ABANDONED OR INACTIVE URANIUM MINES IN NEW MEXICO

A report of investigation carried out between August 1979 and May 1980 under contract with the New Mexico Energy and Minerals Department.

by

Orin J. Anderson

New Mexico Bureau of Mines and
Mineral Resources
Open-File Report 148

INTRODUCTION

During the course of this investigation approximately 200 uranium mine sites were visited. Although these sites are distributed throughout 20 counties the majority are in McKinley, San Juan, and Valencia Counties, along the western and southern margin of the San Juan Basin. Other counties with an appreciable number of sites are Grant, Rio Arriba, Sandoval, Sierra, and Socorro.

Field work commenced in August, 1979 and extended although not continuously, into May, 1980. Information obtained during the on-site visits included location, type and size of mine, condition of mine, host formation, dimensions of remaining structures, proximity to residences or villages, water quality data, and radiation levels, although a gamma ray scintillometer was not obtained for the project until October 20, 1979. An effort was made to contact landowners whenever and wherever possible, however, no systematic attempt was made to determine land and mineral ownership during this phase of the investigation.

Mine operation data has been included where available. This consists of information on ore grades, production history mineralogy, and mine operator. Old publications of the U.S. AEC and the State Mine Inspectors office were helpful in this area.

The mine reports are arranged alphabetically by county with each county having its own index. A NM- or AZ-mine identification number is given with each mine name in the index. It is an AML numbering system devised by Don Baker, Jr. The first part of this

identification number is based on a U.S. Soil Conservation Service numbering system of 15' quadrangles beginning with 1 in the northwest corner of the state to 24 in the northeast corner, then returning to the western border to start a new tier. The second part refers to a 7½' quad within the 15' quad; these are numbered counterclockwise from 1 in the NE quadrant to 4 in the SE. The last part of the number refers to a particular mine within the 7½' quad. An AZ- prefix indicates the 15' quadrangle is an Arizona quad that overlaps the New Mexico state boundary.

Acknowledgments - The writer wishes to thank the following people for their valuable assistance in the field: Lars (Skip) Skotte, Richard Chamberlin, JoAnne Osburn, Mary Ann Anderson, and Cheryl Kyllonen.

A special thanks is extended to Mr. William Chenoweth of the U.S. Department of Energy, both for his time in the field as well as the claim maps and A.E.C. mine production records he provided. Mr. John Blagbrough provided helpful information about the Chuska district. The editorial assistance of Wyatt Brewster and Lars (Skip) Skotte is gratefully acknowledged.

The help and cooperation of the Navajo Tribe Office in Window Rock, Arizona permitted a statewide investigation to be completed; a note of thanks goes to Mr. R. Zaman and Mr. William Armstrong of that office.

ABANDONED OR INACTIVE URANIUM MINES IN NEW MEXICO

Orin J. Anderson

Bernalillo County	6 pages	$1.20
Catron County	9 pages	$1.80
Dona Ana County	6 pages	$1.20
Eddy County	5 pages	$1.00
Grant County	22 pages	$4.40
Harding County	3 pages	$ .60
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Torrance County	5 pages	$1.00
Valencia County	98 pages	$19.60
		$ 153.60

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PREFACE TO EAST CARRIZO DISTRICT REPORTS

The East Carrizo District lies along or within several miles of the Arizona border in townships 29 and 30 N., and ranges 20 and 21 west.

The area is covered on the Pastora Peak and Redrock Valley 15' topographic quadrangles, but is largely unsurveyed. A land net was projected in solely to determine if our locations agreed with those given in other publications such as Hilpert, L., (1969), and does not appear on the East Carrizo District claim maps (after AEC, 1953, Claim Maps, East Carrizo District) that accompany each report.

These claim maps were provided for our use on this project by Mr. William Chenoweth of the U.S. Department of Energy, Grand Junction Office, Grand Junction, Colorado. They show access roads, drainage lines, and the claims in the area as of 1953. The only scale they carry is the mile post markers along the New Mexico/Arizona state line.

Orin J. Anderson

New Mexico Bureau of Mines and Mineral Resources
Socorro, New Mexico
June, 1980

Date Visited 10/23/79

Mine name(s) King #6 (Jimmy King #6) County San Juan Co.

Section (Unsurveyed) Twnsh. 30 N R. 21 W

Quadrangle sheet Pastora Peak 15'

Mining district East Carrizo (on Navajo Reservation)

Elevation 5900'

Nearest city and/or dwelling Beclabito Trading Post, 2 mi.

The Jimmy King #6 workings consist of 2 small adits on the north side of a small east-west drainage that lies near the projected Sec. 14/23 line; area is unsurveyed (see photo a). The southern adit is about 7' high, 12' long, and 4' wide inside but flared at face to make it appear much wider. It is driven in an channel sandstone unit, near the base, with the floor in a 6" to 9" thick mudstone lens. Large blocks of sandstone, some of which may have caved from roof, lie at the entrance, but the workings do not appear to be particularly dangerous; (see photos b & c). Maximum scintillometer reading in portal areas = 600 cps.

The northern adit is about 6' high, 30'long, and ranges from 4'-8' in width. It is also driven in a channel sandstone, but has a reddish brown mudstone/siltstone lens, 18' thick, at mid level (see photo d). Mineralization is concentrated in the mudstone layer whcih gave scintillometer readings as high as 3200 cps. when instrument held within 1 foot of the face.

Access to the mine is from the east via a short road leading off the Oak Springs road. The mine road is now in a badly deteriorated condition and walking in the approximately 1/3 mi. distance from the Oak Springs road is the recommended way. The area is actively grazed by Navajo goat & sheep herds. Host rock for the uranium deposits is the Salt Wash sandstone member of the Morrison fm. The uranium occurs in association with vanadium; u:v ratio in the vicinity is 1:5, but mine run ore averaged a slightly higher ratio. Mine was operated from 1955 to 1957 by the Troy Rose Mining Co. A total of 54 tons of ore was produced containing 114 lbs. of U_3O_8 for an average grade of .11%. V_2O_5 content was 773 lbs. or .72%. The mine dumps are correspondingly small, as seen in photo e where the arrows point to each adit.

See attached claim index map.

References: (1) Chenoweth, W. L., 1980, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The Eastern Carrizo Mountains, San Juan County, New Mexico, U.S. DOE, TM-210.

(2) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uranium Resources of Northwest New Mexico; USGS pp. 603, p. 52

(3) East Carrizo District Claim Index Map, 1953.

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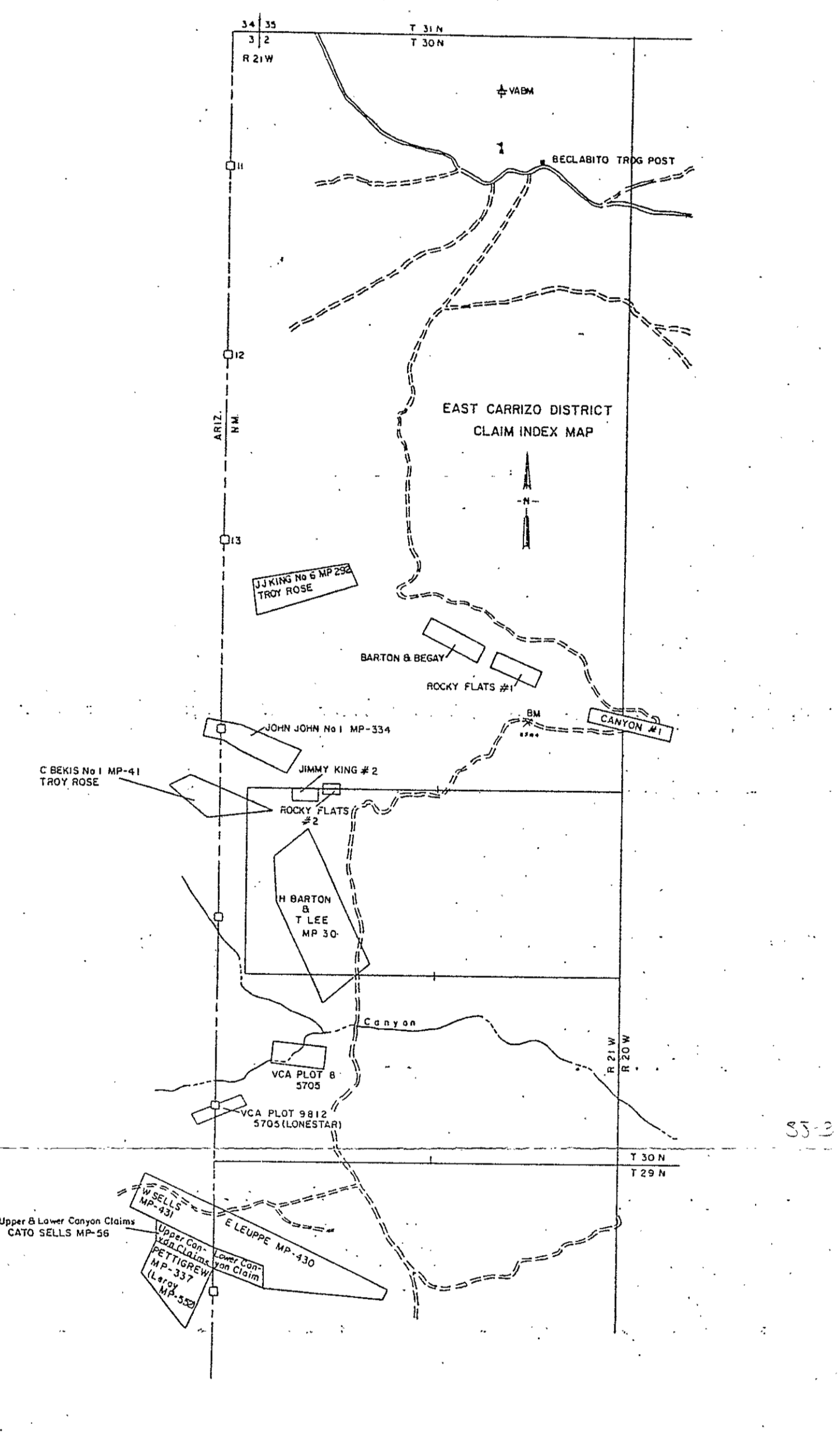
34 35
3 2
T 31 N
T 30 N
R 21 W
VABM
BECLABITO TROG POST
11
12
13
ARIZ.
N.M.
EAST CARRIZO DISTRICT
CLAIM INDEX MAP
N
JJ KING No 6 MP 292
TROY ROSE
BARTON & BEGAY
ROCKY FLATS #1
BM
CANYON #1
JOHN JOHN No 1 MP-334
C BEKIS No 1 MP-41
TROY ROSE
JIMMY KING #2
ROCKY FLATS
#2
H BARTON
&
T LEE
MP 30
Canyon
VCA PLOT 8
5705
VCA PLOT 9812
5705 (LONESTAR)
R 21 W
R 20 W
T 30 N
T 29 N
W SELLS
MP-431
E LEUPPE MP-430
Upper & Lower Canyon Claims
CATO SELLS MP-56
Upper Canyon Claims
Lower Canyon Claim
PETTIGREW
MP-337
(Leroy
MP-55?)

55-3

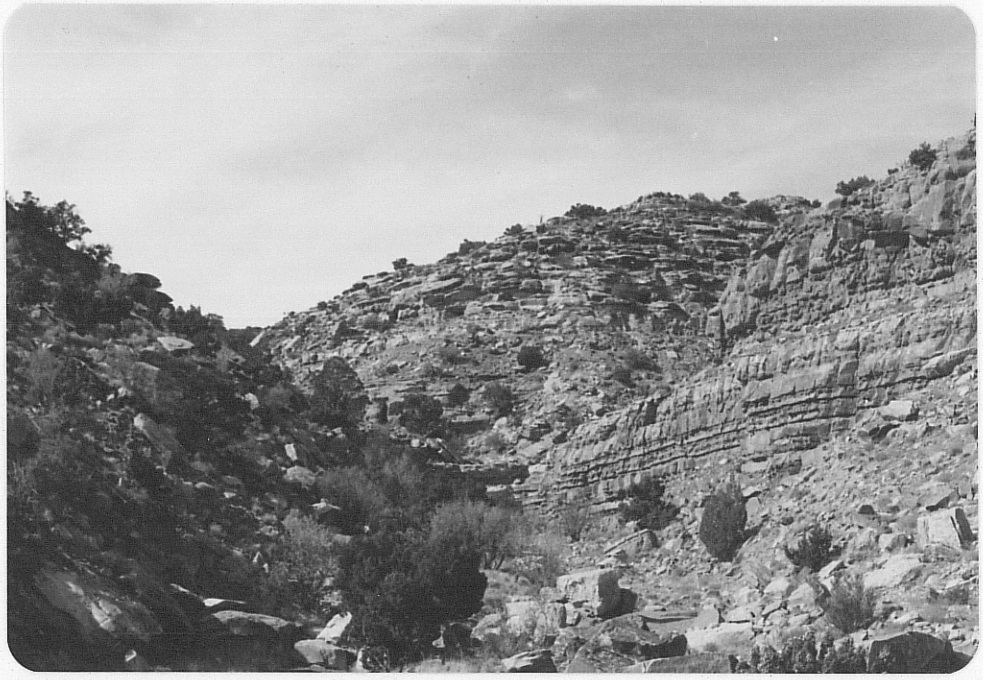

Photo (a) Looking west at Jimmy King #6 workings, south adit at left arrow, north adit at right.

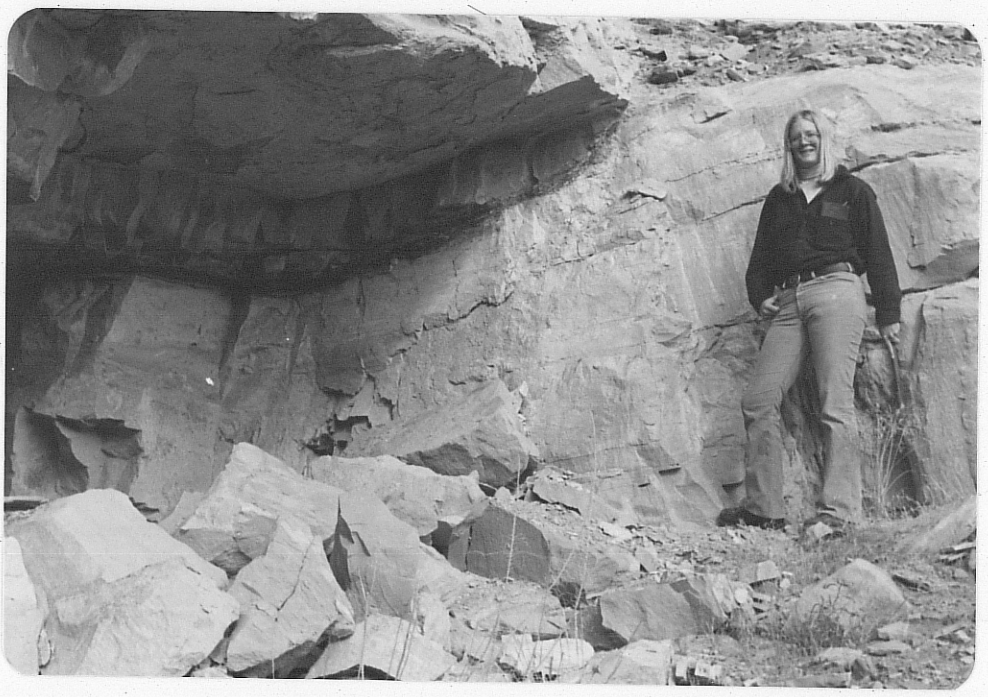

Photo (b) Looking W NW into southern adit.

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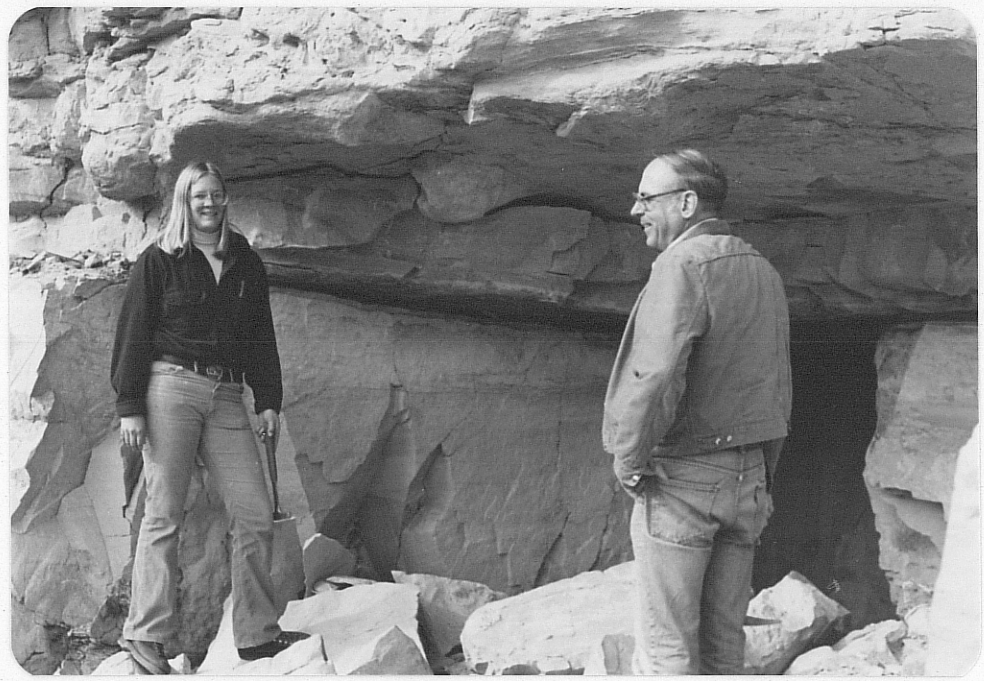


Photo (c) Looking at south wall of southern adit.

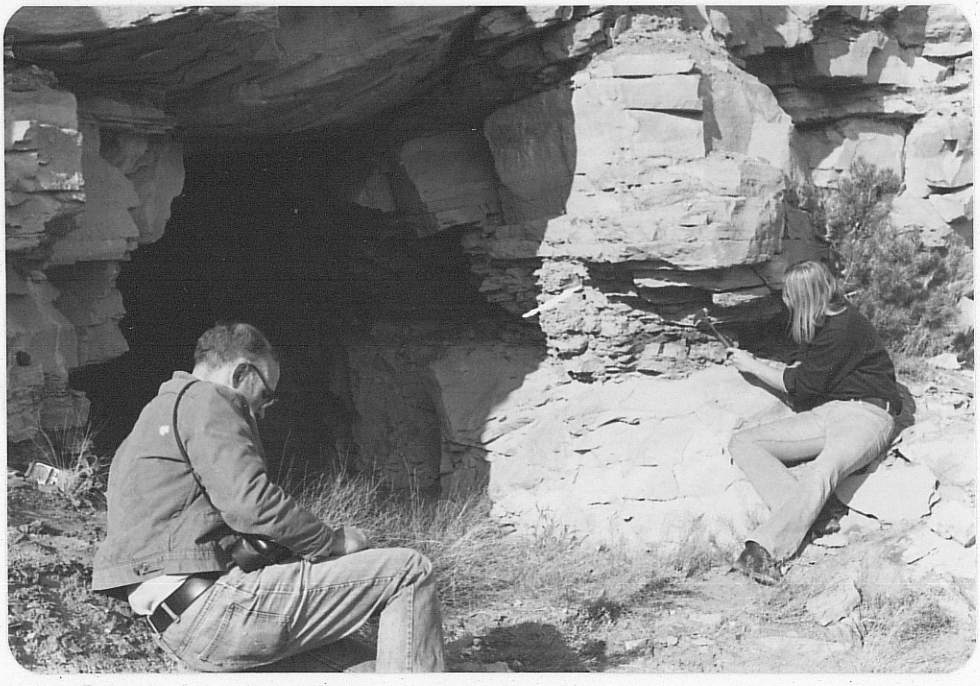


Photo (d) Looking into northern adit showing mudstone lens on north wall.

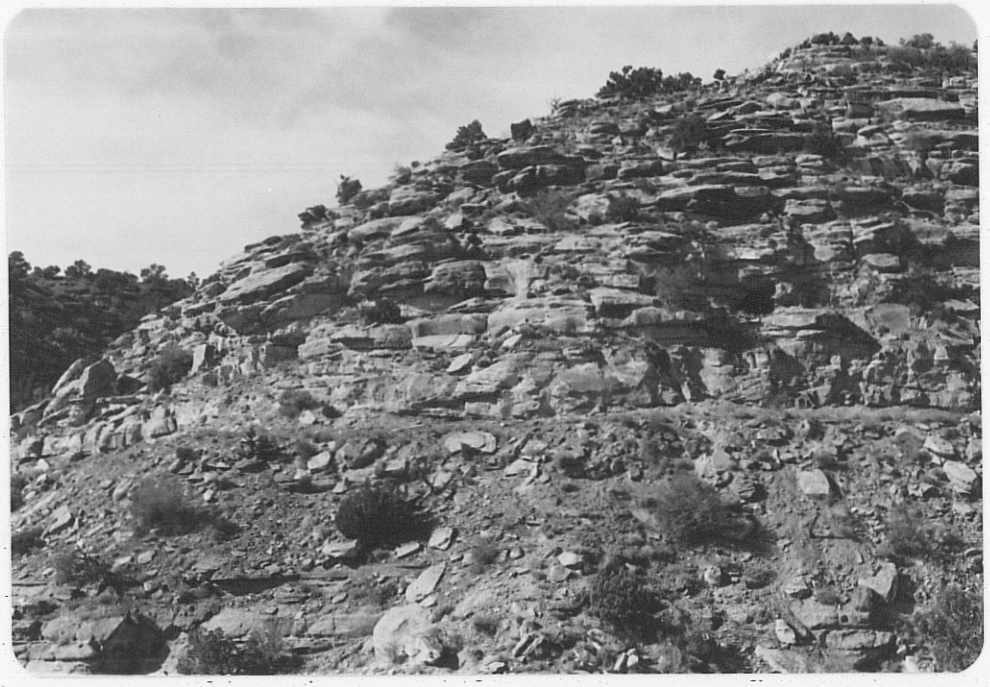


Photo (e) Looking W at both adits; note small size of mine dumps.

419 55-6

Date Visited 10/31/80

Mine name(s) Barton & Begay (Beclabito lease) County San Juan Co.

Section Unsurveyed Twnsh. 30 N R. 21 W

Quadrangle sheet Pastora Peak 15'

Mining district East Carrizo

Elevation 5,800'

Nearest city and/or dwelling Beclabito, 2½ mi. N.

This lease produced from 3 closely spaced workings along the sandstone rim in the NW¼ of projected Sec. 25 (see claim map). The westernmost workings consist of 50' long rim cut that resulted in a 22" wide bench; (see photo a). A small untimbered adit near the west edge of the cut, 4½ high & 5 wide, leads back approx. 12' in a southwesterly direction (see photo b). Scintillometer zones-vanadian stains with secondary uranium minerals on the face. A small mine dump extends downslope to to base of cliff at or near the angle of repose; scintillometer readings on the tailings generally less than 500 cps.

