enforcing the terms of the treaty, under the direction of Otto Mears, manipulated the location process using a loophole in the treaty language, and the Uncompahgres were given lands in Utah near the Uintah Reservation. The Southern Ute bands were left on the small reservation in southwestern Colorado that had been given them by the Treaty of 1873. On 1 September 1881, the last of the Utes were moved to their new reservations in Utah, and western Colorado was completely opened to the whites.

Interest in the potential agricultural lands of western Colorado (namely the Uncompahgre, Gunnison, Colorado, Dolores, San Miguel, White, and La Plata River valleys) had been growing for some time prior to the Utes' banishment, and by the spring of 1881 frontier towns closest to the Ute lands were "crowded with people, anxious to enter the Reservation and take possession of the most desirable locations (Haskell 1886:2)." Only days after the last of the Utes had been expelled, settlers began rushing onto the reservation lands. Settlement activity spread quickly--during the autumn months of 1881 land claims were staked, townsites were chosen, and railroad routes were surveyed (Haskell 1886, Borland 1952, Rait 1932). However, because the former reservation lands were not officially declared public lands until August 1882, the first year of settlement activity was marked by a degree of uncertainty regarding the legality of land claims. When finally announced, the 1882 declaration did not allow homestead entries on the newly opened lands, but only preemptions, or cash entries, at the rate of \$1.25 per acre for agricultural land, \$5.00 per acre for mineral land (Borland 1952:75).

As described in the History of Roan Creek and De Beque (Prather and de Beque, n.d.), the first to file homestead claims were Robert Eaton, L.T. Stewart and George Gibson along Dry Fork. Brothers Harve and John Van Cleave filed claim to Roan Creek property and established a cattle business in 1883 that became well known in Western Colorado. Other creeks in the area are named for the early ranchers who often brought cattle and cowboys with them. Kimball Creek is named for Gayton and William Kimball. Con [now Conn] Creek is named for C.H. Conwell. Tom Wallace set up his outfit on Wallace Creek, and John, Mattie A. and Anne H. Carr on Carr Creek. Harris A., George and Frank Newton settled on Clear Creek--apparently named before they arrived. The importance of water--and water rights--to the settlers not only was acknowledged by naming the creeks after them but also by so naming the ditches. Accordingly, one will also find the familiar names of Charles Creek, Joe Newman, Clarence E. Parkes, A.S. Himebaugh, Henderson Frashier, Tom King, George P. Anderson, George Hayes, and W.A. DeLaMatyr on ditches and ranches of the surrounding area. By 1888, at least 31 ranches were in active operation, and a total of 140 cubic feet of water had been filed on (ibid.:3-4).

The town of De Beque is named for Dr. W.A.E. de Beque, who arrived with three companions (Fred Webster, John Boudin and Dick Smith) in the spring of 1884. He established a ranch on the banks of the Grand River near its confluence with Roan Creek. The first post office was within a log building built by Dr. de Beque, which served as his office, a drug store and a general store. Marie de Beque was the first Postmistress, officially

named so in 1888. During this year, the town site of De Beque was established outside the boundary of the de Beque's ranch on what was originally the H.L. Spencer homestead. It was platted by surveyor John Walzl and given the name of De Beque in February of 1888. Shortly thereafter, Dr. de Beque built the first residence in the town (ibid.:3-4).

By 1895, the major portion of the land in the area had been claimed, mostly under Cash Entry patents. The settlers raised their own food and availed themselves of the plentiful game in the area. Gardens, hay fields, and orchards were planted, and irrigation ditches were dug to divert the creek's water to cultivated fields. Large herds of cattle and sheep were accumulating, grazing the valley floor and the vast open range above, driven to the uplands via trails leading up the various gulches.

Adjacent to Ravensbeque (Dr. de Beque's ranch), the first school was started in 1886 by Mrs. Joseph McMillen, who initially began teaching her own children, but soon took in others from the surrounding homesteads. About that same time, a public school was opened on Con [Conn] Creek. Later, county schools were opened on Brush Creek, Kimball Creek, Dry Fork and main Roan Creek. The school started by Mrs. McMillen was moved to town where various buildings served as classrooms until a stone school house was built in 1892. Grades through high school were added as were new buildings to the school grounds, and in 1912, the first class was graduated from the high school (Prather and de Beque, n.d.:6). The town grew steadily during the late 1800's and early 1900's, due in part to the coming of the railroad in May of 1890. It quickly became an areal center serving not only the Roan Creek ranches north of the Grand River, but also the Blue Stone Valley farms and ranches south of the river--after a bridge was built in 1891. Over the years, many people came and left, but the town's population rarely exceeded 400 persons (ibid.:7-9).