Approximately 150' to the east of the rim cut & adit, and slightly back from the rim is a patchwork area of open cuts & pits. The main pit is roughly 25 feet square and 12' deep, shown in photo c. A channel scour and fill feature on the south wall of this pit is shown in photo d. Additional workings lie immediately to the NE of the main pit (see photo e) resulting in a total disturbed area here that measures 150' x 55" with a NE-SW trend. Several traverses gave maximum scintillometer readings of 1200 cps.

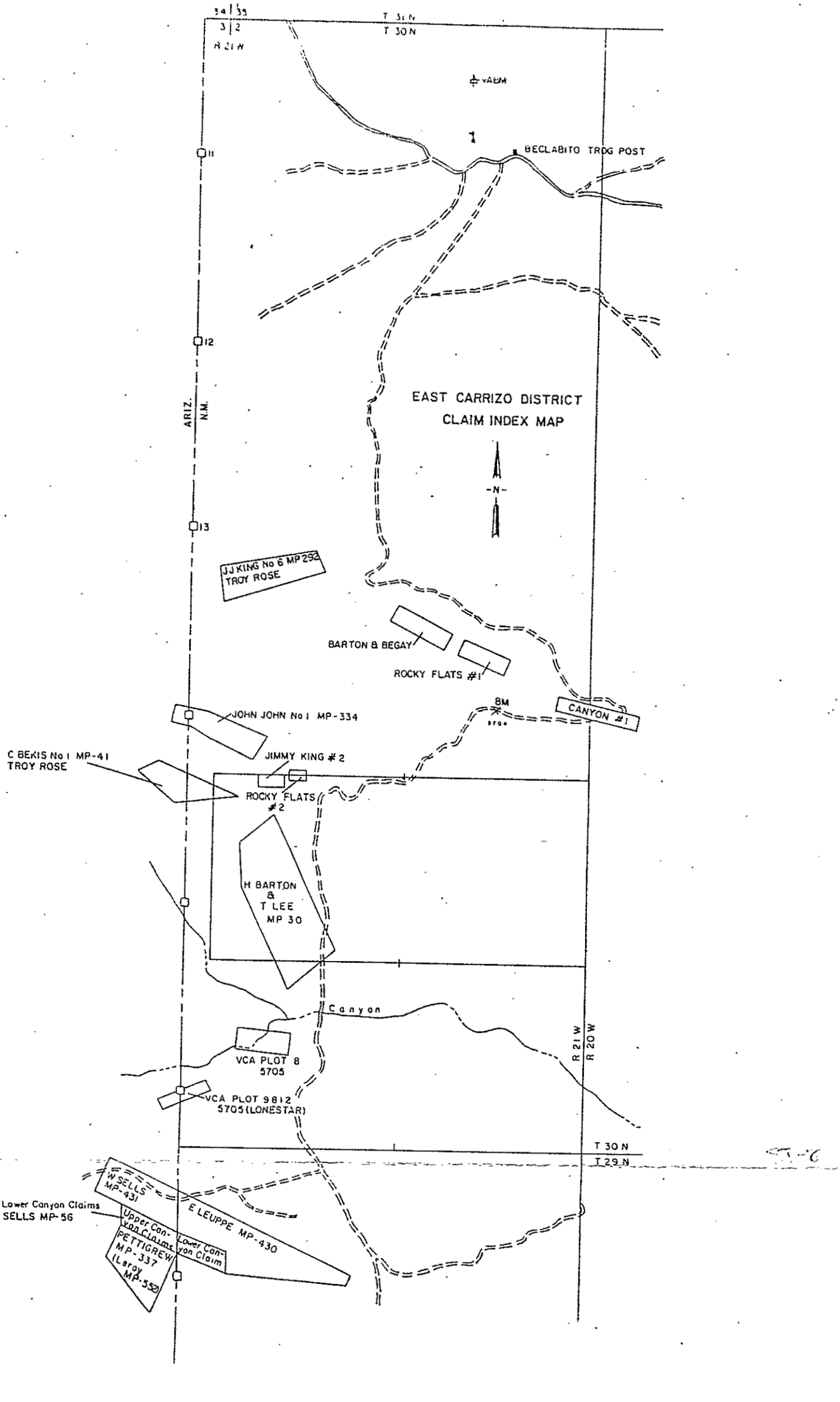
A third area, the smallest, consists of one inclined dozer cut 25' long, 8' wide, lying 125' south of the pit shown in photo c. This cut is shown in photo f; exposed faces in the cut showed little evidence of mineralization. The floor perhaps showed some promise of ore grade materials, but it has now been covered with washed-in-debris and vegetation.

The host rock in all these workings is the Salt Wash member of the Morrison fm. The uranium occurs in association with vanadium with a u:v ratio of 1:9. The mine was worked between 1950 and 1953. It produced a total of 254 tons or ore averaging .15% U_3O_8 and 2.23% V_2O_5; U_3O_8 content was 740 lbs., V_2O_5 content was 11,311 lbs.

References: (1) Chenoweth, W.L., 1980, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The Eastern Carrizo Mountains, San Juan County, New Mexico, U.S. DOE, TM-210.

(2) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uran. Res. of NW New Mex; USGS pp.603, p.52.

(3) East Carrizo District Claim Index Map, 1953.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R 21 W
BECLABITO TROG POST
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ARIZ.
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EAST CARRIZO DISTRICT
CLAIM INDEX MAP
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JJ KING No 6 MP 292
TROY ROSE
BARTON & BEGAY
ROCKY FLATS #1
JOHN JOHN No 1 MP-334
8M
CANYON #1
C BEKIS No 1 MP-41
TROY ROSE
JIMMY KING # 2
ROCKY FLATS
#2
H BARTON
&
T LEE
MP 30
Canyon
VCA PLOT 8
5705
VCA PLOT 9812
5705 (LONESTAR)
R 21 W
R 20 W
T 30 N
T 29 N
W SELLS
MP-431
E LEUPPE MP-430
Upper & Lower Canyon Claims
CATO SELLS MP-56
Upper Canyon Claims
Lower Canyon Claim
PETTIGREW
MP-337
(Leroy
MP-553)

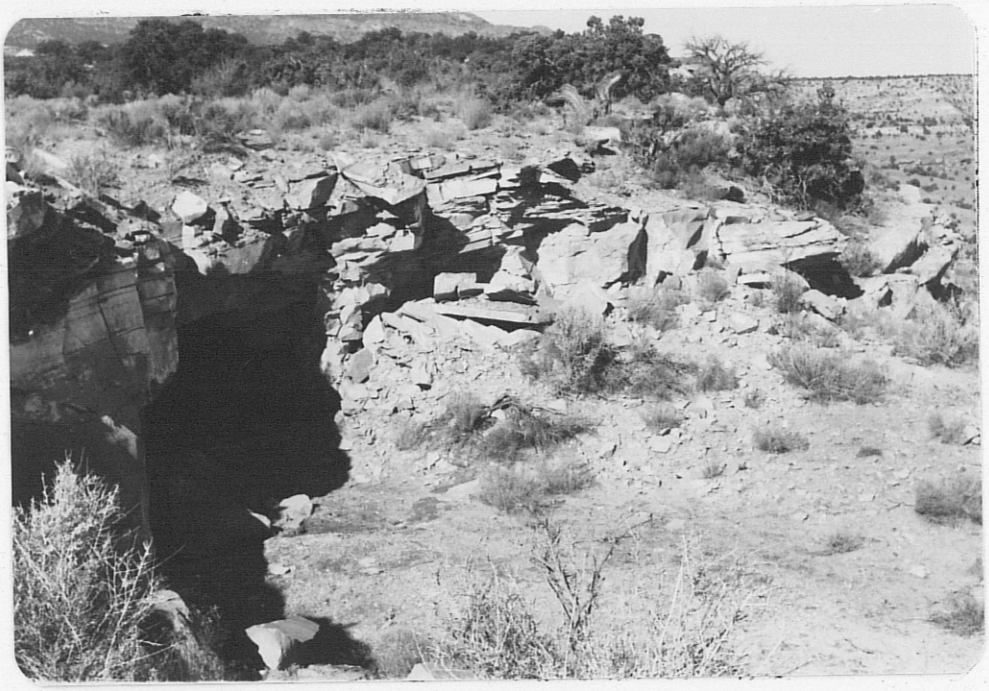

Photo (a) Barton & Begay workings; looking west.

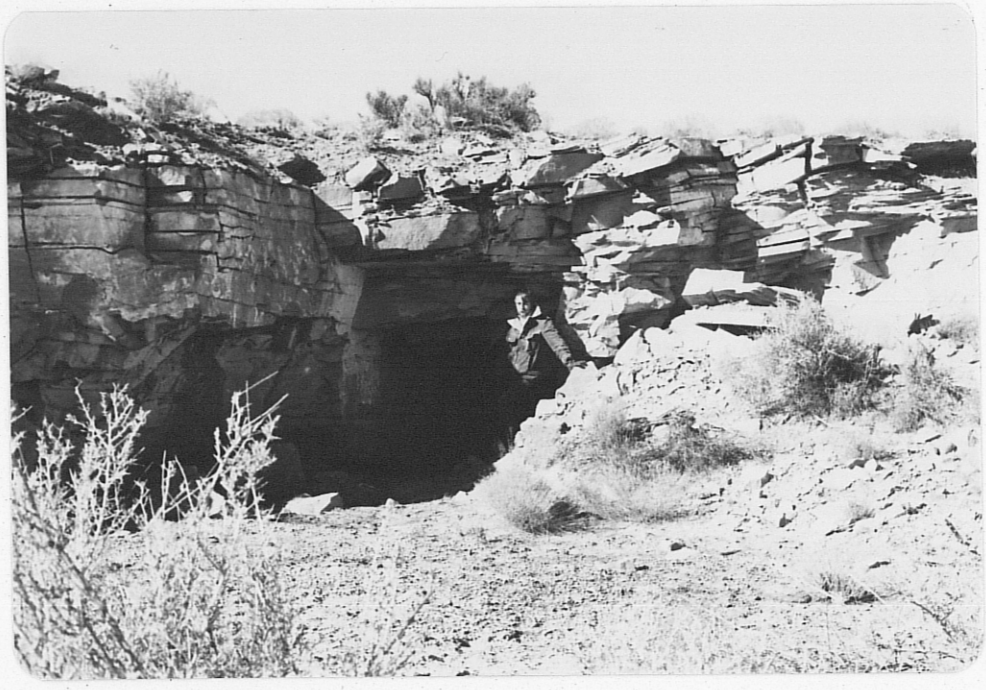

Photo (b) Adit in workings shown in photo a; looking SW.

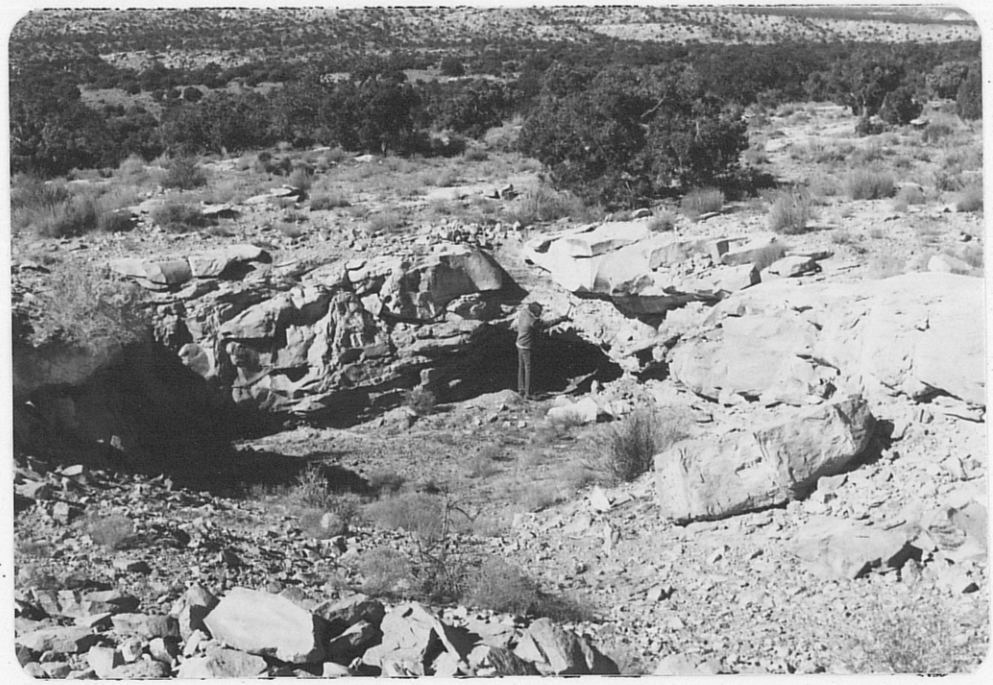

Photo (c) Barton & Begay workings; looking SW into pit.

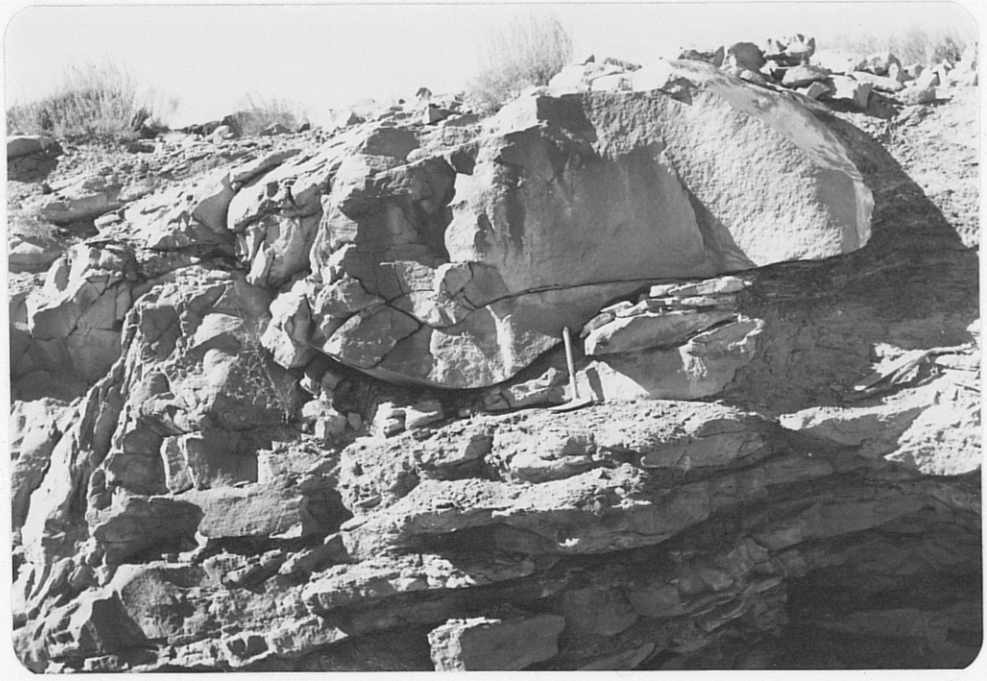

Photo (d) Scour & fill feature exposed on south wall of pit shown in photo c.

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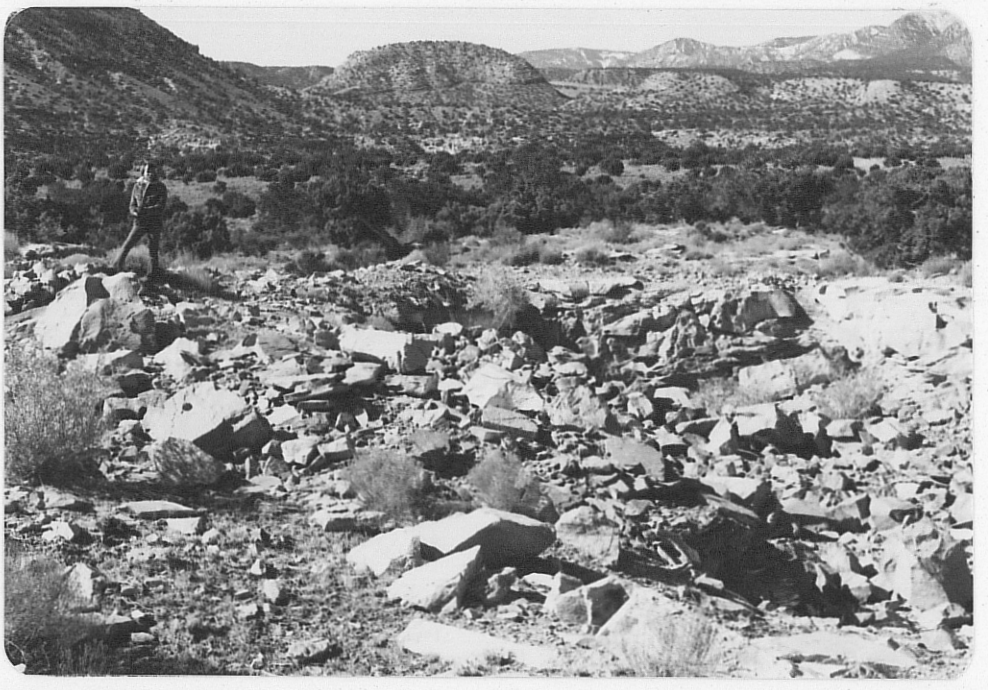

Photo (e) Barton & Begay eastern workings; looking SW. Carrizo Mountains at right in the distance.



Photo (f) Barton & Begay southern workings; looking NW.

Date Visited 10/31/79

Mine name(s) Rocky Flats #1 (Rocky #1) County San Juan

Section (unsurveyed) Probably 24 Twnsh. 30 N R. 21 W

Quadrangle sheet Pastora Peak 15'

Mining district East Carrizo

Elevation 5800'

Nearest city and/or dwelling Beclabito; 2½ mi. N

Rocky Flats #1 lies about 600' southeast of the Barton and Begay workings. It produced from a 60' long rim cut with an 8' stub adit on east side of a supporting pillar (see photos a & b); vanadium stained zones on the face give scintillometer readings up to 1200 cps; generally readings in the cut are 300-400 cps. A minor amount of mine tailings are visible down slope from the cut.

Ore was mined in the Salt Wash member of the Morrison fm. Uranium occurs in association with vanadium; u:v ratio in this area is about 1:10. The mine was operated intermittently from 1950 to 1955, initially by Barton & Lee and later by Barrett & Smith Mining Co. Total production (which includes any ore that might have been produced at the Rocky Flats #2) was 698 tons of U_3O_8 and 34,154 lbs. of V_2O_5.

The mine is located on the claim index map, just southeast of the Barton and Begay claims. Records seem to indicate a Sec. 24 location rather than Sec. 14, as Hilpert, 1969, p. 52 indicated (claim index map is attached).

References: (1) Chenoweth, W.L., 1980, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The Eastern Carrizo Mountains, San Juan County, New Mexico, U.S. DOE, TM-210.

(2) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uranium Resources of Northwest New Mexico; USGS pp. 603, p. 52.

(3) East Carrizo District Claim Index Map, 1953.

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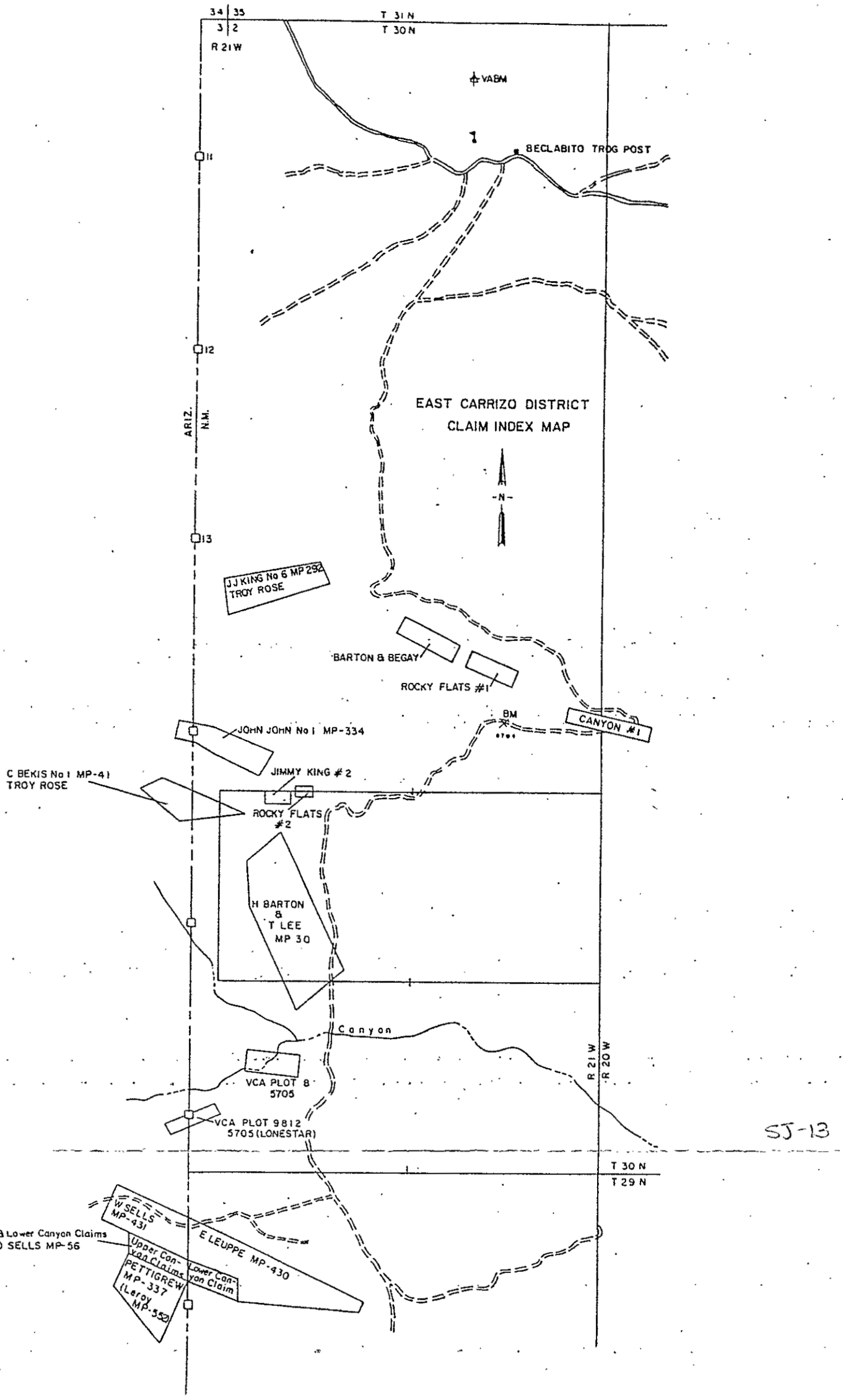
34 35
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C BEKIS No 1 MP-41
TROY ROSE
ROCKY FLATS #2
H BARTON & T LEE MP 30
Canyon
R 21 W
R 20 W
VCA PLOT 8 5705
VCA PLOT 9812 5705 (LONESTAR)
SJ-13
T 30 N
T 29 N
W SELLS MP-431
E LEUPPE MP-430
Upper & Lower Canyon Claims
CATO SELLS MP-56
Upper Canyon Claims
Lower Canyon Claim
PETTIGREW MP-337
(Leroy MP-552)



Photo (a) Rocky Flats #1; looking west into rim cut and stub adit.



Photo (b) Rocky Flats #1; close-up of pillar and stub adit shown in center of photo a.

Date Visited 10/23/79

Mine name(s) Canyon #1 County San Juan

Section (Unsurveyed) Twnsh. 30 N R. 20 W & 21 W

Quadrangle sheet Pastora Peak 15'

Mining district East Carrizo

Elevation 5600'

Nearest city and/or dwelling Beclabito, 3 mi. N

The Canyon #1 apparently consists of 3 separate workings that are very near the range 20 & 21 W line in T. 30 N. The eastern and middle workings are small adits, the western an open cut at the base of 2 ss. cliff. All 3 are just off the Oak Springs road (see claim map), and are indicated as I,II,III.

The eastern adit which is just 50' off the sharp bend in the road is approximately 5' high, 4' wide, and at least 50' long (the entire lenght is not known), see photo A. It is driven in sandstone just below a 4"-8" thick gray to greenish gray mudstone; the mudstone or the mudstone/sandstone interface is apparently the ore bearing horizon as the highest scintillometer count, 700 cps., was recorded there. The portal area registered about 250 cps. or about 4 x background (see photo b).

The middle workings, shown as symbol II, are just below the road. The adit is 6½ high, 12' wide at face but tapers back quickly, and 12' long (see photo c). The typically black vanadium staining on the left face (east wall) produced a scintillometer reading of 600 cps. A greenish, lenticular mudstone also exposed on the left face produced readings of 450 cps. The small dump just out front of the adit is about 8' high, up to 12' wide, (see photo d), and gave average scintillometer readings of 200 cps.

The western workings consist of a small open cut or trench, irregular in outline and not more than 15' in any horizontal dimension, nor more than a few feet in depth, (see photo e). A one foot mudstone lens exposed at the base, shown in photo e, produced readings of 3000 cps. on the scintillometer and probably provided the incentive to prospect here. Carnotite/tyumunite mineralization was noted on the sandstone rocks in the rather prominent mine dump from this open cut (see photo f); dump is approximately 55' x 30'.

Host rock is again the Salt Wash ss. member of the Morrison fm. The mine was operated by Pete Atcity from 1951 to 1953. Total production from all 3 workings was 97 tons of ore containing 206 lbs. of U_3O_8 at an average grade of .11%. The V_2O_5 content was 3,974 lbs. at an average grade of 2.05%.

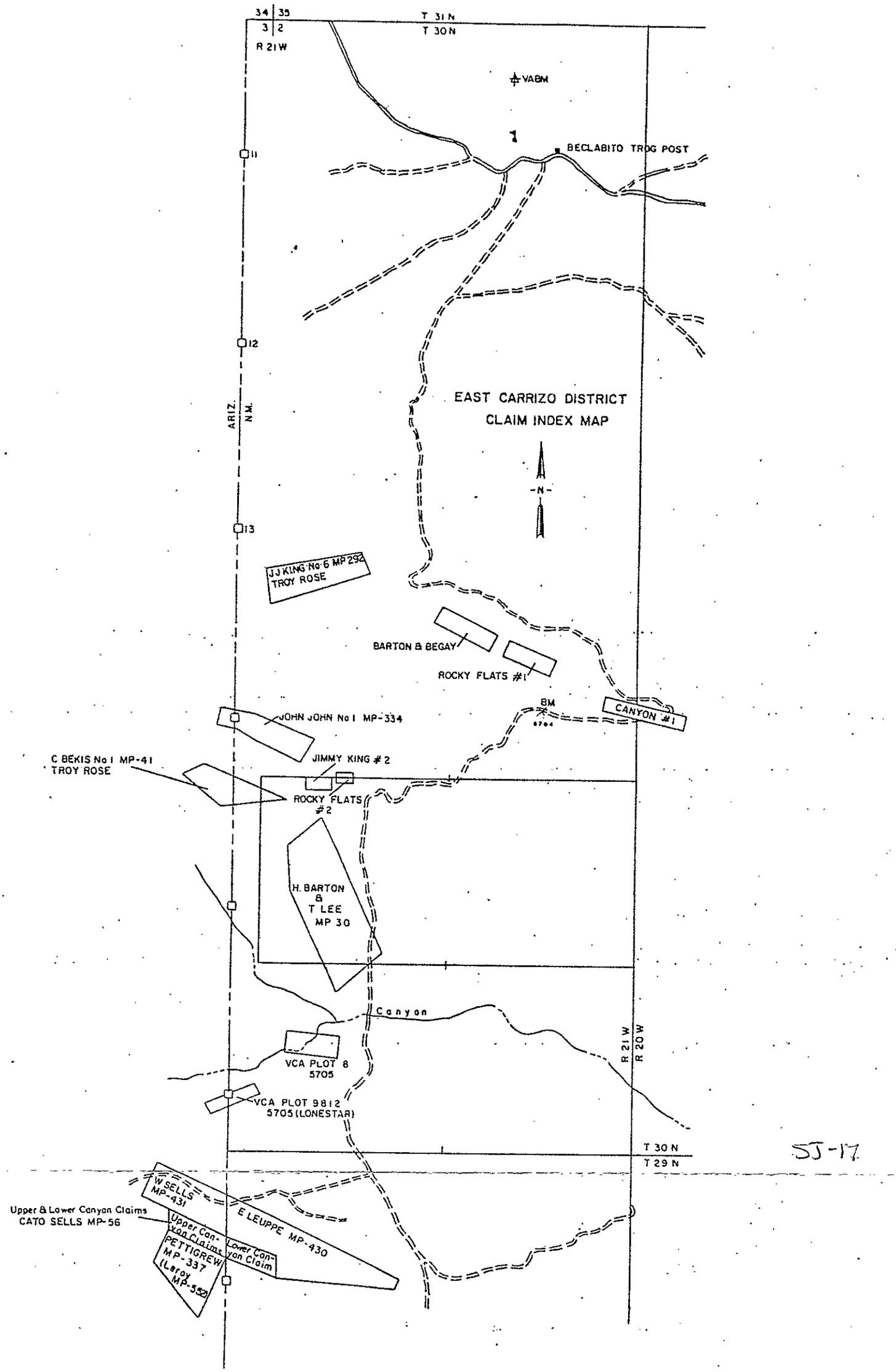
Continued

SJ-15

References: (1) Chenoweth, W.L., 1980, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The Eastern Carrizo Mountians, San Juan County, New Mexico, U.S. DOE, TM-210.

(2) Hilpert, L.S., 1965, Uranium Section in Mineral and Water Resources of New Mexico, New Mexico Bureau of Mines and Mineral Resources, Bull. 87, pp. 216

(3) East Carrizo District Claim Index Map, 1953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EAST CARRIZO DISTRICT
CLAIM INDEX MAP
-N-
JJ KING No 6 MP 292
TROY ROSE
BARTON & BEGAY
ROCKY FLATS #1
BM
6764
CANYON #1
JOHN JOHN No 1 MP-334
C BEKIS No 1 MP-41
TROY ROSE
JIMMY KING #2
ROCKY FLATS
#2
H. BARTON
&
T LEE
MP 30
Canyon
VCA PLOT 8
5705
VCA PLOT 9812
5705 (LONESTAR)
R 21 W
R 20 W
T 30 N
T 29 N
W SELLS
MP-431
E LEUPPE MP-430
Upper & Lower Canyon Claims
CATO SELLS MP-56
Upper Canyon Claims
Lower Canyon Claim
PETTIGREW
MP-337
(Leroy
MP-552)

SJ-17



Photo (a) Looking south into Canyon #1, eastern adit.



Photo (b) Looking S SE into adit area, at middle right, and dump.



Photo (c) Looking south into small adit; middle workings of Canyon #1.



Photo (d) Looking south, showing adit & dump at middle workings.



Photo (e) Western workings, Canyon #1; looking NW.



Photo (f) Looking N at dump of western workings.

Date Visited 10/31/79

Mine name(s) John John #1 County San Juan

Section (Unsurveyed) Probably 22 Twnsh. 30 N R. 21 W

Quadrangle sheet Pastora Peak 15'

Mining district East Carrizo

Elevation 6200'

Nearest city and/or dwelling Beclabito; 3 mi. N

The John John #1 consists of a small adit on the north wall of the small canyon that follows the north side of Cottonwood Butte. The adit, about 6' high, 5' wide, and 20' long, was driven on a north 5° east heading into the Sandstone Cliffs, (see photos a & b); a very minor amount of mine tailings are present below the adit entrance. A 2 inch thick fine grained vanadium stained sandstone lens can be traced along the adit wall and may have been the primary ore bearing zone.

Access to the mine was by a road in from the east above the mine; it is no longer passable, and walking in from the Oak Springs road is the recommended way. The area is actively grazed.

The mine is in the Salt Wash Member of the Morrison fm. The uranium occurs in association with vanadium, the u:v ratio in this vicinity being about 1:12. The mine was active during 1955 only producing a total of 25 tons of ore averaging .19% U_3O_8 and 2.78% V_2O_5. The ore contained 97 lbs. U_3O_8 and 1,392 lbs. of V_2O_5.

The additional adits that reportedly explored this were not found. One was a 6' long stub; the other had 60' of drift in two legs. Entrances to these have probably caved.

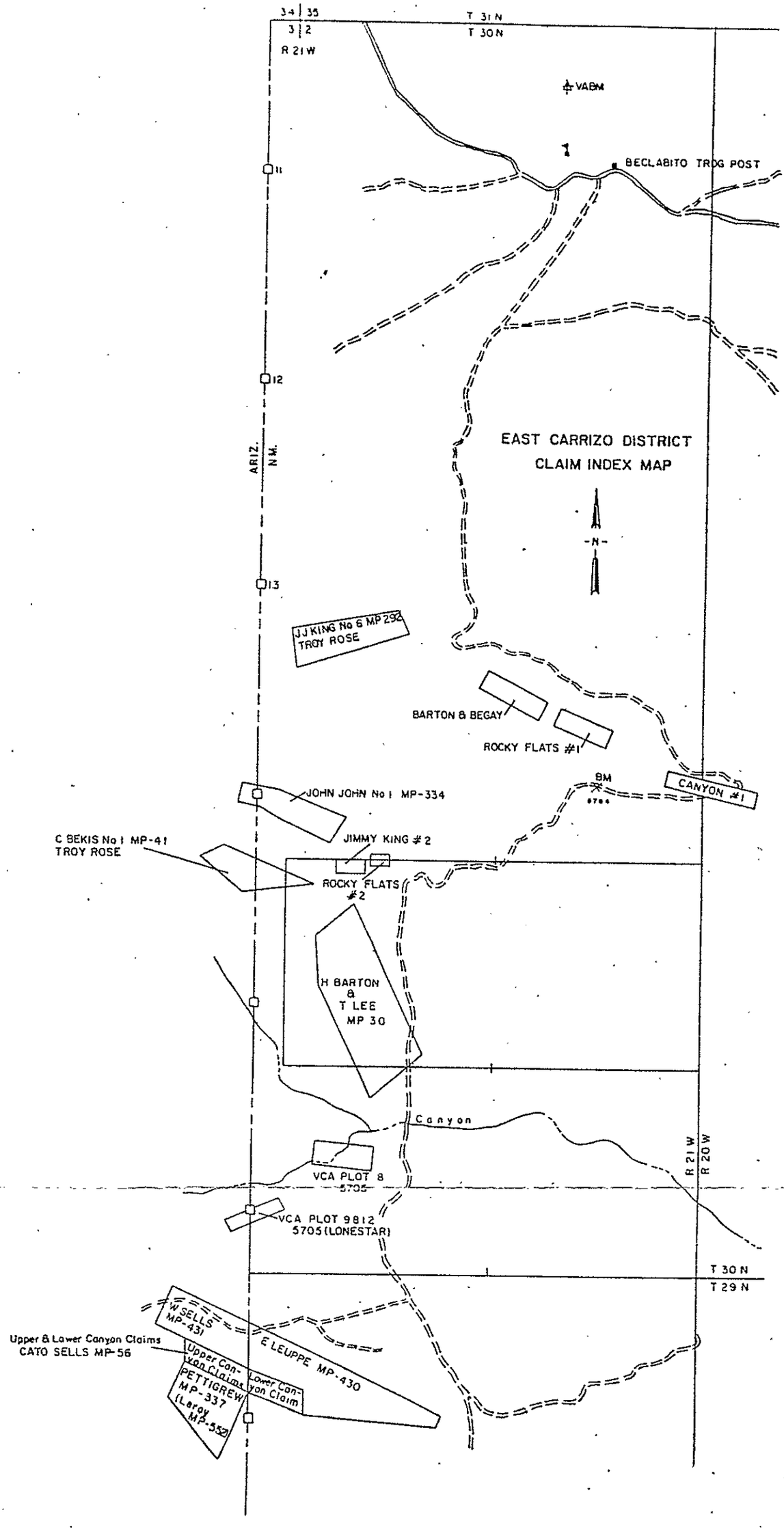
See attached claim index map.

References: (1) Chenoweth, W.L., 1980, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The Eastern Carrizo Mountains, San Juan County, New Mexico, U.S. DOE, TM-210.

(2) 1960 AEC office memorandum, "Field Examination of the John John #1 Tract.

(3) Eastern Carrizo District Claim Index Map, 1953.

SJ-31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ARIZ.
N.M.
EAST CARRIZO DISTRICT
CLAIM INDEX MAP
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JJ KING No 6 MP 292
TROY ROSE
BARTON & BEGAY
ROCKY FLATS #1
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5764
CANYON #1
JOHN JOHN No 1 MP-334
C BEKIS No 1 MP-41
TROY ROSE
JIMMY KING #2
ROCKY FLATS #2
H BARTON & T LEE MP 30
Canyon
VCA PLOT 8
5705
VCA PLOT 9812
5705 (LONESTAR)
R 21 W
R 20 W
T 30 N
T 29 N
W SELLS MP-431
E LEUPPE MP-430
Upper & Lower Canyon Claims
CATO SELLS MP-56
Upper Canyon Claims
Lower Canyon Claim
PETTIGREW MP-337
(Leroy MP-552)

55-22

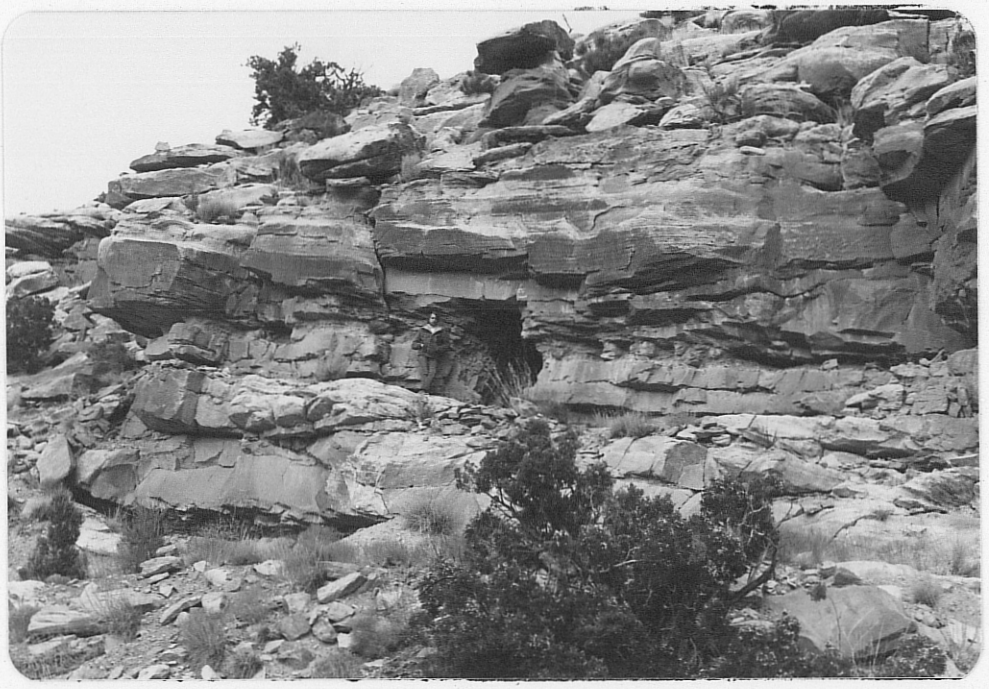


Photo (a) John John #1; looking NW.

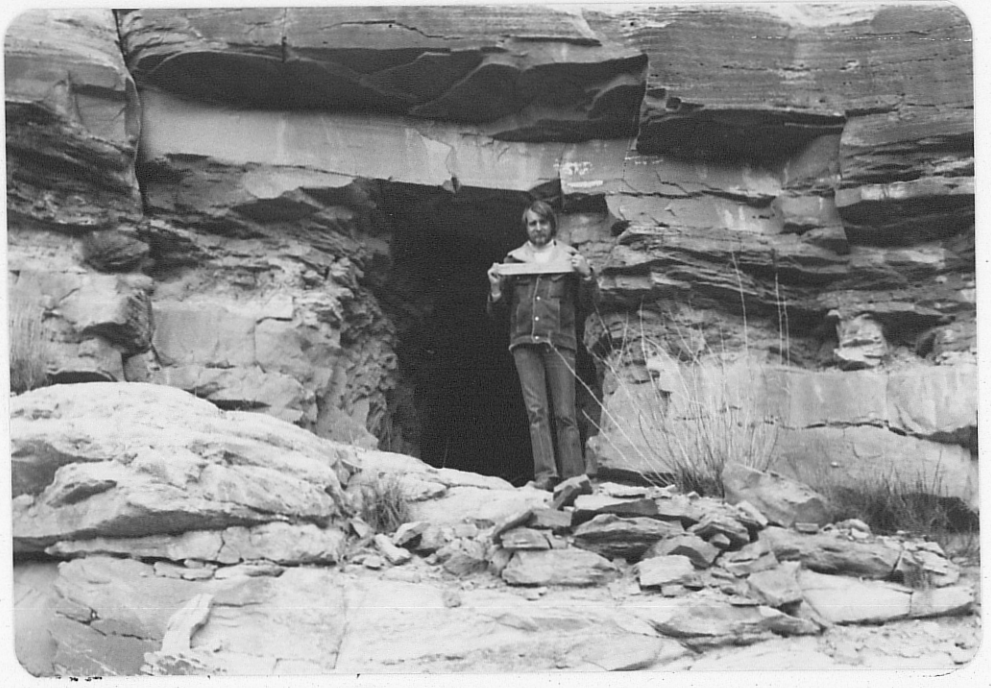


Photo (b) John John #1; looking N.

Date Visited 10/23/79

Mine name(s) Jimmy King #2 County San Juan Co.

Section (Unsurveyed) Twnsh. 30 N R. 21 W

Quadrangle sheet Pastora Peak (15')

Mining district East Carrizo

Elevation 5800'

Nearest city and/or dwelling Oak Springs, 3 mil; Beclabito, 3¼ mi.

The Jimmy King #2 consists of a small open pit in the Salt Wash ss. member, (see photo a). It is approximately 150' long in an E-W direction and the bench cut that resulted as work progressed may have reached 100' in width. Several other localities immediately adjacent show minor disturbance, but the original workings. Main cut if 10' deep at maximum (see photos b & c) scintillometer readings in the pit area are generally about 450 cps., with the mine dump area slightly less.

Access was provided by a road leading in from the east, the remnants of which may be seen in photo a. It joins the main road in drainage ¼ mi. to the east but is now impassable. Although unsurveyed the mine appears to be in the NW¼ of projected Sec. 26.

The mine produced between the years 1950-1954. Production totaled 557 tons of ore averaging .16% U_3O_8, and yielded 1716 lbs. of uranium oxide, and 31,424 lbs. of V_2O_5. u:v ratio here is about 1:12.

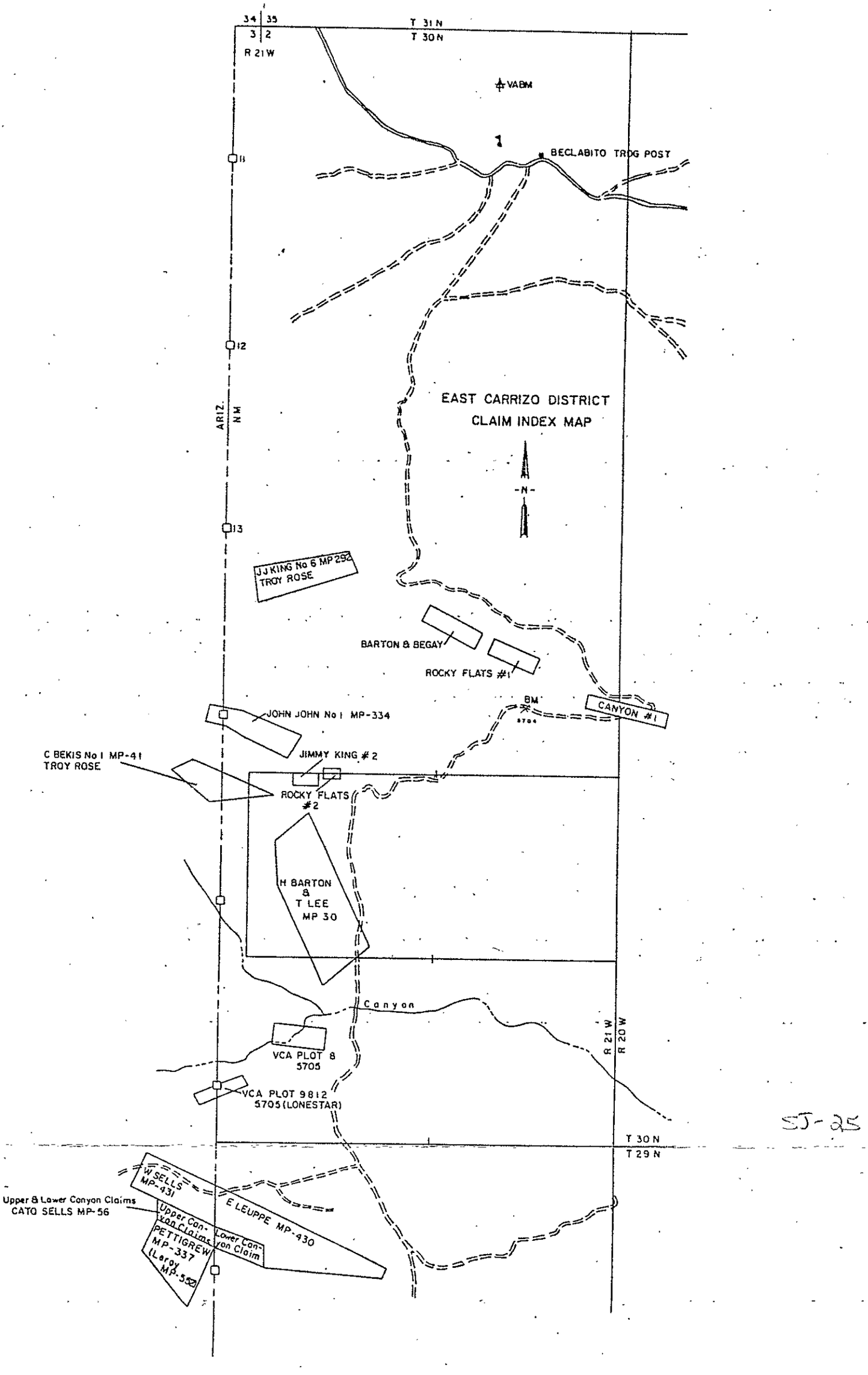
See attached claim index map.

References: (1) Chenoweth, W.L., 1980, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The Eastern Carrizo Mountains, San Juan County, New Mexico, U.S. DOE, TM-210.