## **Study Objectives**

The Class III (intensive) inventory was undertaken to identify resources within the project area, to evaluate these sites' eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, and to make management recommendations for those sites found to be eligible.

## **Results**

As expected, cultural resource were encountered within the inventory blocks. As a result of the Class III inventory, previously recorded sites 5GF351 and 5GF4224.1 were revisited and re-evaluated. Additionally, five historic sites 5GF4206 through 5GF4210, and one historic isolated find, 5GF4223, were newly documented. This portion of the report presents a discussion of site significance evaluation and describes the sites and provides their previous evaluations and their proposed management recommendations. Detailed location information, including site forms and maps, can be found in Appendix A.

## Site Significance

The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) directs the BLM to ensure that BLM-initiated or authorized actions do not inadvertently disturb or destroy significant cultural resource values. Significance is a quality of cultural resource properties that qualifies them for inclusion in the NRHP. The statements of significance included in this report are field assessments to support recommendations to the BLM and State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). The final determination of site significance is made by the BLM in consultation with the SHPO and the Keeper of the Register.

The Code of Federal Regulations was used as a guide for the in-field site evaluations. Titles 36 CFR 50, 36 CFR 800, and 36 CFR 64 are concerned with the concepts of significance and (possible) historic value of cultural resources. Titles 36 CFR 65 and 36 CFR 66 provide standards for the conduct of significant and scientific data recovery activities. Finally, Title 36 CFR 60.4 establishes the measure of significance that is critical to the determination of a site's NRHP eligibility, which is used to assess a site's research potential:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archaeology, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects of State and local importance that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and a) that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history; or b) that are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past; or c) that embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or d) that have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in the prehistory or history.

## Resource Descriptions

Site **5GF351** was originally recorded only as a report from a local (unnamed) land owner in 1978 by the Museum of Western Colorado. The original site form contained very little information and an assessment of the reported location was never conducted. The site location was searched for in 2005 by Grand River Institute archaeologists in conjunction with a linear survey related to oil and gas development (State Ref.# GF.LM.R341). At that time no cultural manifestations could be found.

Upon revisiting the site with the present project, again, no indication of cultural manifestations remained. It could not be relocated by this inventory and there is no subsurface potential. Much of the site area has been previously disturbed by road construction and farming/ranching activities. Additionally a pipeline has been recently constructed just east of the supposed site location.

### Evaluation and Management Recommendation

Due to a perceived lack of potential for this site to yield additional significant information regarding the area's history, this site is field evaluated as not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. No further work is recommended.

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Site **5GF4206** is the remains of a large historic homestead complex located at the juncture of Tom Creek and Clear Creek at the southern base of Puddin Ridge in Garfield County. The elevation averages 6000 feet and the vegetation is sagebrush, greasewood, oakbrush, and grasses. The soil is tan to light brown, sandy, clayey loam of an unknown depth.

Overall the site boundary measures approximately 3700 feet north to south by 800 feet at its widest near the site center. The main focus of the site is centrally located north of the confluence of Clear Creek and Tom Creek and is comprised of structures and features. The remnants of a now dismantled corral are located at the far north end of the site while the southern end is defined by a dispersed collection of farm implements and a remnant ditch. Within the main complex are a cabin, privy, root cellar, three-sided structure of unknown function, water well/spring house, corral, concrete well and stock tank. Important to note is that three of these (cabin, privy and corral) have been moved or dismantled in the last year.

The cabin from the site is presently located north of the town of Debeque, and just north of the cemetery, although the cabin is resting on iron beams off the ground and does not appear to be situated in a permanent position. The one story, front gabled cabin measures 18' x 14' x 9'6" and is constructed of saddled notched, stacked logs with wood chinking. The roof is of corrugated galvanized metal and rests on seven log beams placed perpendicular to the short dimension of the cabin. A metal chimney stove pipe protrudes about a two and a half feet in height above one corner of the roof. The interior of the one room structure contains newer pine paneling and an electric socket. The floor is missing (if it had one) and two window openings are present; one single pane 2W2H divided lite window remains and the sash and glass in the other window opening is absent. The single doorway is constructed with milled lumber support beams and its door is not present. On the exterior of one side of the entry are the remains of electrical lines and fuse connectors.