(2) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uranium Resources of Northwest New Mexico; USGS pp. 603, p. 53

(3) East Carrizo District Claim Index Map, 1953.

SJ-24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EAST CARRIZO DISTRICT
CLAIM INDEX MAP
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JJ KING No 6 MP 292
TROY ROSE
BARTON & BEGAY
ROCKY FLATS #1
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CANYON #1
JOHN JOHN No 1 MP-334
C BEKIS No 1 MP-41
TROY ROSE
JIMMY KING #2
ROCKY FLATS
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H BARTON
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MP 30
Canyon
R 21 W
R 20 W
VCA PLOT 8
5705
VCA PLOT 9812
5705 (LONESTAR)
T 30 N
T 29 N
W SELLS
MP-431
E LEUPPE MP-430
Upper & Lower Canyon Claims
CATO SELLS MP-56
Upper Canyon Claims
Lower Canyon Claim
PETTIGREW
MP-337
(Leroy
MP-552)

SJ-25

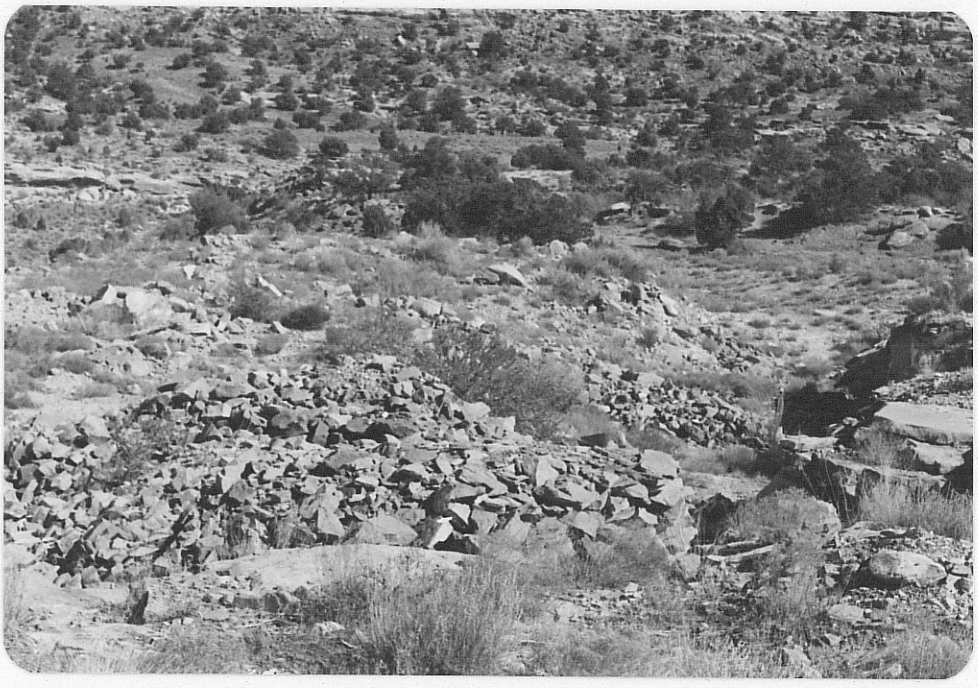


Photo (a) Looking E SE into open cut of King #2. Note access.



Photo (b) Looking SE into deepest portion of pit.

459 SJ-26

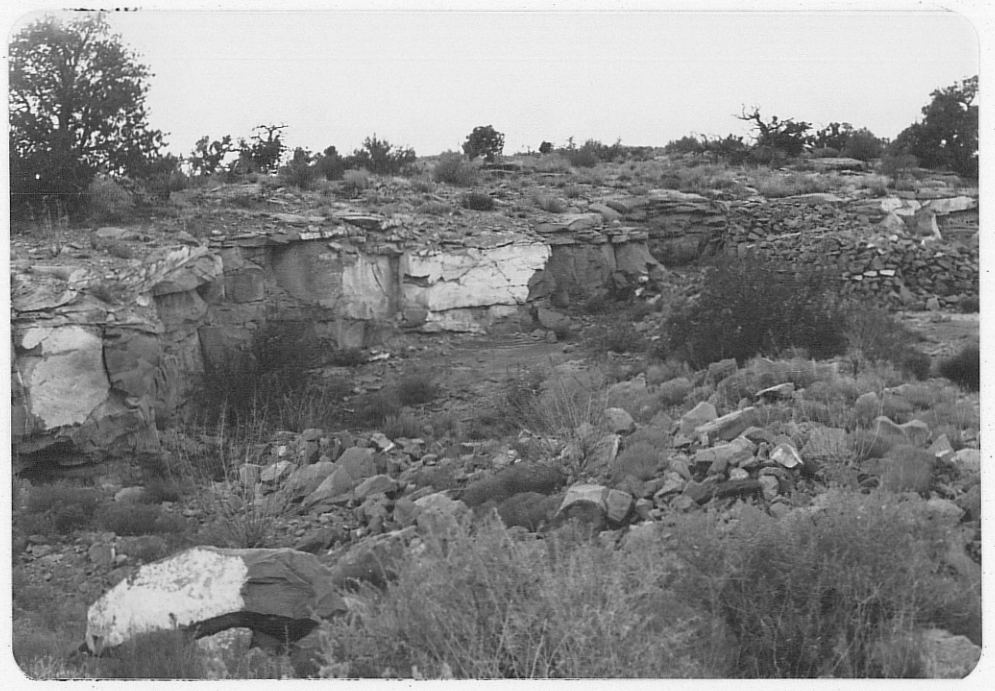


Photo (c) Jimmy King #2; looking west into open cut from access road. Area shown in photo b appears in center of photo c.

Date Visited 10/31/79

Mine name(s) Rocky Flats #2 County San Juan

Section (Unsurveyed) Probably 26 Twnsh. 30 N R. 21 W

Quadrangle sheet Pastora Peak 15'

Mining district East Carrizo

Elevation 5800'

Nearest city and/or dwelling Oak Springs; 3 mi. S

This very small working is on the east edge of the Jimmy King #2 mine dump. The 12' long stub adit with a 5' x 5' opening shown in photos a & b is untimbered and was not entered during the visit. Mineralization at the portal was scant. Some carnotite/tyuamunite was coloration noted on dump rocks above, but it is believed this dump material is largely from the Jimmy King #2 cut; see photo c with arrow pointing to Ricky Flats adit with dump beyond. Adit heading is nearly due south.

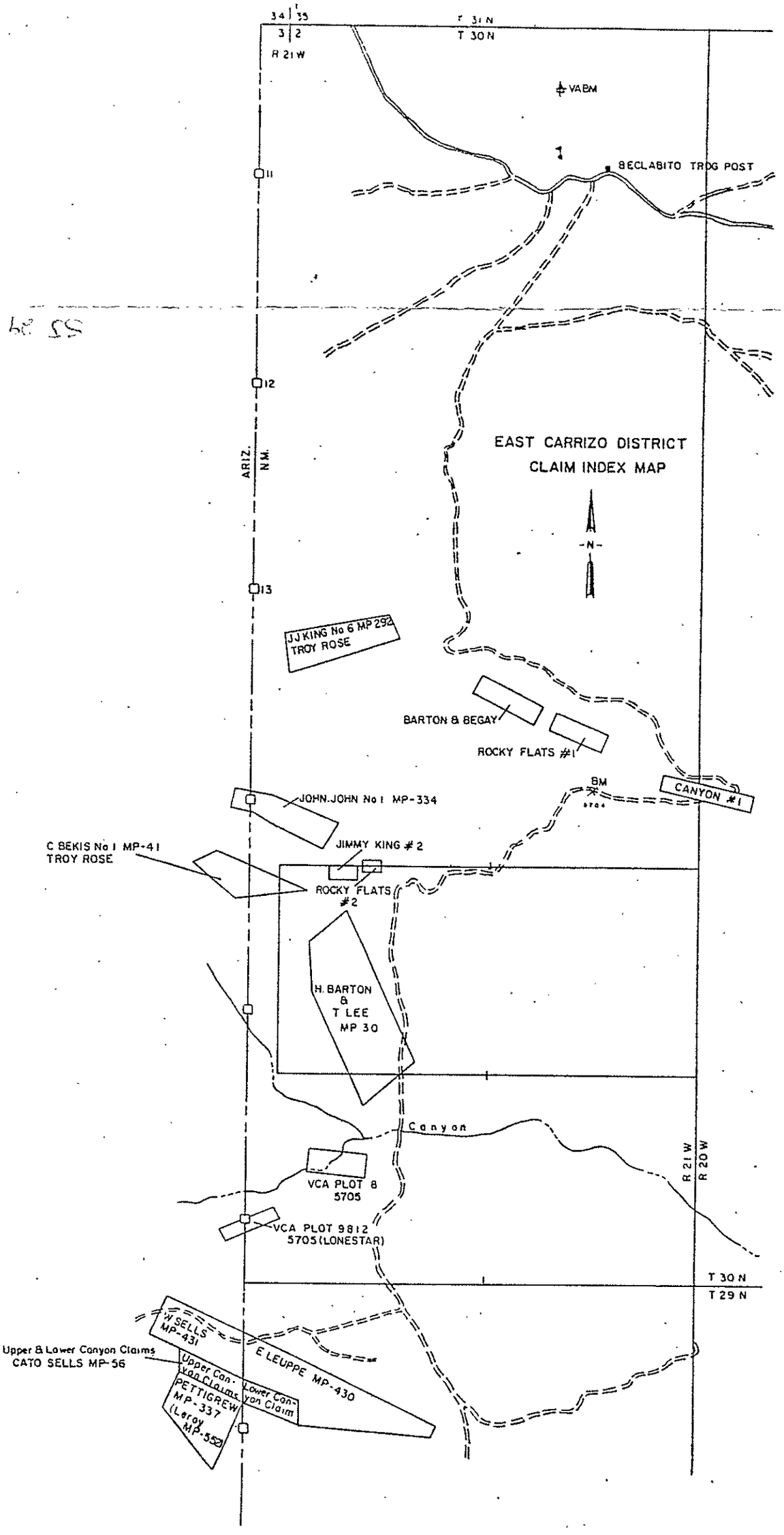
Access is essentially by the same road (now impassable) that leads to the Jimmy King #2 off the Oak Springs road. The mine "produced" from the Salt Wash member of the Morrison formation and was operated only during 1955. Production records were included with those of the Rocky Flats #1.

See attached claim index map.

References: (1) Chenoweth, W.L., 1980, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The Eastern Carrizo Mountains, San Juan County, New Mexico, U.S. DOE, TM-210.

(2) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uranium Resources of Northwest New Mexico; USGS pp. 603, p. 52

(3) East Carrizo District Claim Index Map, 1953.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EAST CARRIZO DISTRICT
CLAIM INDEX MAP
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JJ KING No 6 MP 292
TROY ROSE
BARTON & BEGAY
ROCKY FLATS #1
BM
5704
CANYON #1
JOHN.JOHN No 1 MP-334
C BEKIS No 1 MP-41
TROY ROSE
JIMMY KING #2
ROCKY FLATS
#2
H. BARTON
&
T LEE
MP 30
Canyon
R 21 W
R 20 W
VCA PLOT 8
5705
VCA PLOT 9812
5705 (LONESTAR)
T 30 N
T 29 N
W SELLS
MP-431
E LEUPPE MP-430
Upper & Lower Canyon Claims
CATO SELLS MP-56
Upper Can-
yon Claims
Lower Can-
yon Claim
PETTIGREW
MP-337
(Leroy
MP-552)



Photo (a) Rocky Flats #2; looking SW toward small adit with Jimmy King #2 dump in background.

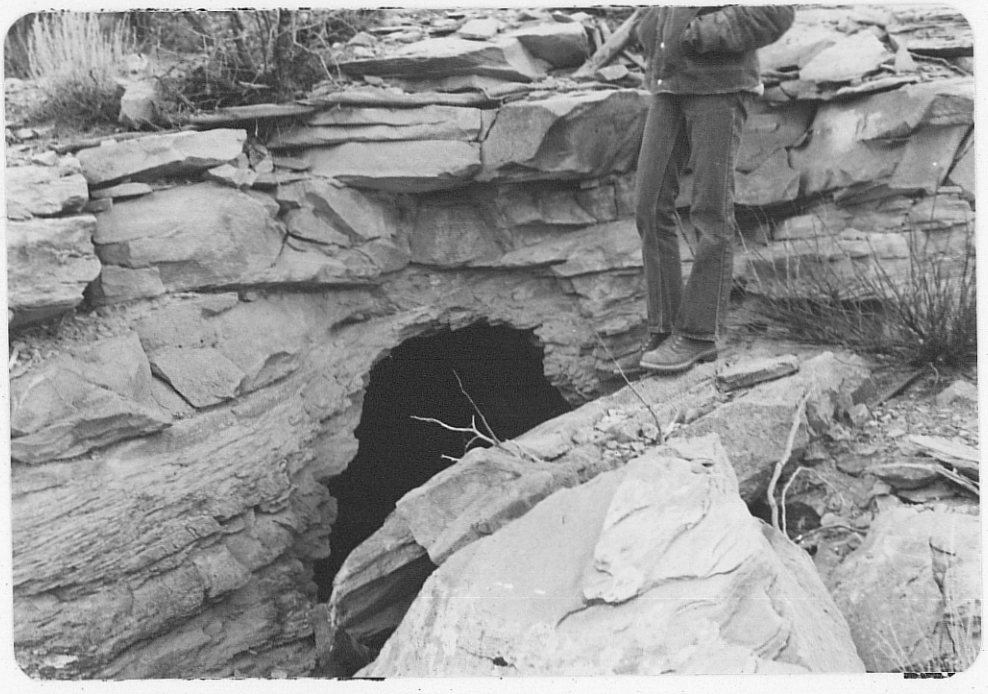


Photo (b) Rocky Flats #2; close-up of adit; looking south.



Photo (c) Looking west from lower level toward Rock Flats adit (arrow) showing relationship to Jimmy King #2 dump (center background).

Date Visited 10/23/79

Mine name(s) Cottonwood Butte Mine (VPA Plot 8) County San Juan Co.

Section (Unsurveyed) Twnsh. 30 N R. 21 W

Quadrangle sheet Pastora Peak 15'

Mining district East Carrizo

Elevation 5,800'

Nearest city and/or dwelling Oak Springs, 1½ mi. S.

The workings on Plot 8, called the Cottonwood Butte Mine, actually consist of 3 separate areas. The westernmost near the west end of the plot (see claim index map) is an irregular adit with a 40' long trench leading northward to the entry. The major underground workings, however, lie to the right of the entry and not forward. They extend back 25' in rather open stope form with two pillars left for support aided by some make shift timbering. Maximum scintillometer readings encountered underground were about 2500 cps. Photos a & b attempt to show the entry trench, and adit entrance; photo c shows the mine dump.

The eastern workings lie to the SE of the adit approximately 300' and consist of two open cuts 100' apart. The southern one is about 35' x 15', up to 7' deep, (see photo d). Scintillometer readings averaged about 700 cps. The northern one is somewhat more irregular, may be up to 40' in maximum dimension, and up to 8' deep (see photo e). Scintillometer readings in this cut (near the face) ranged from 500 to 650 cps. The higher readings produced by the black "vanadium stain" being traced by the two people shown in photo f. A slightly raised wheelbarrow run leads to a mine dump for this open cut, (see photo g). The nose of this dump is located directly up slope from a small drainage line (see photo h); scintillometer readings on dump were 150-250 cps., or 3 to 4 times background.

The mine was operated discontinuously from 1950 to 1954 with VCA being the first operator; it was later operated by Alfred Nelson. A total of 250 tons of sandstone ore from the Salt Wash member was produced with an average grade of .25% U_3O_8, and 3.0% V_2O_5. The ore contained 1245 lbs. U_3O_8 and 15,013 lbs. of V_2O_5.*

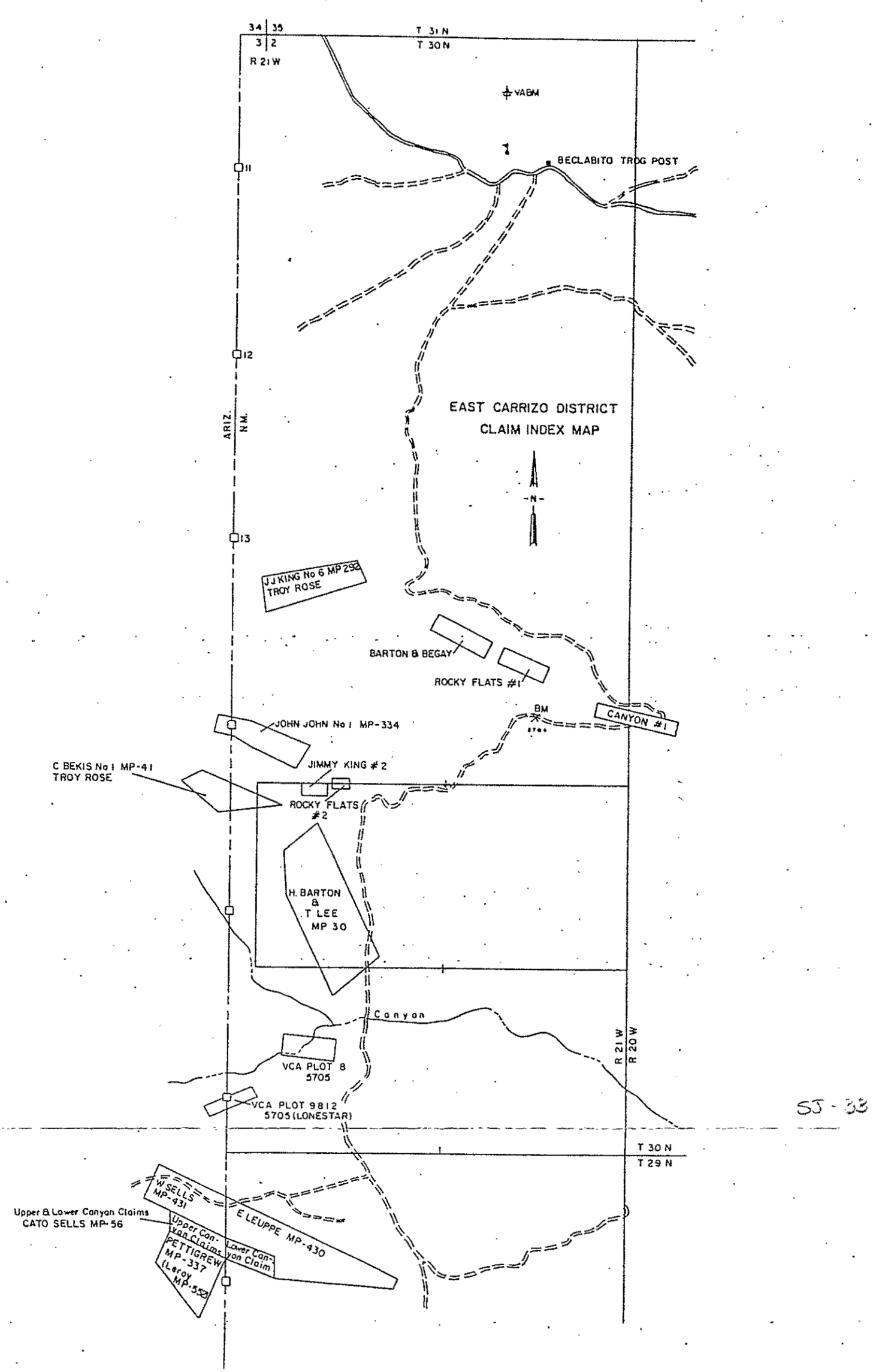
References: (1) Chenoweth, W.L., 1980, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The Eastern Carrizo Mountains, San Juan County, New Mexico, U.S. DOE, TM-210.

(2) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uranium Resources of NW New Mex.; USGS pp. 603, p.52.

(3) East Carrizo District Claim Index Map, 1953.

* Some earlier production, 1949-50, was included in East Reservation Lease production figures.

SJ-30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EAST CARRIZO DISTRICT
CLAIM INDEX MAP
N
J J KING No 6 MP 292
TROY ROSE
BARTON & BEGAY
ROCKY FLATS #1
BM
5700
CANYON #1
JOHN JOHN No 1 MP-334
JIMMY KING #2
C BEKIS No 1 MP-41
TROY ROSE
ROCKY FLATS
#2
H. BARTON
&
T LEE
MP 30
Canyon
R 21 W
R 20 W
VCA PLOT 8
5705
VCA PLOT 9812
5705 (LONESTAR)
T 30 N
T 29 N
W SELLS
MP-431
E LEUPPE MP-430
Upper & Lower Canyon Claims
CATO SELLS MP-56
Upper Canyon Claims
Lower Canyon Claim
PETTIGREW
MP-337
(Leroy
MP-532)

SJ - 33



Photo (a) Cottonwood Butte adit; looking NE.

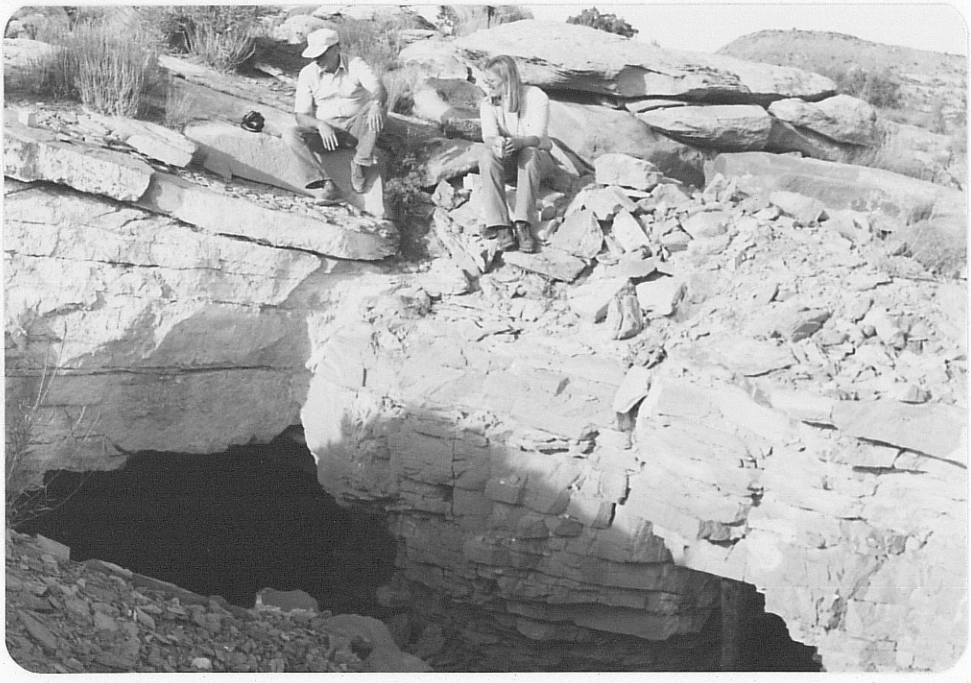


Photo (b) Cottonwood Butte adit; looking NE.



Photo (c) Mine dump, Cottonwood Butte adit.

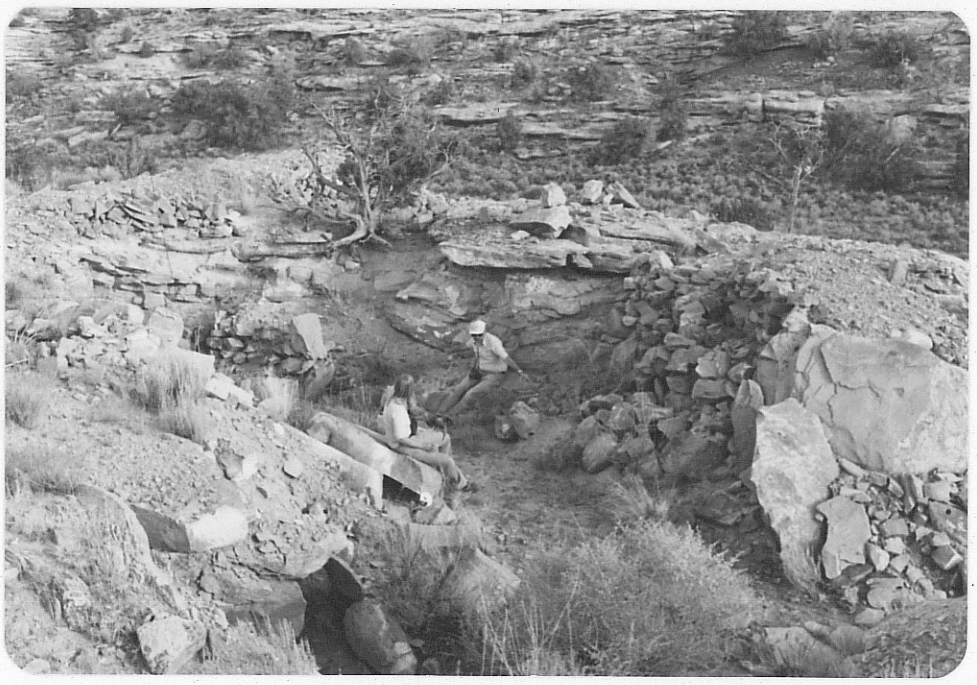
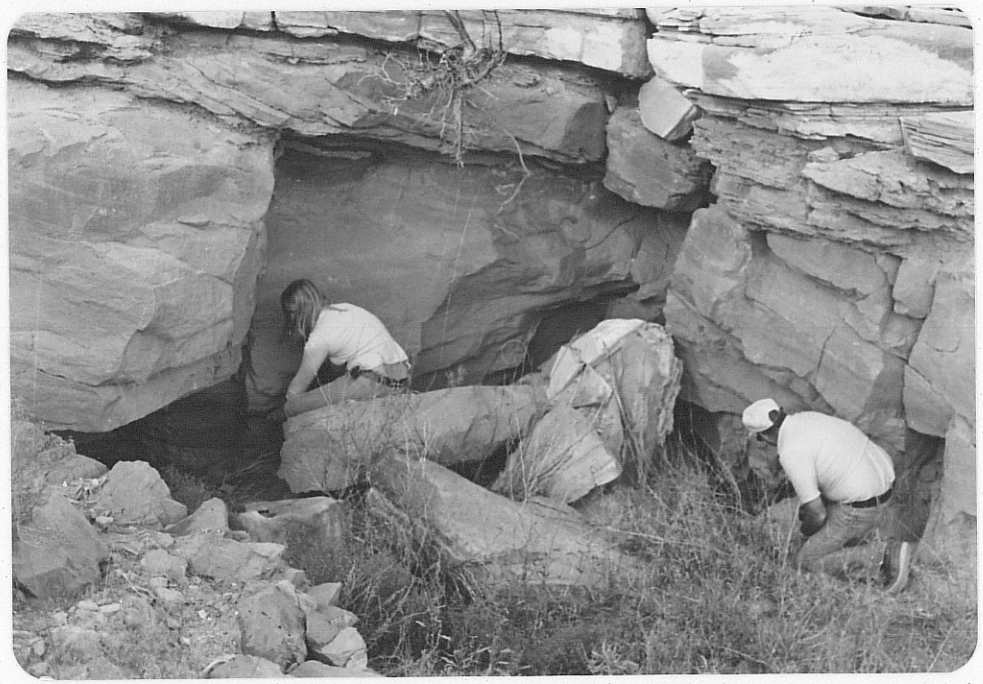


Photo (d) Open cut, part of Cottonwood Butte workings.



Photo (e) Open cut, part of Cottonwood Butte workings.



Part (f) Close-up of open cut shown in e; note dark staining being traced at left.



Photo (g) Wheelbarrow run from open cut in foreground to dump in distance.

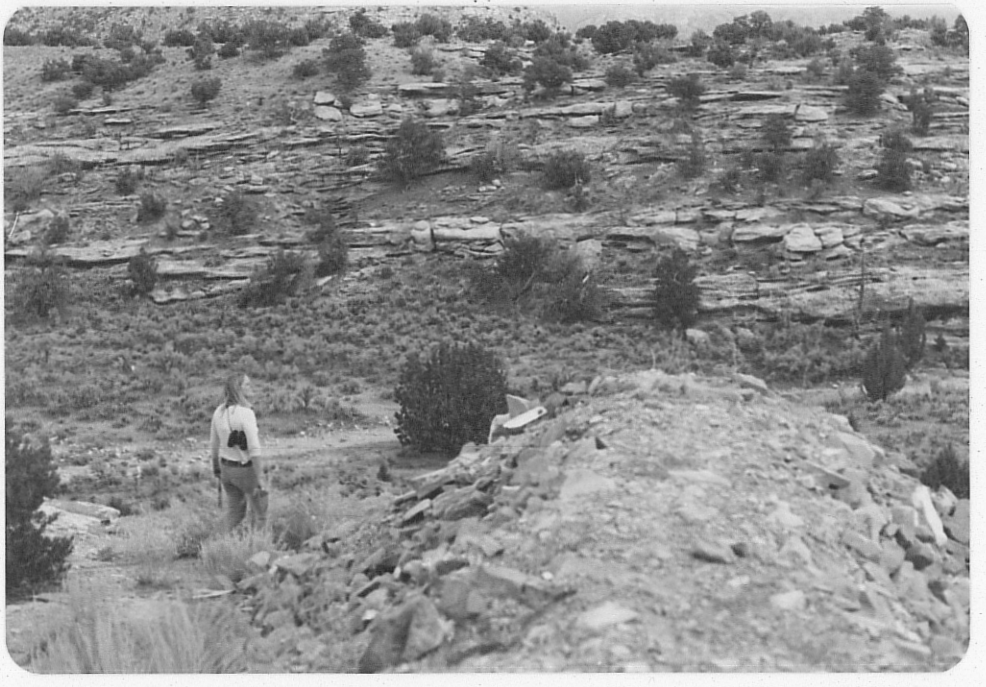


Photo (h) Nose of dump showing drainage line below.

Date Visited 10/23/79

Mine name(s) Lone Star (on VCA Plot #9 or #9812) County San Juan

Section (Unsurveyed) Twnsh. 30 N R. 21 W

Quadrangle sheet Pastora Peak 15'

Mining district East Carrizo

Elevation 5900'

Nearest city and/or dwelling Oak Springs, 1½ mi. S.

The Lone Star Mine on VCA plot 9 consists of a small adit on the north edge of the ridge that extends eastward into N.M. from Syracuse Butte (Ariz.). Photo a offers a view looking southward into this ridge with the mine dump from the Lone Star extending downslope just right of center. Photos b & c show the adit, partially timbered, with a considerable amount of caved material at the entrance. The adit was originally about 5' high, 12' long, and 8' wide. Both photos are looking generally SW. It is possible that these workings are on the Arizona side as no stateline marker was visible to sight on.

The ore occurs in a 1' thick zone of fine grained ss. within the Salt Wash member of the Morrison fm. The ore zone appears greenish gray in color because of numerous clay galls, but the sandstone is arkosic, light brown, and has in places secondary carnotite/tyuamunite overgrowths. Scintillometer readings were indicative of ore grade mineralization, 800 cps. max., but not as high grade as the production records show; perhaps all the high grade material was mined out.

The production records show that the mine was opened in 1950 and operated initially by VCA. It continued to operate under various individual operators through 1952, went through a long inactive stage, was operated again during 1962 and amassed a total ore production of 276 tons that averaged .3% U_3O_8. The ore contained 1814 lbs. U_3O_8 and 16,852 lbs. of V_2O_5.* As there is no road to the top of the ridge where the adit is located. The ore was apparently sent downslope via some type of crude chute and trucked out from below along the still visible road that follows a drainage to the east.

See attached claim index map.

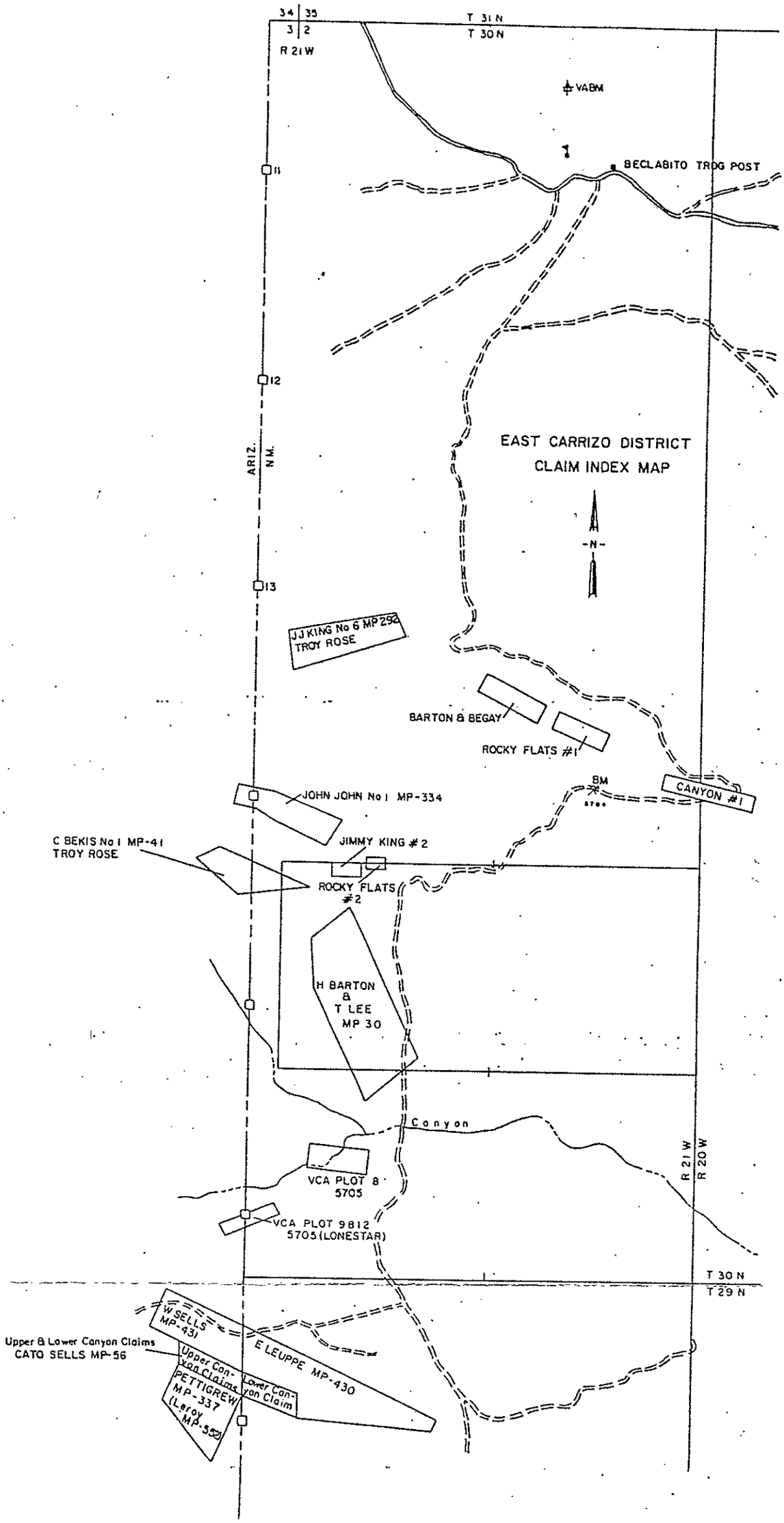
References: (1) Chenoweth, W.L., 1980, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The Eastern Carrizo Mountains, San Juan County, New Mexico, U.S. DOE, TM-210.

(2) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uran. Res. of NW New Mex.; USGS pp. 603, p. 53.

(3) East Carrizo District Claim Index Map, 1953

* Some earlier production, 1943, and 1949, was included with East Reservation Lease production figures.

SJ-38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TROY ROSE
BARTON & BEGAY
ROCKY FLATS #1
BM
CANYON #1
JOHN JOHN No 1 MP-334
C BEKIS No 1 MP-41
TROY ROSE
JIMMY KING #2
ROCKY FLATS #2
H BARTON & T LEE MP 30
Canyon
VCA PLOT 8
5705
VCA PLOT 9812
5705 (LONESTAR)
R 21 W
R 20 W
T 30 N
T 29 N
W SELLS MP-431
E LEUPPE MP-430
Upper & Lower Canyon Claims
CATO SELLS MP-56
Upper Canyon Claims
Lower Canyon Claim
PETTIGREW MP-337
(Leroy MP-559)

SS 39



Photo (a) Looking S; note mine tailings from Lone Star just to right of center.

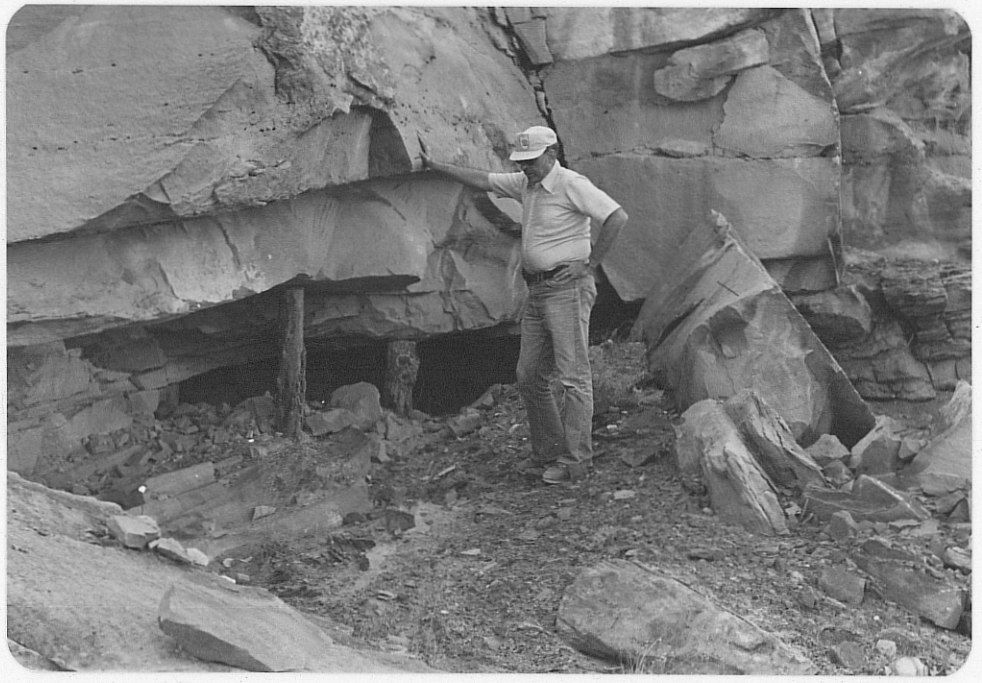


Photo (b) Lone Star adit, looking S SW.

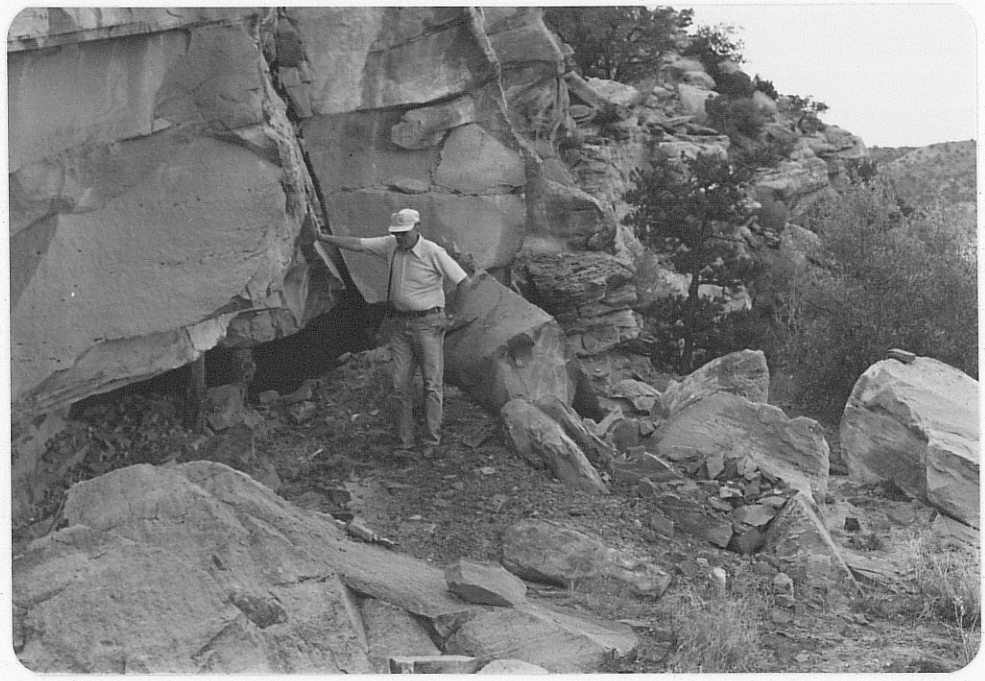


Photo (c) Lone Star adit, looking SW.

454 85-41

Date Visited 11-1-79

Mine name(s) VCA Plot #7 (Lower Oak Creek) County San Juan

Section (Unsurveyed) Twnsh. 29 N R. 21 W

Quadrangle sheet Red Rock Valley 15'

Mining district East Carrizo

Elevation 5700'

Nearest city and/or dwelling Oak Springs, 1 mi. NW

VCA Plot #7 has a great variety of workings including, open pits, trenches, adits, and inclines. For the most part these lie in the eastern half of the claim, with a cluster of workings in the southeast corner (see claim index map). The plot itself is approximately, 1 mi. long, ¼ mi. wide, the western boundary being the Ariz./N.M. state l-ne at the 18 mile post marker; the linear plot has an approximate orientation of N 52° W, although it is not certain that the north and south boundaries are exactly parallel.

Hilpert, 1969, p. 52, listed the location as uncertain, but it becomes apparent from the AEC claim map that the plot lies mainly in the S½ sec. 11 with small portions extending into the E½ Sec. 10 and into the NE¼ of Sec.14. It more or less parallels the north edge of Oak Spring Wash in Sec. 11 (all section lines are projected).

Photograph (a) offers a representative view of the southeastern edge of the plot, looking due west with the Carrizo Mtns. in the background. At right is upper Terrace level with vehicle for scale; at center is a lower Terrace level (both surfaces in Salt Wash Member) into which Oak Springs Wash is cut; at left is an exhumed volcanic neck which is shown topographically in the SW¼ SW¼ Sec. 11, T. 29 N., R. 21 W., on the Redrock Valley 15' sheet; and in the foreground is an inclined adit with mine tailings partially spilled over into an arroyo which is tributary to Oak Spring Wash. Photo (b) is a close-up shot of this inclined adit, the portal visible at the end of an 11' deep trench. The remainder of the photographs carry their own descriptions and attempt to show the small and discrete nature of each working along with the unique manner in which waste rock was sometimes stacked by hand labor along small trenches, passageways, or outside small underground workings.

The various workings produced from the Salt Wash member of the Morrison formation during the period from 1954-1959, with some of the sites worked as late as 1961.* It was one of the larger producers on the New Mexico side of the East Carrizo district being surpassed in total U_3O_8 production only by VCA Plot #3 and the Begay #2. A total of 3,373 tons or ore averaging .26% U_3O_8 and 138,398 lbs. V_2O_5. The U:V ratio is considerably lower here than for many other workings in the district with the exception of the Carrizo #1.

Continued

SJ-42

References: (1) Hilpert L., 1969, Uran. Res. of NW New Mex; USGS PP. 603, p. 52.

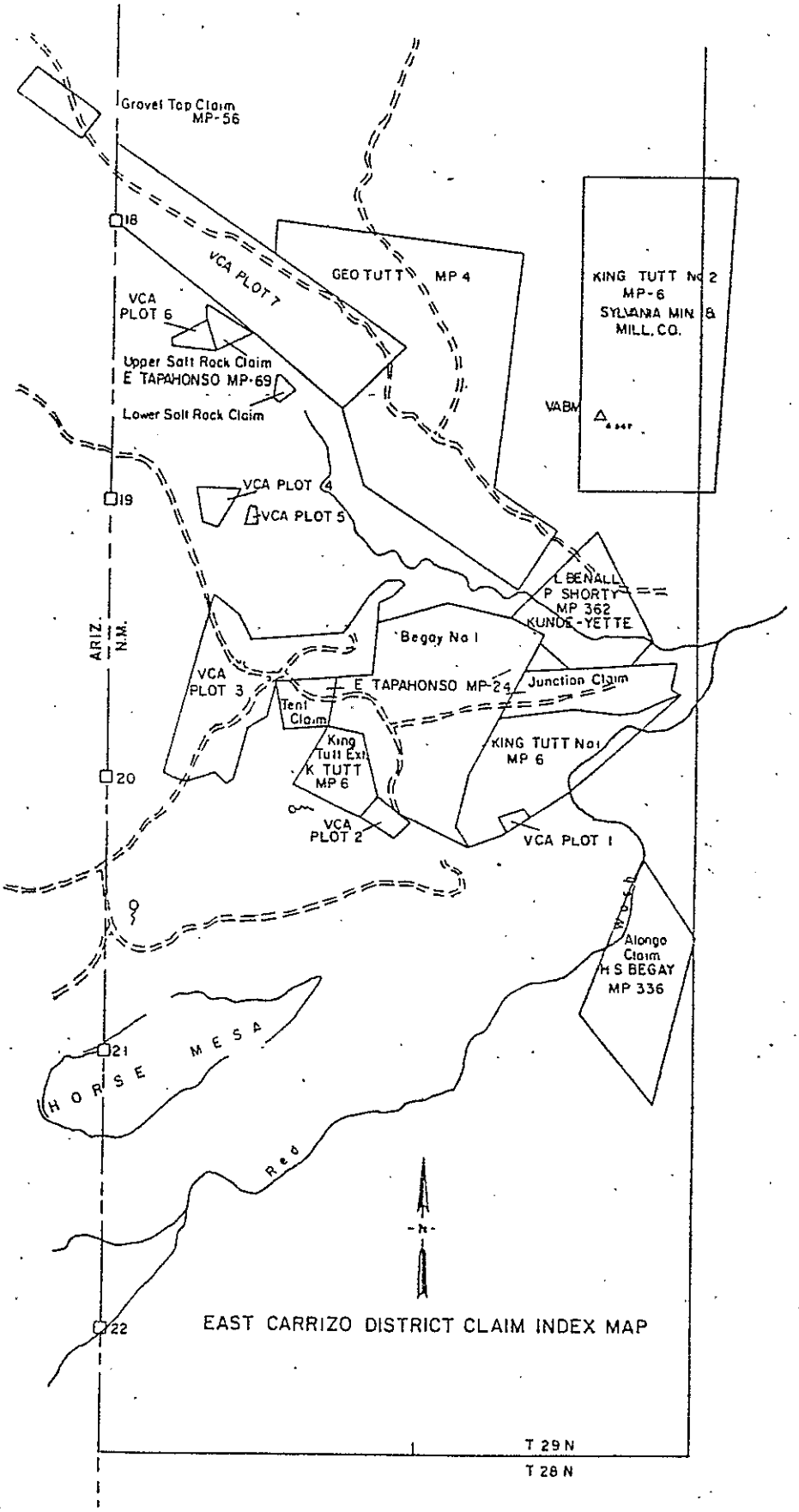
(2) Chenoweth, W.L., 1980, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The Eastern Carrizo Mountains, San Juan County, New Mexico, U.S. DOE, TM-210.