The single-gabled privy (two-hole style) is also presently located with the moved cabin and measure 4'3" square x 7'6" in height. It is constructed of milled lumber placed vertically on three sides and placed horizontally on either side of the entry and has a corrugated metal roof. The privy also appears to be in a temporary placement state as it is leaning against the north wall of the cabin.

West of the cabin's original location (165 feet) is a root cellar which is built into the hillside. The cellar measures roughly 15 feet across the front and its four walls are constructed of stacked tabular sandstone and shale clasts with earth chinking. The roof is

constructed of log beams which are supported by standing log posts and the floor is dirt. The thick doorway (30" wide) is supported by heavy milled lumber beams placed both vertically (sides) and horizontally (header). The door itself is constructed of vertical milled lumber with pieces of milled lumber for horizontal support near the top and bottom and one placed at an angle across the length of the door on its interior side. In the interior on either side wall are deep shelves constructed of milled lumber and boards. No shelving is along the back wall, except where the side wall shelving meets the back wall. A few old mason type canning jars remain on the floor along with a large tin fuel type can.

In front of the root cellar a wood stove, an old gas stove, a tractor wheel, and various machinery wheels (3, some of a cog type) are concentrated; some of these items have been locked together with heavy chain.

About 15 feet northeast of the root cellar are the remains of a front gabled, three-sided structure. This structure too is constructed of stacked tabular sandstone and shale clasts. The roof has burned and all that remains is the center beam which is now collapsed. There is no front wall present. Overall the structure measures roughly 12' x 8' and its use is undetermined, however, likely it was for some kind of storage.

A corral had been previously located east of the cabin's location but has been dismantled and the stacks of lumber are located 360m northeast of its original location. From an aerial photo of the site in 2005 it appears that the corral measured approximately 135' x 80' and was constructed of large, long logs with dowel pegs in the ends. A loading area was located on the southwest side of the corral.

A modern lidded concrete well/septic(?) is located 135 feet northwest from the cabin's original location. This feature measures 3 feet in diameter and is 28" in height and is sealed. Sixty-five feet north of the cabin's original location is a spring with a three sided, dry-laid stem wall surrounding it. Again, the local material of sandstone and shale clasts were used in its construction. A modern stock tank is located 135 feet west-southwest of the cabin's original location, measures 4' 7" in diameter and contained water at the time of recording.

South of the main complex and west of the Clear Creek road are eight remnant auto components or farm implements and a segment of an historic ditch. These historic items consist of a hay rake, a vehicle chassis with wood framing, two dozer blades, two hay cutting implements, a collapsed hay cart and a disk harrow. Additionally, along the ditch segment which measures about 600 feet in length is a rusted, broken down metal flume.

Historic records searched for this area include the Government Land Office (GLO) and the Colorado Division of Water Resources. Clarence E. Parkes filed land patents for this tract on 1/19/1916 and 10/14/1920 (Accession/Serial Nr.: 508795 and 777538 respectively). Additionally, a house and barn are shown on the GLO maps dated 1923 by

surveyor Hans D. Voigt (published in 1926). The site contains at least three visible segments of historic ditches. At the north end, one segment (~1500 feet) parallels Tom Creek on its west side. This segment appears to be the "Parkes Ditch" which is named with the Colorado Division of Water Resources. The Parkes Ditch was appropriated 05/05/1908 and adjudicated on 11/25/1916. Midway along this segment of the Parkes Ditch another segment splits off and heads across the Tom Creek road toward the main ranch complex of the site. This segment (~955 feet) supplies the spring house and the newer, concrete well. About one third of a mile south down the Clear Creek road another segment (~650 feet) was recorded about 400 feet southwest of the road. All these segments are overgrown, barely visible in many portions, and apparently have not been used for some time. A few fragments of lumber and metal flume pieces were recorded in association with these ditches.

A reference to the early cattle ranchers in the Roan Creek area is made in the document entitled, "Cattle & Shale, 1884 -1984, A Story of Roan Creek and De Beque" and reads.... "Other second generation names associated with the cattle business on Roan Creek are Altenbern, Burg, Satterfield, Prather, Parkes, perhaps others, but it would not be possible to go into details here." However, no other information could be located specifically about Clarence E. Parkes.