(3) AEC-PED-1, 1959, Mine Operation Data Report, p. 151.

(4) Oral communication with Wm. Chenoweth, U.S. Dept. of Energy.

(5) East Carrizo District Claim Index Map, 1953

* Some earlier production, 1942-1944, and perhaps 1948-1950, was included with East Reservation Lease production.


Gravel Top Claim MP-56
18
VCA PLOT 7
GEO TUTT MP 4
KING TUTT No 2 MP-6 SYLVANIA MIN & MILL. CO.
VCA PLOT 6
Upper Salt Rock Claim
E TAPAHONSO MP-69
Lower Salt Rock Claim
VABM
19
VCA PLOT 4
VCA PLOT 5
L BENALL P SHORTY MP 362 KUNDE-YETTE
ARIZ. N.M.
Begay No 1
VCA PLOT 3
E TAPAHONSO MP-24
Junction Claim
Tent Claim
King Tutt Ext K TUTT MP 6
KING TUTT No1 MP 6
20
VCA PLOT 2
VCA PLOT 1
Alongo Claim H S BEGAY MP 336
21
HORSE MESA
Red
N
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EAST CARRIZO DISTRICT CLAIM INDEX MAP
T 29 N
T 28 N

SJ-41



Photo (a) On VCA Plot #7, south side, looking west into valley of Oak Spring Wash; small inclined adit and tailings dump in foreground.



Photo (b) VCA Plot #7, close-up of inclined adit shown in photo (a); looking west.

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Photo (c) Looking north at mines and dumps in north-south trending tributary near the corner of VCA Plot #7. Arrow indicates position of adit shown in photo (e).

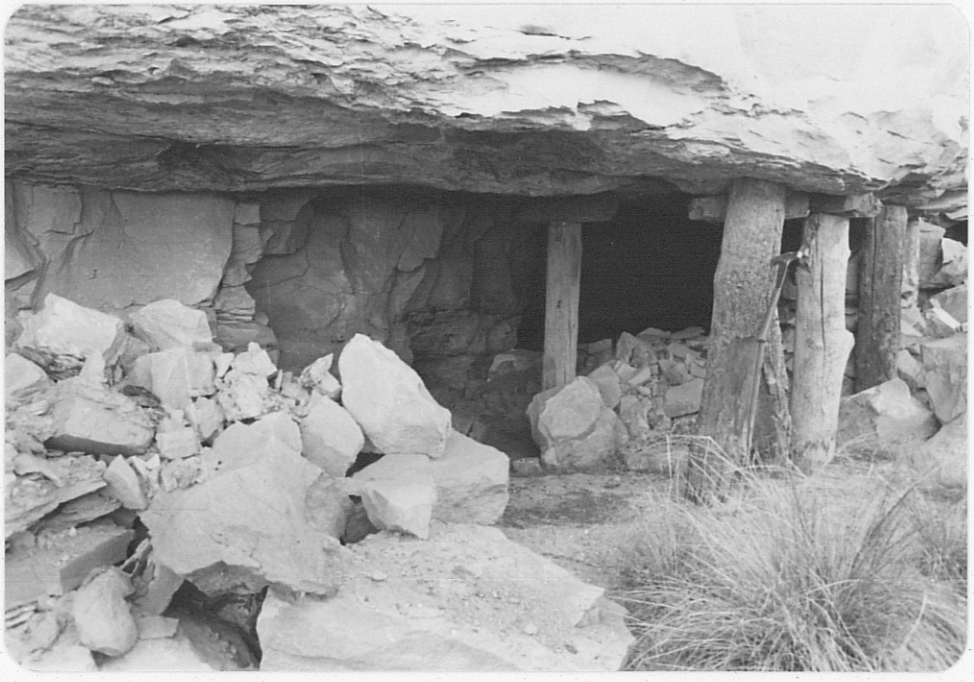

Photo (d) Looking west at small adit in lower left hand corner of photo (c) Rock pick in post for scale. Near the SE corner of VCA Plot #7.

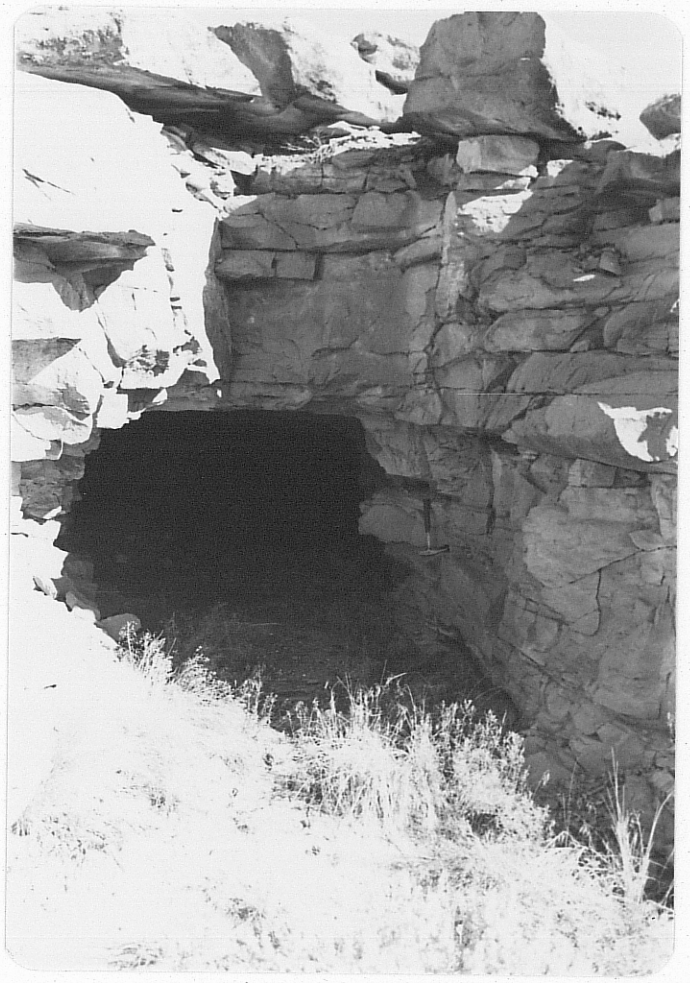

Photo (e) Looking east at small adit in right center of photo (c) near the SE corner of VCA Plot #7. Hammer on right wall for scale.

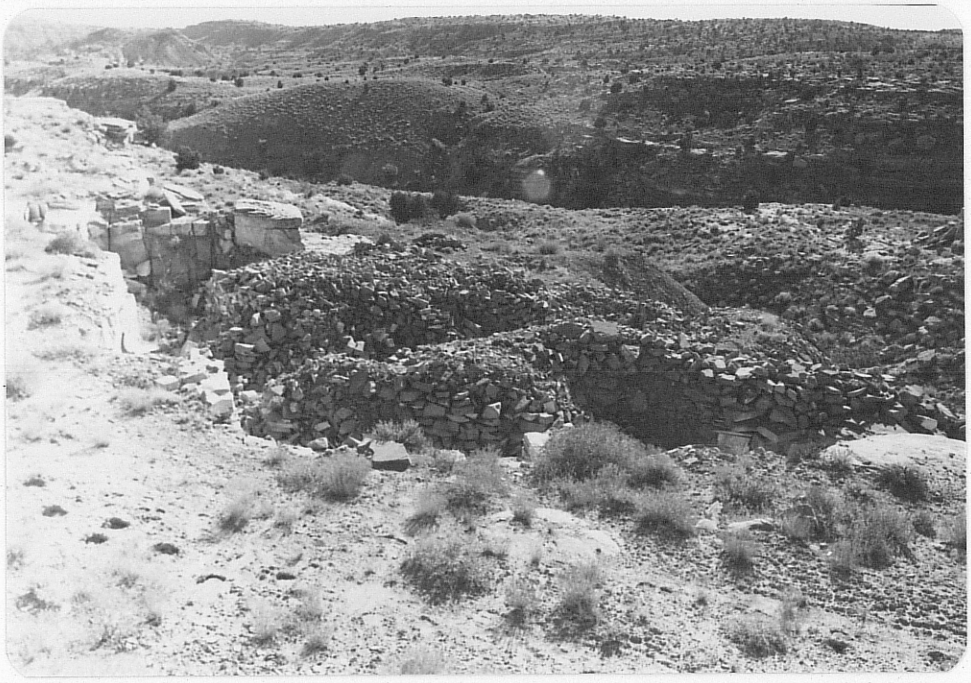

Photo (f) Looking SW at pit to the west of the workings in photo (c). Location is still in the S-SE corner of the VCA Plot #7. Note stacking of waste rock. Depth of trenching is 5' on left side of photo.



Photo (g) Looking east at workings in photo (f), near the SE corner of VCA Plot #7.

HOI SJ-48



Photo (h) VCA Plot #7, SE side looking W at a small prospecting trench 3' deep, 150' S of adit shown in photo (b); note hammer at upper left for scale.



Photo (i) VCA Plot #7, SE side, looking E at two stub adits (upper one partially concealed by tailings from open cut above); on east side of small N-S tributary to Oak Spring Wash. Adit at lower right is approx. 5' high, 6' W, 12' long; see also photo (j).



Photo (j) VCA Plot #7, SE side, looking N at typical terrain of southside plot #7; tributary to right of vehicle is one referred to in photo (i).



Photo (k) VCA Plot #7, SE side; looking east at tailings pile from rim cuts 300-400' south of photo (i) area. Workings are easily spotted by fan shaped dumps on moderate to steep slopes; note 3'-5' thick lenticular ss beds typical of Salt Wash member.

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Photo (L) VCA Plot #7, SE side, looking NE at dump in small re-entrant just visible at right center in photo (k). Dump is over 100' wide, 70' in downslope direction; note truck tire and axle for scale. Scintillometer readings at this site reached 2500 cps. See photo (m) for view from distance.



Photo (m) VCA Plot #7, SE side, looking E; arrow points to tailings dump shown in photo (L). Dumps visible to left correspond to those shown in photo (k).



Photo (n) VCA Plot #7, SE side; looking S toward King Tutt plug in middle distance; drill road on right, Beautiful Mountain in distance just to left of King Tutt plug.



Photo (o) VCA Plot #7, looking N; typical of small scale prospecting near central portion of plot; note hammer at right for scale.



Photo (p) VCA Plot #7, looking NE; typical of small surface prospecting near north central portion of plot #7, just south of access road that leads SE from Oak Spring.

Date Visited 11/1/79

Mine name(s) Franks Point (Plot 6) County San Juan

Section (Unsurveyed) Probably 14 Twnsh. 29 N R. 21 W

Quadrangle sheet Redrock Valley 15'

Mining district East Carrizo

Elevation 5700'

Nearest city and/or dwelling Oak Springs; 1 mi. NW

This nearly rectangular open cut in the NW¼ of projected Sec. 14 is shown in the panorama offered in the pair of photographs noted as photo (a). The cut is approx. 100' long in an E-W direction by 40' wide on the west end fanning out to 80'+ on the east end. The tailings dump lies beyond to the east (in the mid foreground on photos). Maximum dept of cut is in the NW corner (lower left on photos) where it reaches 10'. Scintillometer readings as high as 300 cps. were observed (5x background).

There are several additional small dozer cuts on the property, but none more than several feet deep. Access is by road that leads northward from King Tutt mesa toward the volcanic plug in the SW¼ of Sec. 11 which is very prominent locally. The same road continues on eastward to the Upper and Lower Salt Rock workings; Salt Rock tailings are visible in photo (a) above the prominent face at lower left where they appear as multiple conical piles.

The mine produced from the Salt Wash member of the Morrison formation. It was operated during the early 1950's and the minor production was included with East Reservation Lease figures. These production figures represent early production from at least 7 different sites so they have little meaning for one specific site; ore grade for all 7, however, reportedly averaged .22% U_3O_8.

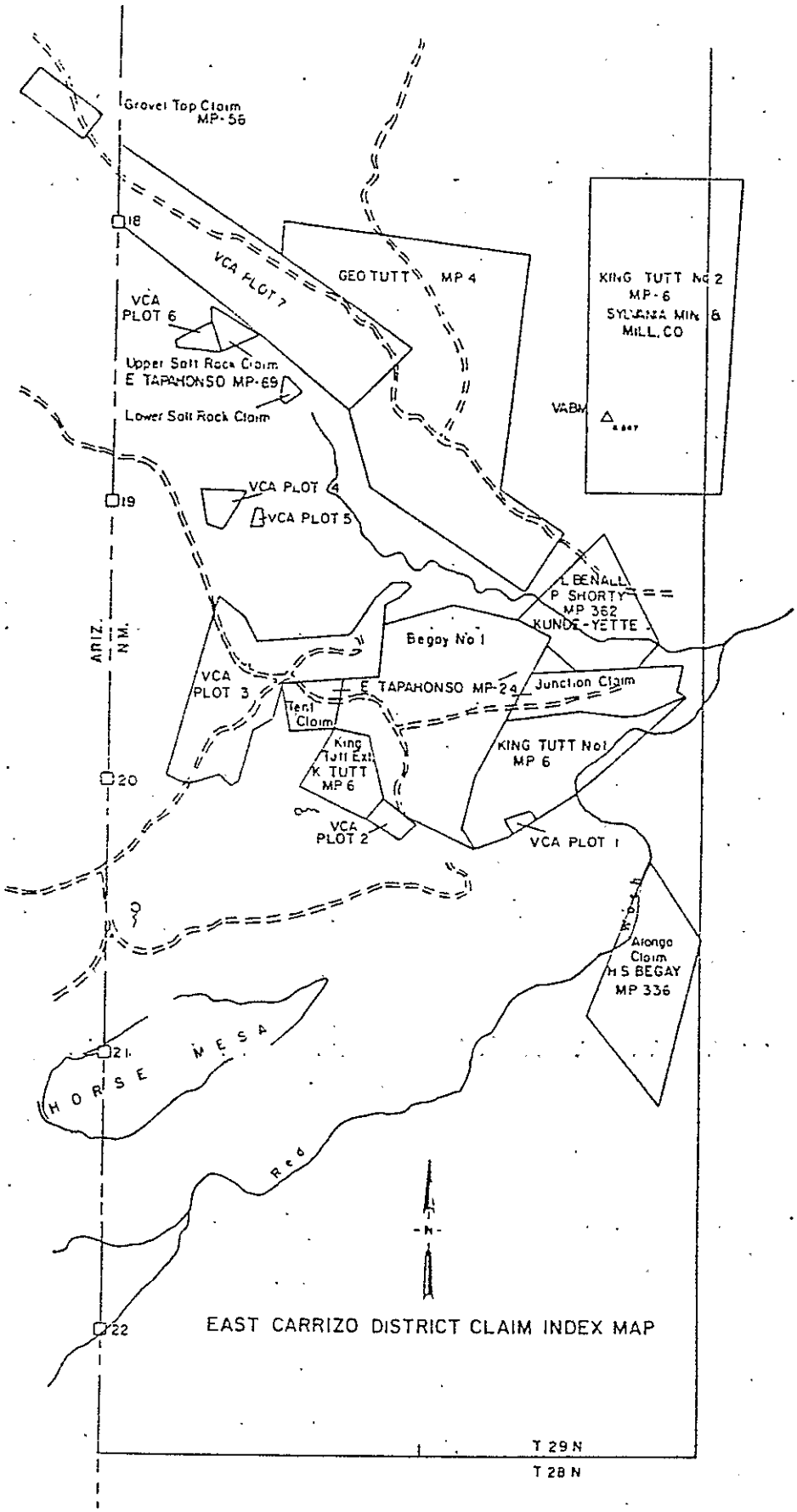
See claim index map, and note Plot 6 immediately SE of state line milepost marker #18 (claim map is attached).

References: (1) Chenoweth, W.L., 1980, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The Eastern Carrizo Mountains, San Juan County, New Mexico, U.S. DOE, TM-210.

(2) AEC-PED-1, 1969, Mine Operation Data Report; GJO/AEC, p. 153 (microfiche only).

(3) East Carrizo District Claim Index Map, 1953.

SJ 54


Gravel Top Claim
MP-56
18
VCA PLOT 7
GEO TUTT MP 4
KING TUTT No 2
MP-6
SYLVANA MIN &
MILL, CO
VCA
PLOT 6
Upper Salt Rock Claim
E TAPAHONSO MP-69
Lower Salt Rock Claim
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VCA PLOT 5
L BENALL
P SHORTY
MP 362
KUNDE-YETTE
ARIZ.
N.M.
Begay No 1
VCA
PLOT 3
E TAPAHONSO MP-24
Junction Claim
Tent
Claim
King
Tutt Ext.
K TUTT
MP 6
KING TUTT No1
MP 6
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VCA
PLOT 2
VCA PLOT 1
Arongo
Claim
H S BEGAY
MP 336
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HORSE MESA
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EAST CARRIZO DISTRICT CLAIM INDEX MAP
T 29 N
T 28 N

SJ-55

SJ-56

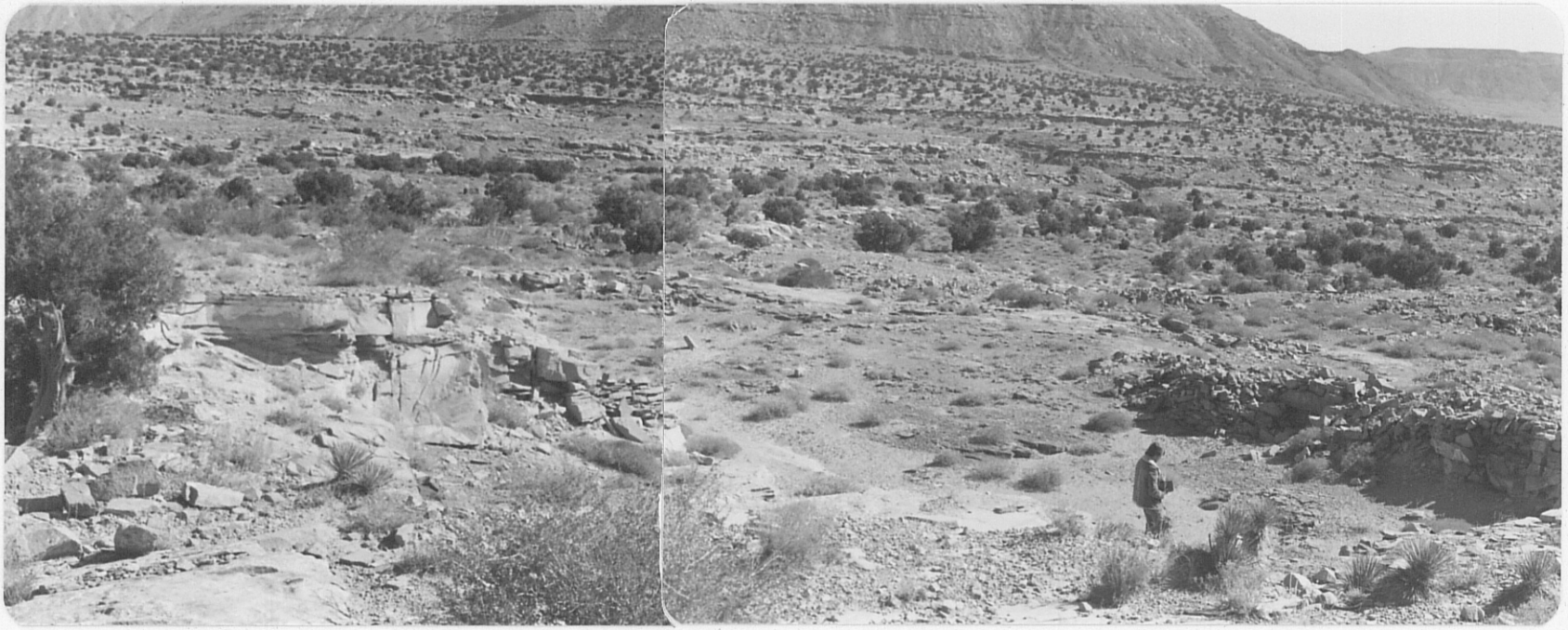


Photo (a) Looking generally east at Franks Point Mine; Oak Spring Wash in background.

Date Visited 11/1/79

Mine name(s) Lower Salt Rock County San Juan

Section (Unsurveyed) Probably 14 Twnsh. 29 N R. 21 W

Quadrangle sheet Redrock Valley 15'

Mining district East Carrizo

Elevation 5700'

Nearest city and/or dwelling Oak Spring, 1¼ mi. N.W.

The Lower Salt Rock Mine consists of relatively extensive surface workings in the N½ of Sec. 14 (projected). Numerous cuts and trenches explore the property the largest of which are shown in photos (a) & (b). The rectangular cut shown in (b) has a maximum N-S dimension of 110 ft. view here is to N NE. The trench shown in (a) is only 18' long. scintillometer readings of up to 500 cps. were obtained in (a) but average readings were somewhat less. Background readings appear to be in the 60-80 cps. range.

Photo (c) offers a view from the southern portion of the property looking south to show several small tailings piles, and the base of King Tutt plug .6 mi due south at upper left photo. Tailings pile in foreground is approx. 3½ high and was derived from cut shown in photo (b).

Access is by road that leads northward from King Tutt Mesa and VCA plot #3 through the W½ of Sec. 14 (Projected). From Lower Salt Rock one can look eastward toward VCA Plot #7 and perhaps some Salt Canyon workings.

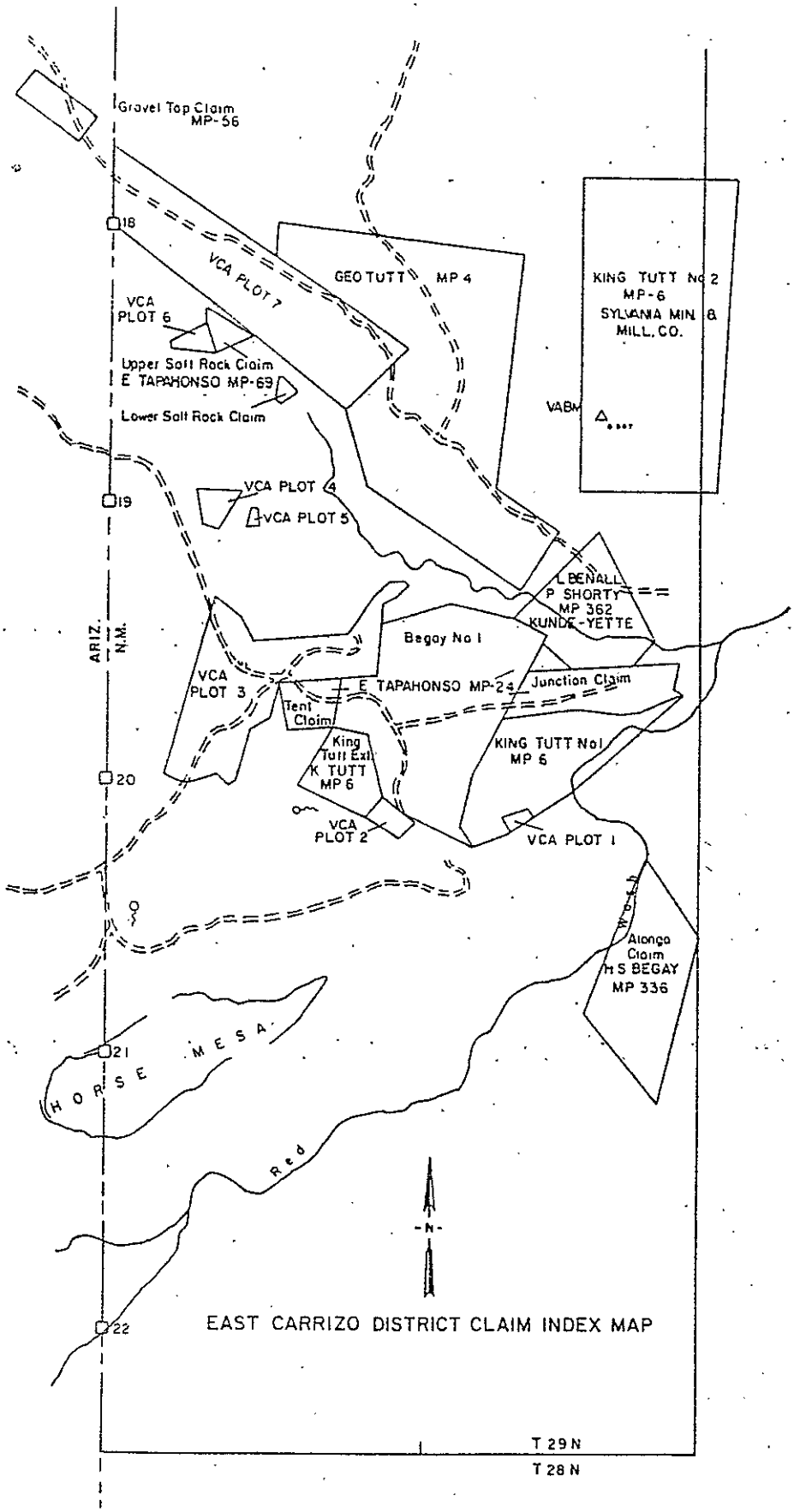
The mine was operated during the early 1050's and again during 1961-62 by Eugene Tapahonso. Production was reported with the Upper Salt Rock (see Upper Salt Rock report, and attached claim index map).

References: (1) Chenoweth, W.L., 1980, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The Eastern Carrizo Mountains, San Juan County New Mexico, U.S. DOE, TM-210.

(2) Coleman, A.H., 1944, A Report on The Geology and Ore Deposits of The Beclabito District, Carrizo Up Lift Area, Arizona; RMO-469.

(3) East Carrizo District Claim Index Map, 1953.

SJ-57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18
VCA PLOT 7
GEO TUTT MP 4
KING TUTT No 2 MP-6 SYLVANIA MIN & MILL. CO.
VCA PLOT 6
Upper Salt Rock Claim
E TAPAHONSO MP-69
Lower Salt Rock Claim
VABM
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VCA PLOT 4
VCA PLOT 5
L BENALL P SHORTY MP 362 KUNDE-YETTE
ARIZ. N.M.
Begay No 1
VCA PLOT 3
E TAPAHONSO MP-24
Junction Claim
Tent Claim
King Tutt Ext K TUTT MP 6
KING TUTT No1 MP 6
20
VCA PLOT 2
VCA PLOT 1
Alonzo Claim H S BEGAY MP 336
21
HORSE MESA
Red
-N-
22
EAST CARRIZO DISTRICT CLAIM INDEX MAP
T 29 N
T 28 N

SJ-53



Photo (a) Lower Salt Rock workings; looking E.



Photo (b) Lower Salt Rock workings; looking N NE.

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Photo (c) Lower Salt Rock workings; looking S.

Date Visited 11/1/79

Mine name(s) Upper Salt Rock County San Juan

Section ____ Twnsh. 29 N R. 21 W

Quadrangle sheet Redrock Valley 15'

Mining district East Carrizo

Elevation 5750'

Nearest city and/or dwelling Oak Springs; 1½ mi. N.W.

Upper Salt Rock Claim lies immediately south of VCA Plot #7 and between Franks Point and Lower Salt Rock (see claim index map). It consists of (1) small dozer cuts such as shown in photo (a); (2) a 25' long adit with a 4' x 6' opening at the bottom of a small box cut, photo (b); and (3) a vertical shaft with a collar dimension of 7' x 9'. Shaft is open down to 18'-20' deep-maybe caved or this may have been original depth. Shaft is not fenced in and is somewhat hazardous, see photo (c).

The dozer cut shown in the photo is 40' long, 3-4' deep and produced scintillometer responses up to 400 cps; little mineralization was noted.

Inside the adit scintillometer readings up to 1000 cps. were observed. A 100' long tailings pile, oriented E-W, outside the adit produced average scintillometer readings of about 400 cps.

Access is by road that leads northward from King Tutt Mesa and VCA Plot #3 through the W½ of Sec. 14 (projected).

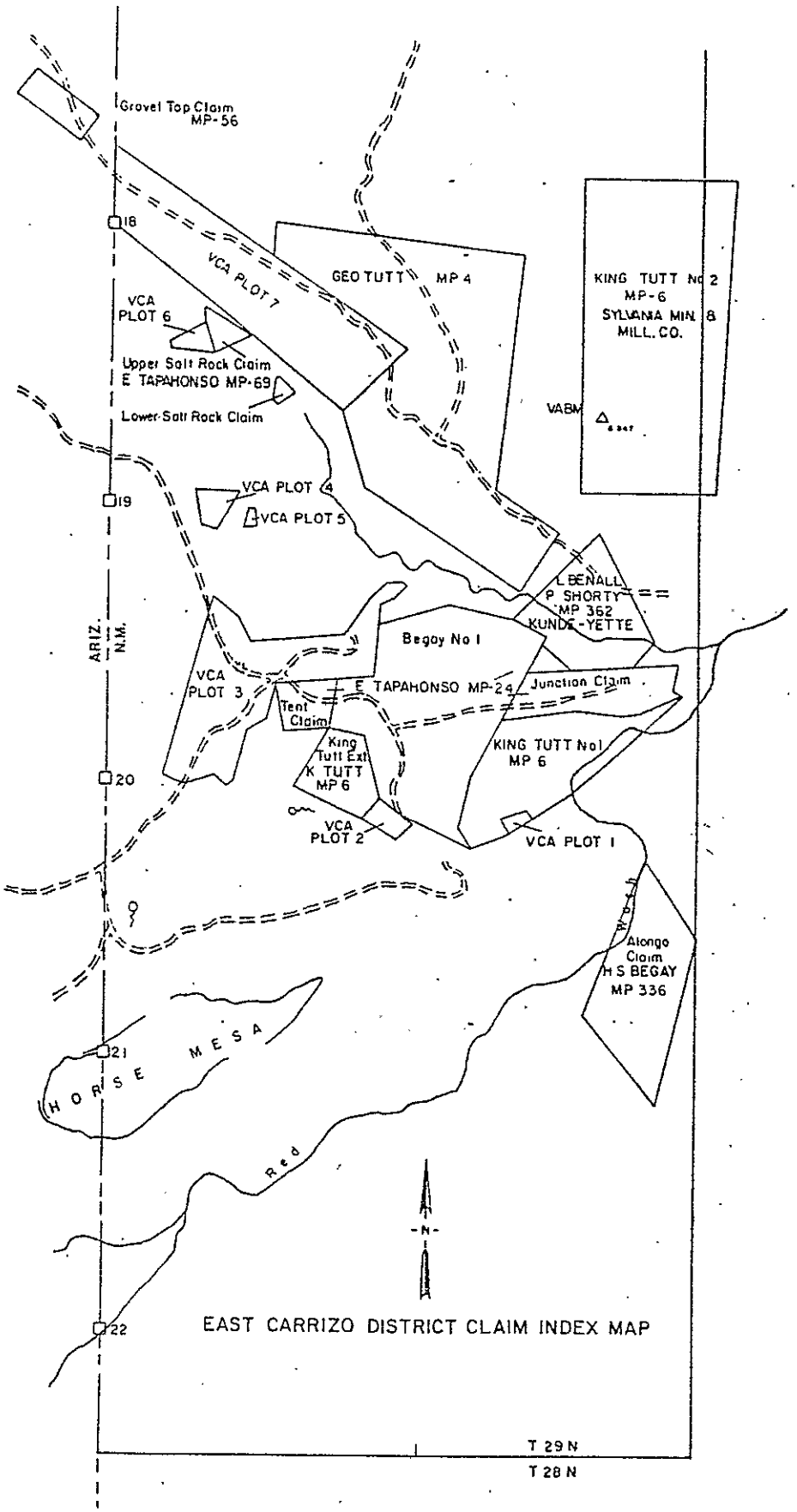
The workings are in the Salt Wash Member of the Morrison Formation and were active during the early 1950's and again during 1961-62. They were worked be Eugene Tapahonso; total production, which includes ore produced from the Lower Salt Rock mine, was 107 tons of ore which averaged .17% U_3O_8 and 4,122 lbs. V_2O_5; u:v ratio is about 1:8.

References: (1) Chenoweth, W.L., 1980, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The Eastern Carrizo Mountains, San Juan County, New Mexico, U.S. DOE, TM-210

(2) Coleman, A.H., 1944, A Report on The Geology and Ore Deposits of The Beclabito District, Carrizo Up Lift Area, Arizona; RMO-469.

(3) East Carrizo District Claim Index Map, 1953.

SJ-61


Gravel Top Claim
MP-56
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VCA PLOT 7
GEO TUTT MP 4
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SYLVANIA MIN &
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VABM
VCA PLOT 4
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VCA PLOT 5
L BENALL
P SHORTY
MP 362
KUNDE-YETTE
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VCA
PLOT 3
E TAPAHONSO MP-24
Junction Claim
Tent
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MP 6
KING TUTT No1
MP 6
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Claim
H S BEGAY
MP 336
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HORSE MESA
Red
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EAST CARRIZO DISTRICT CLAIM INDEX MAP
T 29 N
T 28 N

ST-62



Photo (a) Upper Salt Rock workings, looking N.



Photo (b) Upper Salt Rock workings; looking W into portal of 25' long adit.



Photo (c) Upper Salt Rock workings; looking NW with 7' x 9' shaft in foreground.

Date Visited 11/2/79

Mine name(s) Williams Point (Plot #4) County San Juan

Section (Unsurveyed) W½ Sec. 14 Twnsh. 29 N R. 21 W

Quadrangle sheet Redrock Valley 15'

Mining district East Carrizo

Elevation 5700'

Nearest city and/or dwelling Oak Springs; 1½ mi. N.W.

The Williams Point Mine is located on VCA Plot #4 which lies 1/2 mi. due east of state line mile post #19 (see claim index map). The mine consists of a 32' x 28' box cut up to 6' deep with several scattered small cuts and pits in the surrounding area. Photos (a) and (b) offer views of the box cut looking eastward into the abrupt drop off just east of the mine.

Photo (c) is a view of the hand stacked waste rock just east of the cut, and photo (d) is looking northward at the major portion of the tailings that extends 100' down slope east of the box cut.

Access is provided by a road leading northward from Plot #3 as is shown on the claim index map, it is still passable. The road continues northwestward from Plot #4, crosses the state line and intersects the Oak Spring-Redrock road 1.1 mi. south of Oak Spring.

Some yellow to greenish yellow uranium mineralizated was noted (carnotite/tyuyamunite) but occurrences are spotty; no high grade mineralization apparent. Host rock is the Salt Wash member of the Morrison fm.

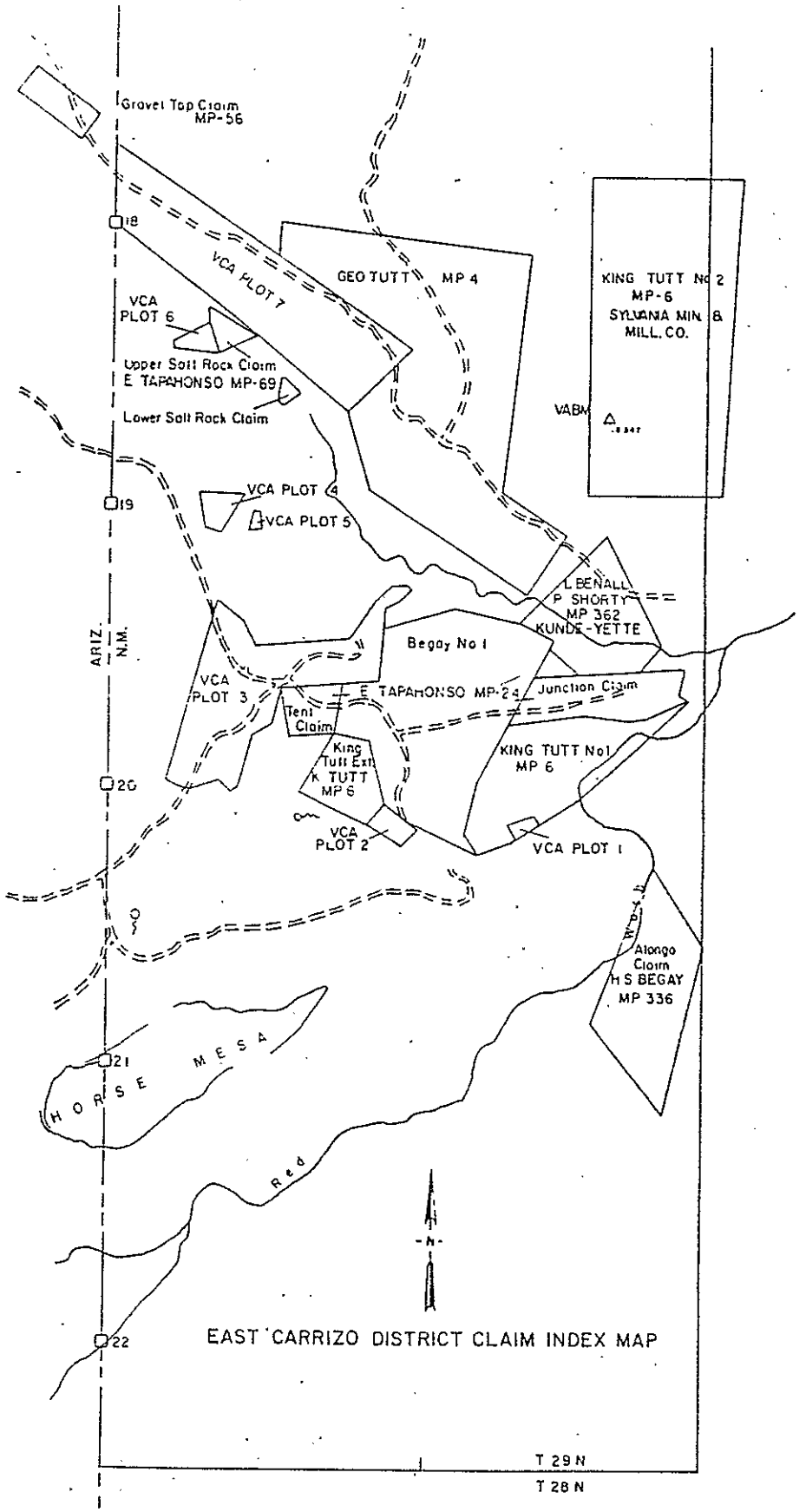
The mine was operated briefly during the early 1950's and the minor production was reported with the East Reservation lease production figures. Other deposits in the section exhibited U:V ratios of 1:6-1:9 with U_3O_8 grades of .18%-.27%.

References: (1) Chenoweth, W.L., 1980, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The Eastern Carrizo Mountains, San Juan County, New Mexico U.S. DOE, TM-210.

(2) Coleman, A.H., 1944, A Report on The Geology and Ore Deposits of The Beclabito District, Carrizo Up Lift Area, Arizona; RMO-469.

(3) East Carrizo District Claim Index Map, 1953.

SJ-64


Gravel Top Claim MP-56
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VCA PLOT 7
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VCA PLOT 6
Upper Salt Rock Claim E TAPAHONSO MP-69
Lower Salt Rock Claim
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VCA PLOT 5
L BENALL P SHORTY MP 362 KUNDE-YETTE
ARIZ. N.M.
Begay No 1
VCA PLOT 3
E TAPAHONSO MP-24
Junction Claim
Tent Claim
King Tutt Ext K TUTT MP 6
KING TUTT No1 MP 6
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VCA PLOT 2
VCA PLOT 1
Atongo Claim H S BEGAY MP 336
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HORSE MESA
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EAST CARRIZO DISTRICT CLAIM INDEX MAP
T 29 N
T 28 N

SJ-66



Photo (a) Williams Point mine; looking east at small box cut.

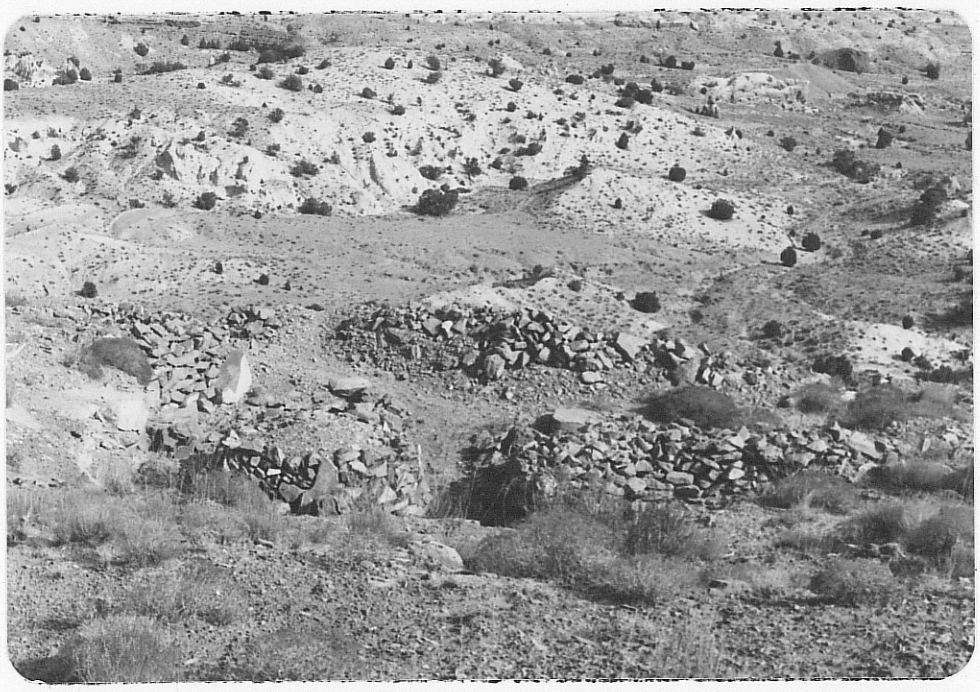


Photo (b) Williams Point mine; looking east; small trench in foreground up to 6' deep.



Photo (c) Williams Point mine; looking N at "stacked" waste rock characteristic of hand labor operations.



Photo (d) Williams Point mine; looking N at main tailings dump extending down slope from box cut.

Date Visited 10/24/79 & 11/1/79

Mine name(s) Salt Canyon Mines (Salt Canyon Claim) County San Juan

Section (Unsurveyed) Twnsh. 29 N R. 21 W

Quadrangle sheet Red Rock Valley 15'

Mining district East Carrizo

Elevation 5700'

Nearest city and/or dwelling Oak Springs, 1½ mi. NW

The Salt Canyon Mines consist of many small adits located along the sandstone rim on the northeast side of Salt Canyon. The claim map, page 7, indicated by cross hatching the area of the Salt Canyon Mines in the George Tutt MP-4 plot. Some of the workings may extend southeastward as far as the L. Benall and Paul Shorty MP-362. This is quite possible in view of the complex history of the Salt Canyon claims spelled out in a 1960 U.S. Government office memorandum; which is included as an addendum to this report, p. 2. It should be noted that the first paragraph of this memorandum, reference is made to a Paul Shorty having interest in the Salt Canyon claims.

A problem does exist, however, in determining exactly when and where the Salt Canyon workings end and Plot 7 begins. The following photographs all carry their own descriptions and are thought to represent Salt Canyon workings.

The workings are in the Salt Wash member of the Morrison formation. They were operated periodically between 1950-1955, initially by Shorty and Tutt and later by Kennedy and McGee. A total of 93 tons of ore averaging .18% U_3O_8 were produced. The ore contained 331 lbs. U_3O_8 and 4,473 lbs. V_2O_5. u:v ratio is about 1:9 in these deposits.

References: (1) Chenoweth, W.L., 1980, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The Eastern Carrizo Mountains, San Juan County, New Mexico, U.S. DOE, TM-210.

(2) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uran. Res. of NW New Mex.; USGS pp. 603, p. 51.

(3) East Carrizo District Claim Index Map, 1953.