#### Evaluation and Management Recommendation

The site is field evaluated as not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. This determination was reached by assessing the site in terms of integrity as defined by the State Historic Preservation Office wherein a resource that retains its integrity will possess several and usually most, of the seven aspects of integrity (location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association). The resource has been substantially altered since its period of significance and does not retain sufficient integrity to reflect its original character. The site lacks integrity in the form of location as the corral has been dismantled and moved and the main house structure and privy have been removed completely. The materials, design and workmanship are vernacular and are not unique or remarkable examples of western ranch buildings. As for the site's setting, the actual location is overgrown with vegetation and the surrounding area is being altered significantly by energy development. In terms of integrity of association, it is not known how long Mr. Parkes remained in the area or if he played an important role in the community development. Due to the recent nearby construction activities the site's feeling as an early, remote homestead is diminishing. No further work is recommended.

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Site **5GF4207.1** is the historic Newton Ditch. The ditch is located in the bottomland of Clear Creek near the confluence of Clear Creek and Deer Park Gulch. The elevation averages approximately 5800 feet and the vegetation is sagebrush grasslands and groves of oakbrush. The soil is tan, silty, pebbly sand along the ditch edges.

The ditch measures approximately 4700 feet in length and averages two to three feet

in width and draws its water from Clear Creek. Records with the Colorado Division of Water Resources indicated the ditch was originally appropriated on July 1, 1883 and adjudicated on May 11, 1889. Several additional decreed amounts are also on file dating from 1889 to 1937. The ditch is likely associated with site 5GF1103, the Newton ranch which is located about a third of a mile east of the ditch at the mouth of Deer Park Gulch. The ditch was in use at the time of recording and records indicate such use has been steady for the last thirty-six years (as far back as the records have been kept).

#### Evaluation and Recommendation

The site is field evaluated as not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. This determination was reached by assessing the site in terms of integrity as defined by the State Historic Preservation Office wherein a resource that retains its integrity will possess several and usually most, of the seven aspects of integrity (location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association). There is nothing significant about the ditch in terms of these seven aspects of integrity with the exception of association in that it is a named feature on the landscape and can be associated with early homesteaders in the Roan Creek Valley. The site is not likely to yield additional important historical information. No further work is recommended.

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Site **5GF4208** is the historic homestead of the Carr family. The site is located in the valley bottom east of Clear Creek and opposite Deer Park Gulch. Elevation is 5800 feet and the vegetation is agricultural fields with groves of riparian growth along the creek. The soils are a deep, alluvial clayey sand.

The present recording only addresses a single cabin structure at the site as the recorders were denied access to the property and could only conduct a minimal visual assessment. The cabin appears to be a one-room, one story, single gable type constructed of logs and a shake shingle roof. A window is present on the east side and is constructed of single pane glass in a true-divided lite configuration of 1H3W. Numerous other structures and features are present at the complex, both historic and modern as can be seen on an aerial map of the area from 2005.

Historic records searched for this area include the Government Land Office (GLO) and the Colorado Division of Water Resources. These indicate that a land patent filing for the property was by Ann H. Carr as a Sale-Cash Entry (3 Stat. 566) with an issue date of 7/30/1891 (Accession/Serial Nr.: COCOAA 005889). Her filing was for T. 6 S., R. 98 W., Section 16, Tract 44. John N. Carr also filed in T. 6S, R. 98 W., Section 16, Tract 72 with an issue date of 2/9/1891 as did Mattie A. Carr in T.6 S., R. 98 W., Section 9, Tract 40 with an issue date of 11/9/1891. These tracts are all adjoining and it is assumed the three homesteaded the land jointly and were related. Additionally, a house is shown on the GLO maps dated 1923 by surveyor Hans D. Voigt (published in 1925).

A reference to the early cattle ranchers in the Roan Creek area is made in the document entitled, "Cattle & Shale, 1884 -1984, A Story of Roan Creek and De Beque" and reads.... "Gayton and William Kimball were the first to bring in any large number of cattle, five hundred head in 1883, and they settled on what has ever since been known as Kimball Creek. They brought with them as cowboys, Dave Baker and H.B.Seldon. That same year C.H. Conwell put cattle on what became Con Creek, Tom Wallance on Wallace Creek, John Carr on Carr Creek, and the Newton Brothers, George and Frank, settled on Clear Creek." Interestingly, the GLO records only show homestead claims for anyone named Carr in Garfield County on Clear Creek and not on Carr Creek. However, the year referenced in the book was 1883 and the filings regarding this property are 1891, so likely Mr. Carr moved his cattle operation from Carr Creek to Clear Creek.

#### Evaluation and Management Recommendation

The site is field evaluated as need data due to the fact that only one structure at the complex was addressed because of access issues. These issues include the fact that the modern buildings in the site are presently occupied. Avoidance is recommended.

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Site **5GF4209.1** is an historic ditch located east of Clear Creek in the valley bottom at the mouth of Scott Gulch. The elevation averages approximately 5720 feet and the vegetation is sagebrush grasslands and groves of oakbrush. The soil is tan, silty, pebbly sand along the ditch edges.

The segment of the ditch recorded herein measures approximately 1735 feet in length and averages two to three feet in width and draws its water from Clear Creek. The ditch may have originally been associated with William M Scott who filed a Homestead Entry Original (12 Stat. 392) patent on 7/16/1931 (Accession/Serial Nr. : 1048009) which includes the land the ditch is located on. The ditch is overgrown and filled in and has apparently not been used for some time.

#### Evaluation and Recommendation

The site is field evaluated as not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. This determination was made by assessing the site in terms of its integrity as defined by the State Historic Preservation Office wherein a resource that retains its integrity will possess several and usually most, of the seven aspects of integrity (location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association). There is nothing significant about the ditch in terms of these seven aspects of integrity and the site is not likely to yield additional important historical information. No further work is recommended.

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Site **5GF4210** is the remains of an historic corral located on the west side of Clear Creek between the creek and the main road approximately one half mile southeast of the confluence of Clear Creek and Tom Creek. The elevation is approximately 5960 feet and the

vegetation is big sagebrush with grasses and groves of oakbrush nearby. The soils are tan to brown silty, clayey sand.

The corral measures approximately 65' northwest to southeast and 50' northeast to southwest and parallels the road in the longer dimension. The corral is constructed of poles (not sawn) and wire and is quite deteriorated. No other cultural material was present.

An historic records search for the location which includes the corral area was conducted through the Government Land Office (GLO) and the Colorado Division of Water Resources. These indicate that the earliest land patent filing in T. 5S., R. 98 W., Section 36, Tract 108 was by Harris A. Newton with an issue date of 9/12/1910 (Accession/Serial Nr.: 151274). This was filed under the Desert Land Act, which required patentee's to construct ditches in order to settle the property, however, no ditch was found to be associated with this filing.

#### Evaluation and Recommendation

The site is field evaluated as not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. This determination was made by assessing the site in terms of its integrity as defined by the State Historic Preservation Office wherein a resource that retains its integrity will possess several and usually most, of the seven aspects of integrity (location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association). There is nothing significant about the corral in terms of these seven aspects of integrity and the site is not likely to yield additional important historical information. No further work is recommended.

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Site **5GF4224.1**, the Clear Creek Road, is located along Clear Creek in Garfield County, north of Parachute. Elevation ranges between 5600 and 6600 feet. Vegetation is variable, consisting of riparian vegetation in the bottom of Clear Creek and pinyon, juniper, and sagebrush on the surrounding hill slopes. Soils are, in general, light tan sandy loam deposited by alluvial and colluvial actions.

The road is approximately 13 miles in length, and appears to begin at the point where Willow Creek merges with Clear Creek and terminates at Clear Creek's convergence with Roan Creek. A search of GLO records indicated that the original road was in place as early as 1884 as an unnamed trail (C. Alex Trease, surveyor). At that time Clear Creek was referred to as a "branch of the Roan Creek." By Addison Teller's surveys in 1923, the Creek had been designated "Clear Creek" and the trail was in use as a road, although appears to have been named the "North Fork Road."

The entirety of the road has been recorded, photographed and mapped.

#### Evaluation and Recommendation

The road is field evaluated as not eligible for listing on the National Register of

Historic Places. This determination was made by assessing the site in terms of its integrity as defined by the State Historic Preservation Office wherein a resource that retains its integrity will possess several and usually most, of the seven aspects of integrity (location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association). There is nothing significant about the road in terms of these seven aspects of integrity and it is not likely to yield additional important historical information. No further work is recommended.

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Isolated Find **5GF4223** is the remains of an old farm wagon. The wagon measures approximately 12' 3" feet in length and seven feet in width and is constructed of milled lumber. The three upright walls are of 1 x 10 slats placed horizontally and supported by six strips of lumber placed vertically and at equal intervals on each of the 12 foot sides. The tailgate portion is open and the wagon contains some rusted chicken wire in its bed.

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## **Discussion**

This project has provided an opportunity to continue the investigations into the Clear Creek Valley. One previously recorded historic site was evident and six new historic sites and one historic isolated find were recorded. Previous archaeological studies in the general vicinity have suggested regional occupation for as long as 8000 years, although recently an inventory of block units east of this study area within the South Parachute GAP (Conner et al. 2006) provided direct evidence of the presence of Foothill-Mountain Paleoindian occupation at 5GF1323, which pushes the regional prehistoric occupation dates back to about 10,000 yr BP. The majority of the finds in the general area still remain primarily from the Late Archaic, Formative (Fremont), and Numic (Ute) Eras.

Many of the previously recorded resources in the region indicate that this area was intensively occupied during the Protohistoric Era. Additional inventories in the immediate vicinity support this finding. Unfortunately for many of the sites where wickiups were present, post-cutting and wood collection by the Historic EuroAmerican settlers and ranchers over the past 125 years has nearly wiped out evidence of their presence. Also, surface collection of diagnostic artifacts has impacted the sites and affected the assignment of cultural/temporal associations.

Interest in the potential agricultural lands of western Colorado (namely the Colorado, Dolores, Gunnison, La Plata, San Miguel, Uncompahgre, and White River valleys) had been growing for some time prior to the Utes' banishment, and by the spring of 1881 frontier towns closest to the Ute lands were "crowded with people, anxious to enter the Reservation and take possession of the most desirable locations." (Haskell 1886:2). Only days after the last of the Utes had been expelled, settlers began rushing onto the reservation lands. Settlement activity spread quickly--during the autumn months of 1881 land claims were staked, town sites were

chosen, and railroad routes were surveyed (Haskell 1886; Borland 1952). However, the former reservation lands were not officially declared public lands until 10 August 1882.

Although the recently ceded lands were technically open to settlement, applications for land patents under the Homestead Act of 1862 (under which Cash Entry patents were issued) and the Desert Land Act of 1877 could not be acted upon until the government had surveyed the lands. The 1882 declaration did not allow homestead entries on the newly opened lands, but only preemptions, or Cash Entries (Borland 1952:75). Under the Homestead Act, title to 160 acres of public domain could be obtained through continuous residence on the land and making improvements to it over a five-year period; under a Cash Entry claim, the residency requirement was reduced to six months and a per-acre charge of \$1.25 was assessed. All of the early (1890s) land patents in and around the study area were Cash Entries. The turn of the century brought changes in patenting policy; not only Cash Entry claims but Homestead and Desert Land Entries were approved as well.

### **Summary of Site Evaluations and Recommendations**

In summary, as a result of the Class III inventory, previously recorded sites 5GF351 and 5GF4224.1 were revisited and re-evaluated. Additionally, five historic sites 5GF4206 through 5GF4210, and one historic isolated find, 5GF4223, were newly documented. Site 5GF4208 was evaluated as need data because old buildings of a homestead are within an operating ranch with modern structures and access to the site was limited. The remaining historic cultural resources were field evaluated as not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Accordingly, a determination of “no effect” for the project is recommended pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (36 CFR 800). No further work is recommended.

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**Appendix A: Site Location Data and OHAP Site Forms**

**Table A-1. Cultural resources location data.**

<b>Resource No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>UTM Location</b>
5GF351	Protohistoric Race Track	12:729605mE; 4380572mN (NAD 27) 12:729587mE; 4380544mN (NAD 27) 12:729600mE; 4380449mN (NAD 27) 12:729778mE; 4380212mN (NAD 27) 12:729778mE; 4380146mN (NAD 27) 12:729806mE; 4380137mN (NAD 27) 12:729868mE; 4380214mN (NAD 27) 12:729873mE; 4380239mN (NAD 27) 12:729858mE; 4380286mN (NAD 27) 12:729833mE; 4380339mN (NAD 27) 12:729815mE; 4380424mN (NAD 27) 12:729799mE; 4380455mN (NAD 27) 12:729772mE; 4380483mN (NAD 27) 12:729746mE; 4380551mN (NAD 27) 12:729662mE; 4380596mN (NAD 27)
5GF4206	Historic Ranch Complex	12; 727920mE; 4383675mN (NAD 83) 12; 728215mE; 4383955mN (NAD 83) 12; 728065mE; 4383455mN (NAD 83) 12; 728225mE; 4382955mN (NAD 83)
5GF4207.1	Historic Newton Ditch	12; 729400mE; 4380840mN (NAD 83) 12; 729540mE; 4380700mN (NAD 83) 12; 729675mE; 4380720mN (NAD 83) 12; 729730mE; 4380635mN (NAD 83) 12; 729680mE; 4380325mN (NAD 83) 12; 730000mE; 4380040mN (NAD 83) 12; 730110mE; 4379920mN (NAD 83)
5GF4208	Historic Ranch Complex	12; 729725mE; 4380100mN (NAD 83)
5GF4209.1	Historic Ditch	12; 730095mE; 4378485mN (NAD 83) 12; 730860mE; 4378335mN (NAD 83) 12; 730720mN; 4378110mN (NAD 83)
5GF4210	Historic Corral	12; 728480mE; 4382650mN (NAD 83)
5GF4223	Isolated Find	12; 730104mE; 4380107mN (NAD 83)
5GF4224.1	Historic Clear Creek Road	12; 721320mE; 4390130mN (NAD 93) 12; 727995mE; 4383435mN (NAD 83) 12; 730140mE; 4380065mN (NAD 83) 12; 729815mE; 4374080mN (NAD 83)

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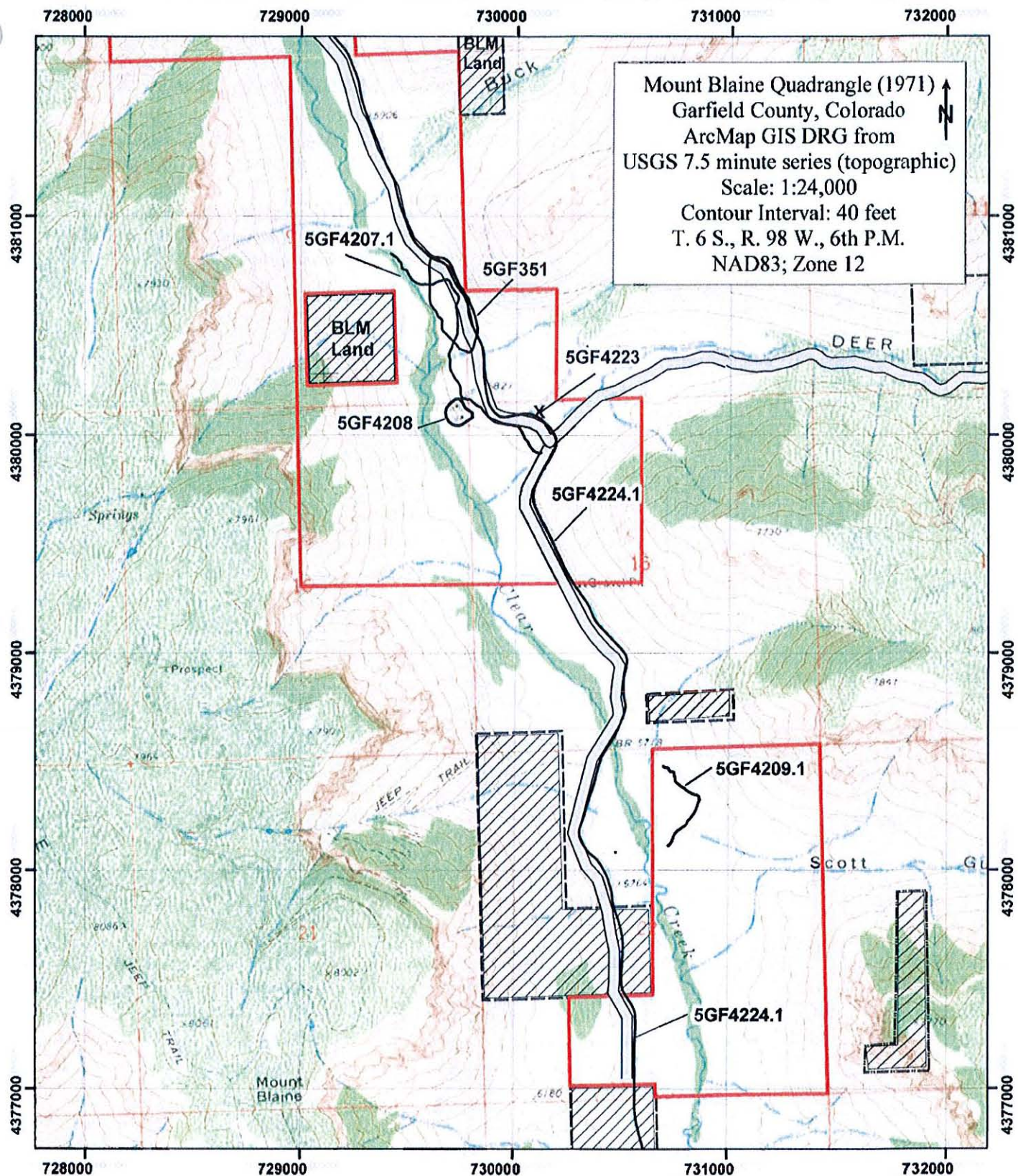


Figure A-2. Cultural resources location map (2 of 2) for the Class III cultural resource inventory report for the proposed Chevron Site Development Project in Garfield County, Colorado for Chevron North America. Cultural resources are indicated. [GRI Project #2830, 9/3/08]

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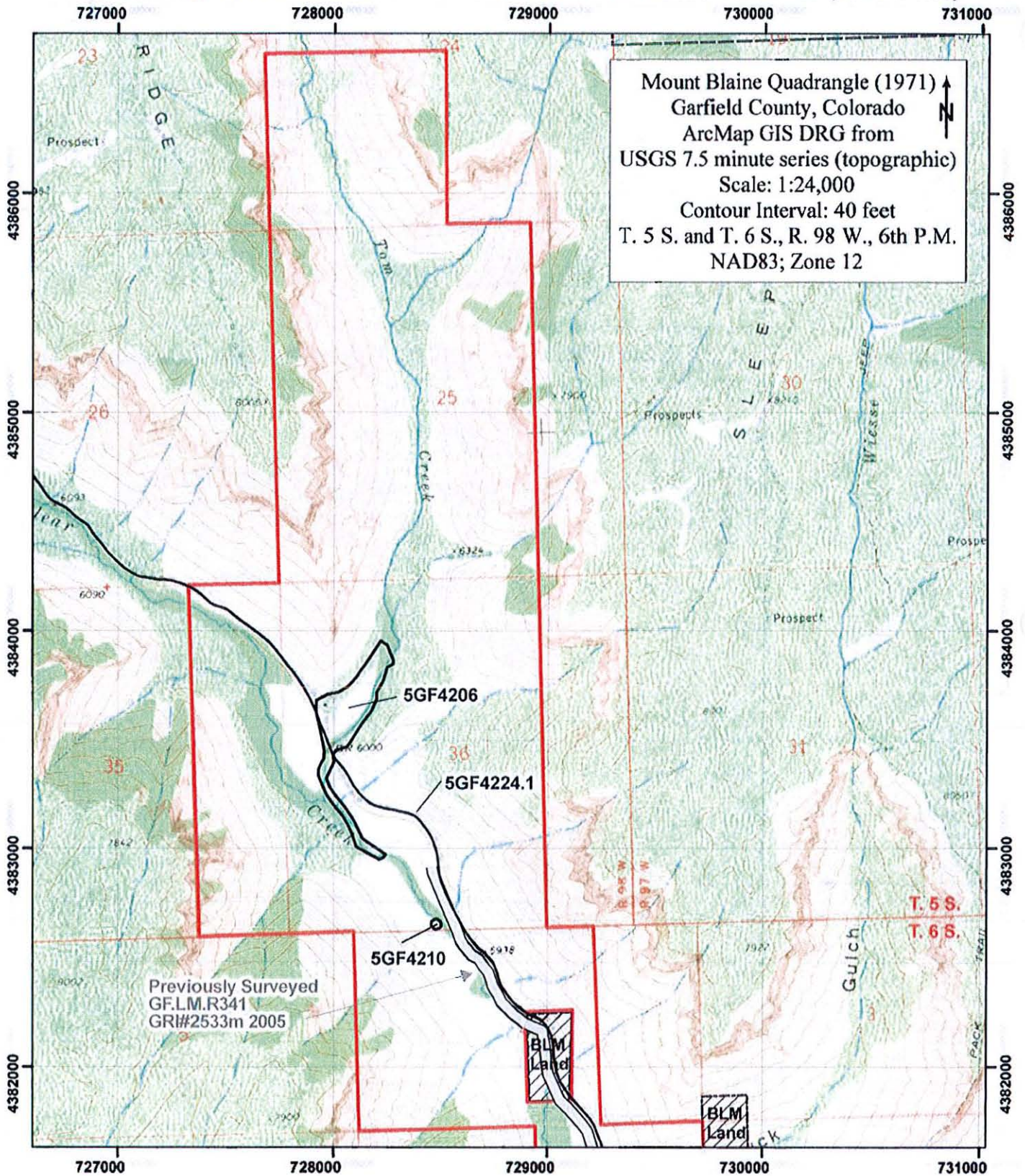


Figure A-1. Cultural resources location map (1 of 2) for the Class III cultural resource inventory report for the proposed Chevron Site Development Project in Garfield County, Colorado for Chevron North America. Cultural resources are indicated. [GRI Project #2830, 9/3/08]