SJ-69

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : November 24th Files

DATE: November 10, 1960

W. D. Tipton

FROM : W. D. Tipton, Geological Engineer
Grants Branch, PED

SUBJECT: FIELD EXAMINATION OF THE SALT CANYON CLAIM, MP #320, (C-729, SECTIONS 11, 12,13 & 14, T29N, R21W, NMPM, EAST CARRIZO, SHIPROCK DISTRICT) SAN JUAN COUNTY, NEW MEXICO (NAVAJO INDIAN RESERVATION)

PGR:WDT

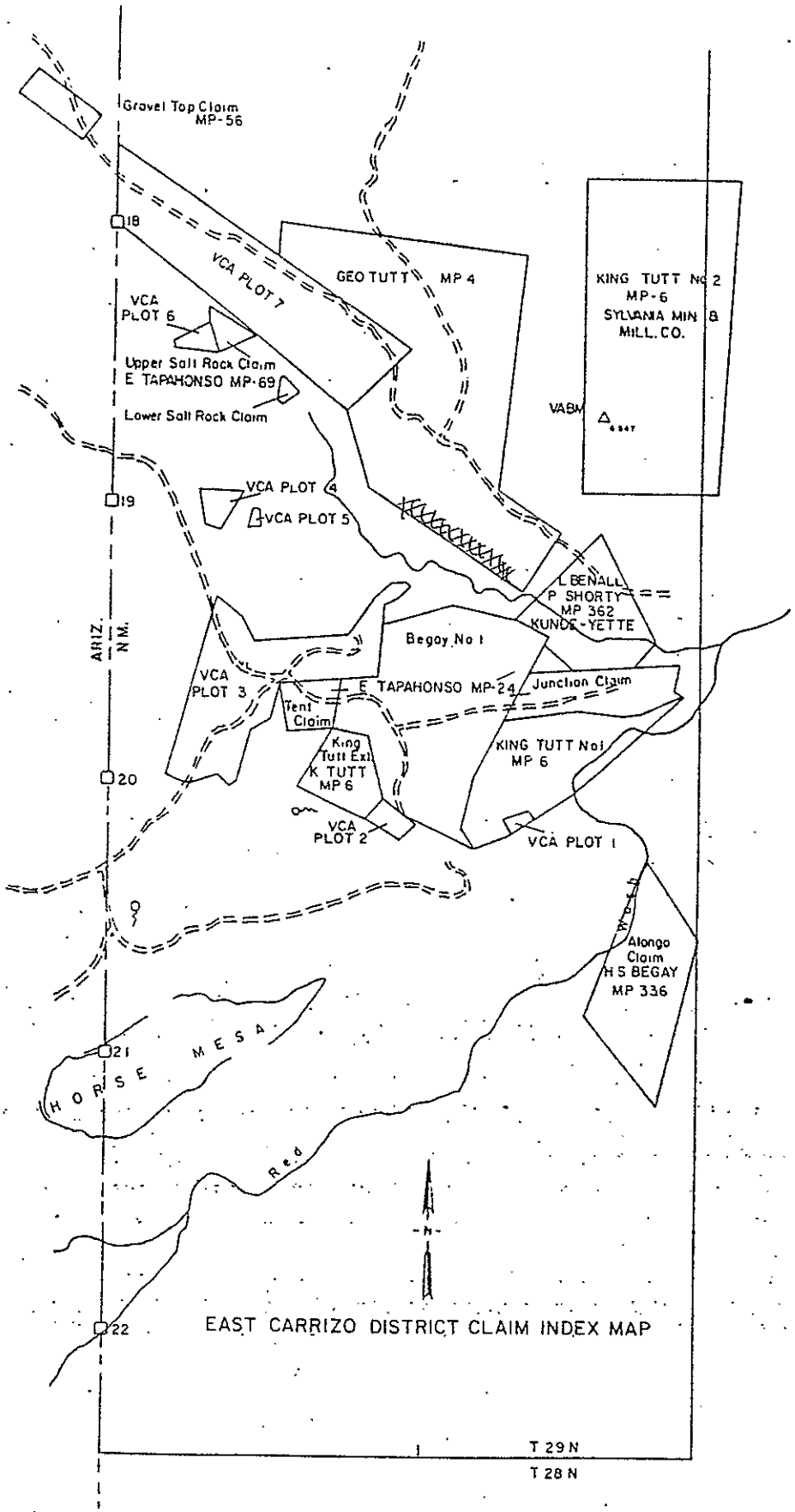
The Salt Canyon Claim was first held by Tony Garnanez (Indian) under MP #1. Garnanez relinquished his interest to King Tutt (Indian) and Paul Shorty (Indian) 2/16/53. MP #74 was issued to King Tutt and Paul Shorty 3/10/53 since other tracts held by Tony Garnanez were included in MP #1. This tract was assigned to Kennedy and McGee Mining Co., 6/9/53. Paul Shorty relinquished his interest in the Salt Canyon claim 3/2/55, then King Tutt applied for a new permit on 3/10/55 upon expiration of the old MP #74. A new permit #320, revised to conform to the legal survey, was issued to King Tutt. The ground covered by MP #320 is essentially the same tract that was included in MP #74, but it is only a part of the tract of MP #1.

There is no uranium ore reserve declaration for the Salt Canyon Claim and Kennedy and McGee stated they have relinquished it to the Navajo Tribal Council.

On July 16, 1960 W. D. Tipton traced the boundaries of the Salt Canyon claim.

On August 26, 1960 W. D. Tipton and W. D. Grundy examined the Salt Canyon claim to evaluate 11/24/58 and current reserves. The mine workings were examined with a differential face scanner. A thin mineralized band 0.3' to 0.5' thick of uranium-vanadium minerals is exposed in the workings. An occasional small patch of ore grade material is in sight but no where is there sufficient ore grade material to constitute an ore reserve.

The mine workings are located along the Salt Wash rim on the northeast side of Salt Canyon. These workings consist of: (1) a rim cut with two northeastward trending shallow adits (15'); (2) a shallow adit (± 20') about 200 feet eastward from the rim cut and an adit with ± 150' of underground development.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18
VCA PLOT 7
GEO TUTT MP 4
KING TUTT No 2 MP-6 SYLVANIA MIN & MILL. CO.
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ARIZ. N.M.
Begoy No 1
VCA PLOT 3
E TAPAHONSO MP-24
Junction Claim
Tent Claim
King Tutt Ext K TUTT MP 6
KING TUTT No1 MP 6
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VCA PLOT 2
VCA PLOT 1
Alongo Claim H S BEGAY MP 336
21
HORSE MESA
Red
N
22
EAST CARRIZO DISTRICT CLAIM INDEX MAP
T 29 N
T 28 N



Photo (a) Looking NE with two small tailings piler showing (arrows); near south/southeast edge of claim.

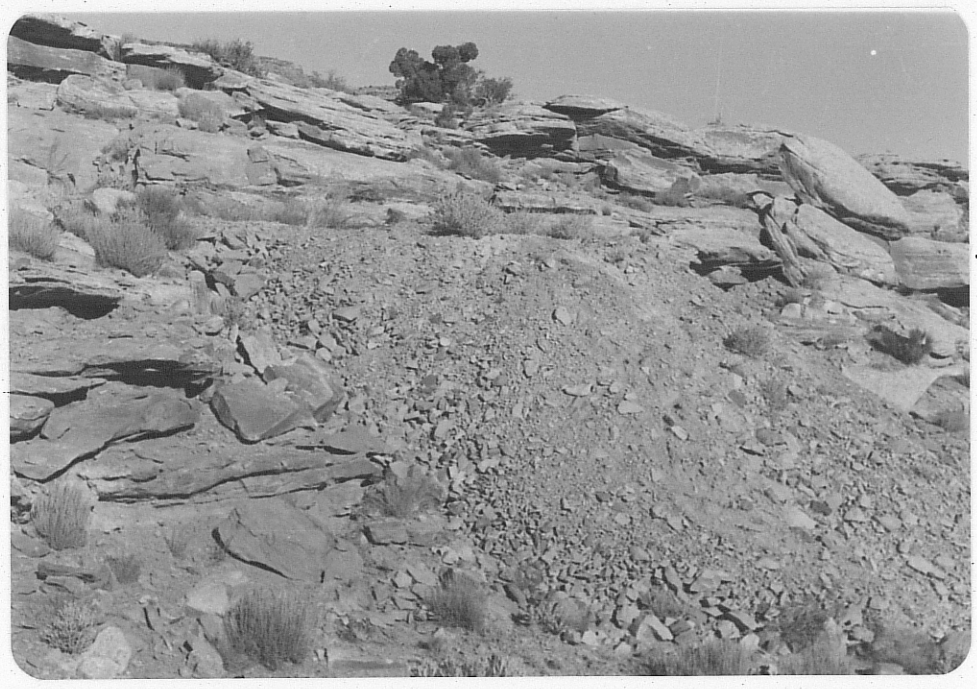

Photo (b) Close-up of dump shown on left in photo a.

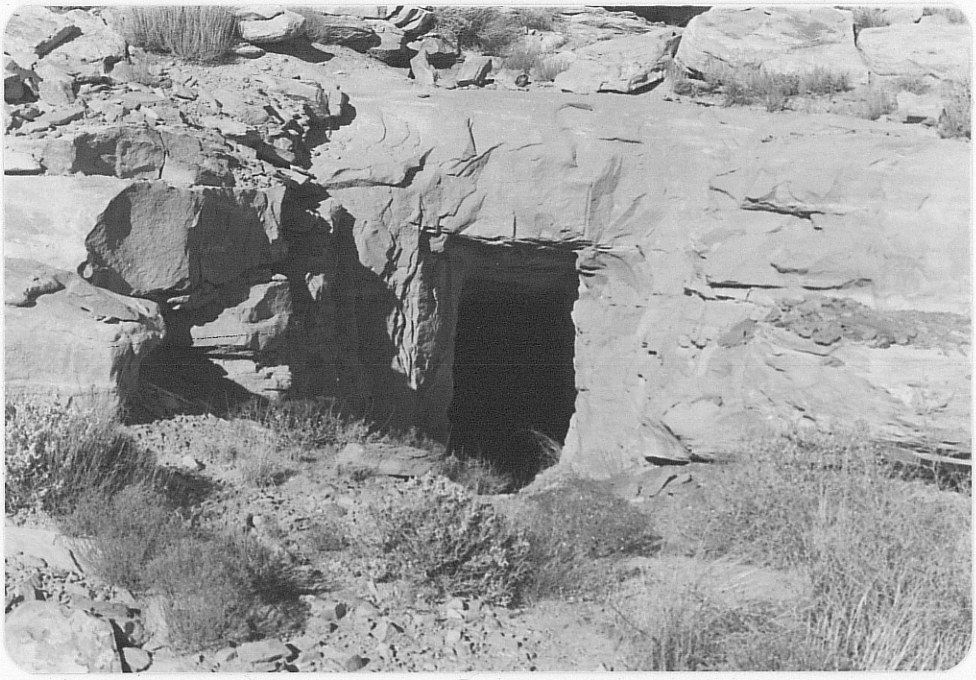

Photo (c) Close-up of north trending adit from which waste dump shown in photo b was produced; portal is approx. 6'x 3', adit is at least 50 long. Scintillometer readings averaged 100 cps (or 2x background).

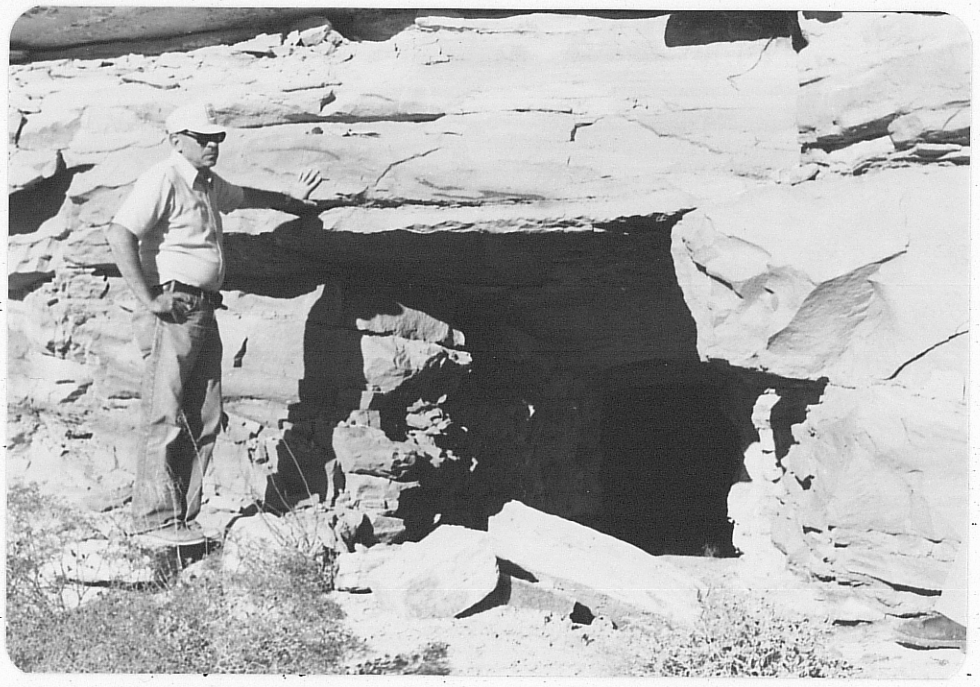

Photo (d) Northeastward trending adit several hundred feet east of adit in (c). Portal is 5'x 5' and workings extend back at least 40'. Maximum scintillometer reading in adit = 1000 cps.



Photo (e) Easternmost owrkings of Salt Canyon claims; looking NW toward adit opening which is behind the person at right center.



Photo (f) Close-up of adit shown in photo e; opening is 6' high, 8' wide and 10' long; heading nearly due north; maximum scintillometer readings of 1700 cps were obtained. Locale is near southeast corner of claim.

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Photo (g) Minor workings near NW corner of Salt Canyon claims. Pit is approx. 6' long and 3' deep; no mineralization noted. Locale is near the boundary with VCA Plot #7, and more than ½ mile N NW of adit and tailings piles shown in photo a.

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Date Visited 11/2/79

Mine name(s) VCA Plot #3 County San Juan

Section (Unsurveyed) Sec. 23 Twnsh. 29 N R. 21 W

Quadrangle sheet Redrock Valley 15'

Mining district East Carrizo

Elevation 5,600'

Nearest city and/or dwelling Oak Springs, 2½ mi. NW

VCA Plot #3 is one of the larger and most extensively worked of the mining plots in the east Carrizo area (see claim index map). Access to the area is provided by dirt road leading eastward from the Oak Spring-Redrock Road and entering plot #3 just east of state line mile-post marker #20.

Workings on the plot include the Sunnyside, the Lookout Point, the Shadyside (and Shadyside incline), the Nelson Point, and an extensively prospected area near the southwestern end of the plot. All of these constitute from the Salt Wash member of the Morrison fm.

The Sunnyside and Lookout Point workings have a combined production run of 2,556 tons or ore* which averaged .32% U_3O_8 and 2.82% V_2O_5, which contained 16,327 lbs. U_3O_8 and 144,337 lbs. V_2O_5. They were operated from 1950-1954 and again in 1956 and 1959. The Lookout Point incline produced 506 tons of ore* averaging .27% U_3O_8 and 2.81% V_2O_5, containing 2,713 lbs. and 28,485 lbs. respectively. It was operated only during 1960 and 1966.

The Shadyside workings provided 80 tons of ore* averaging .35% U_3O_8 and 3.76% V_2O_5 plus 1,728 tons averaging .26% and 3.14% respectively. Total U_3O_8 contained was just over 15,000 lbs. It was operated rather continuously from 1950-56 and again in 1964, 1965, and 1966.

The Nelson Point Mine produced 2,684 tons or ore* averaging .25% U_3O_8 and 3.94% V_2O_5, which contained 13,334 lbs. and 211,347 lbs. respectively. The U:V ratio of 1:11 is somewhat lower here than for surrounding deposits. The mine was active from 1950-58, during 1961, and from 1965-67, according to the most recent tabulation of AEC production data. However, AEC-PED-1 (Production Evaluation Division), 1959, stated that initial production was in 1952 from a 5' x 5', 100' long adit. The production through 1958 totaled 2,447 tons or ore averaging .26% U_3O_8. This means that only several hundred tons of ore were produced in the later years. The report also indicates the mine was shipped by truck 142 miles to a mill in Durango. Colorado.

The Nelson Point Mine and all the other workings on VCA Plot #3 were found during the present investigation are shown pictorially and described on the following pages. The Nelson Point is shown in photo

turn

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(L). Unfortunately it is the only plot #3 mine discussed in AEC-PED-1, p. 151.

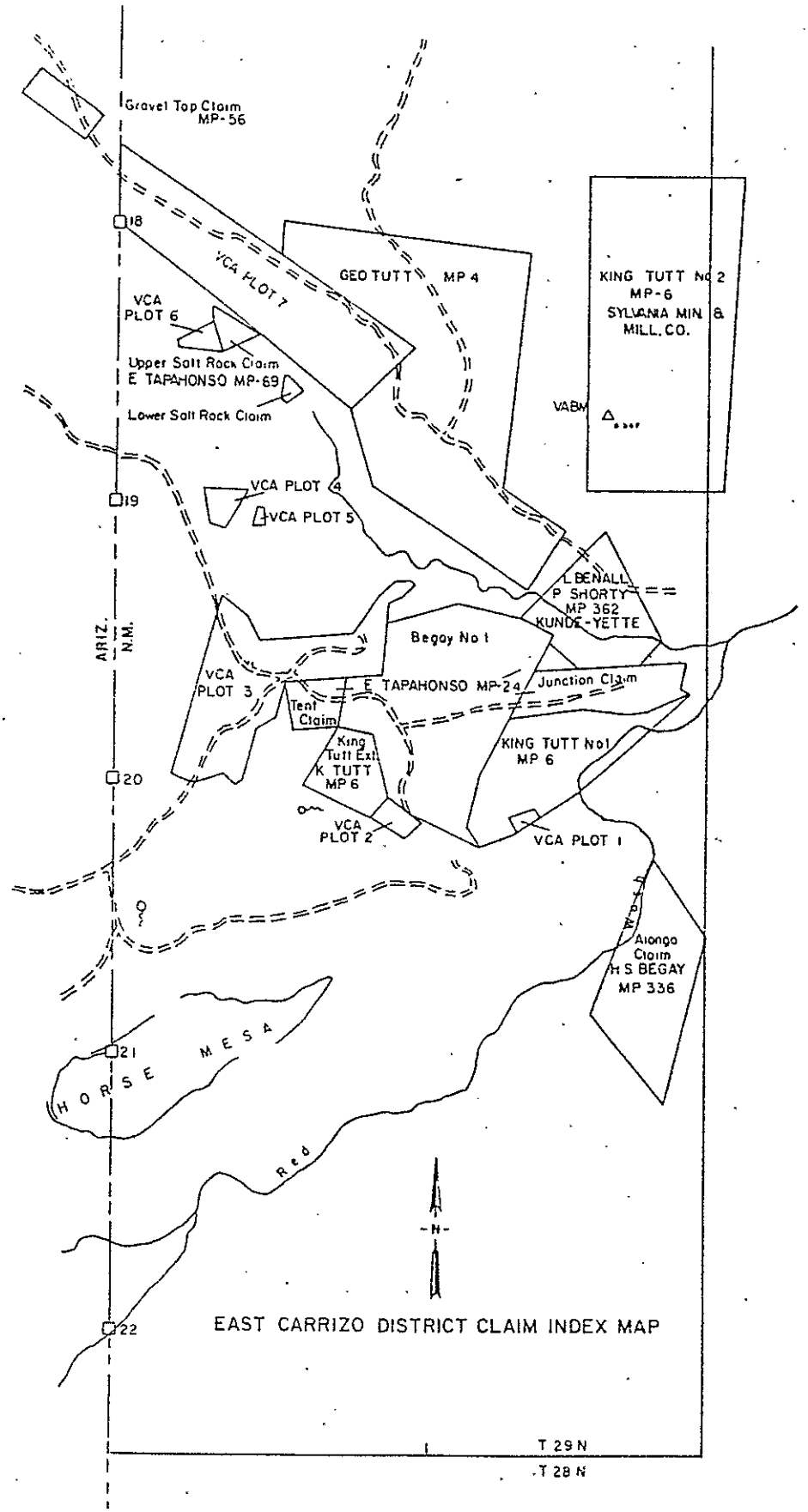
References: (1) AEC-PED-1, 1959, Mine Operation Data Report, p. 151.
(2) Chenoweth, W.L., 1980, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The Eastern Carrizo Mountains, San Juan County, New Mexico, U.S. DOE, TM-210.

(3) Corey, A.S., 1958, Petrography of the Uranium-Vanadium Ores of the Nelson Point Mine, San Juan County, New Mexico; U.S.A.E.C., RME-122.

(4) East Carrizo District Claim Index Map, 1953.

(5) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uranium Resources of NW New Mexico, U.S.G.S., pp. 603, p. 51.

* Some early production, 1942-1944 and perhaps 1948-50, was included in East Reservation Lease production figures.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MP-56
18
VCA PLOT 7
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KING TUTT No 2
MP-6
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MILL. CO.
VCA
PLOT 6
Upper Salt Rock Claim
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P SHORTY
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KUNDE-YETTE
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E TAPAHONSO MP-24
Junction Claim
Tent
Claim
King
Tutt Ext.
K TUTT
MP 6
KING TUTT No1
MP 6
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VCA
PLOT 2
VCA PLOT 1
Alonga
Claim
H S BEGAY
MP 336
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EAST CARRIZO DISTRICT CLAIM INDEX MAP
T 29 N
T 28 N

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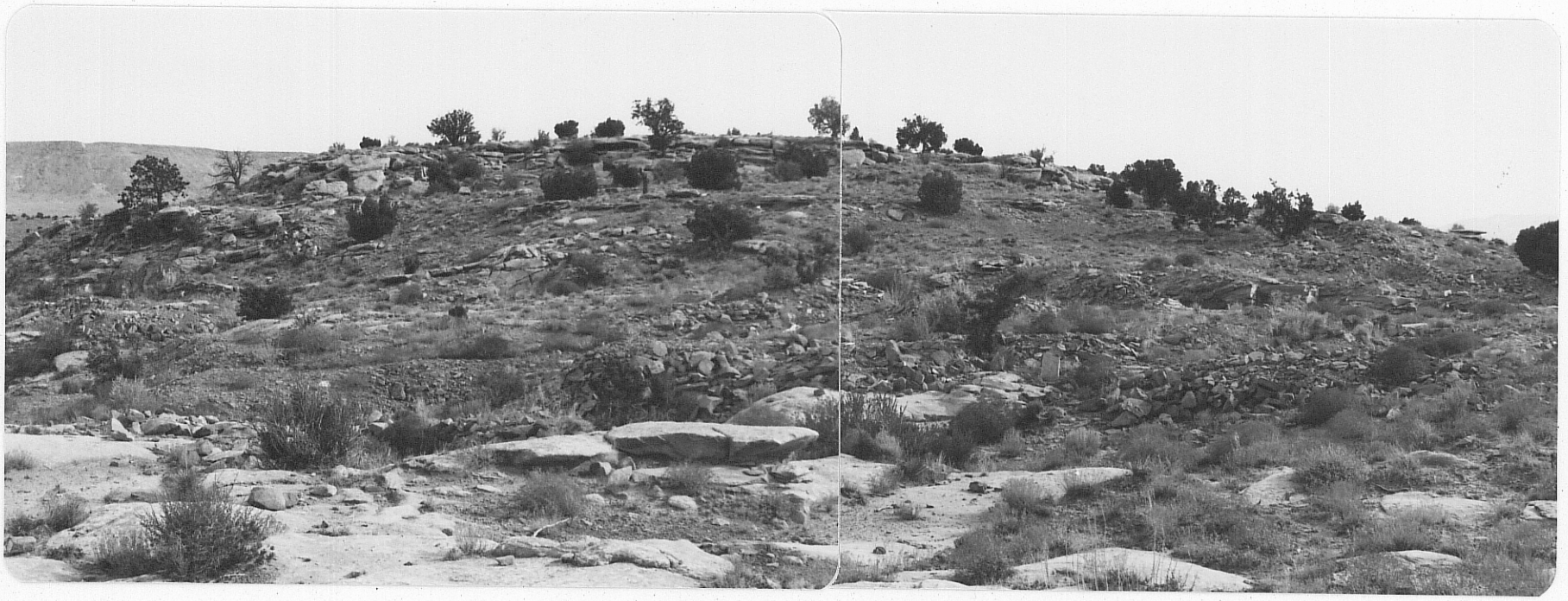

Photo (a) Lookout Point, viewed from NW side. Note numerous small disturbances indicated by circles. Small open pits generally 10' to 20' in length. Close ups offered in the following photographs.



Photo (b) Lookout Point workings, typical size; note hammer at right for scale.



Photo (c) Lookout Point workings; gophering resulted in a 4' high, 6' wide, 6' long "decline". Note hammer for scale (circled).



Photo (d) Lookout Point decline, viewed from west; entrance cut is 10' wide and 25' long; entrance caved to extent man cannot enter.



Photo (e) Lookout Point decline, tailings dump; 140' long, averaging 12' wide. Cable at right side of dump in foreground is 1¼" diam.

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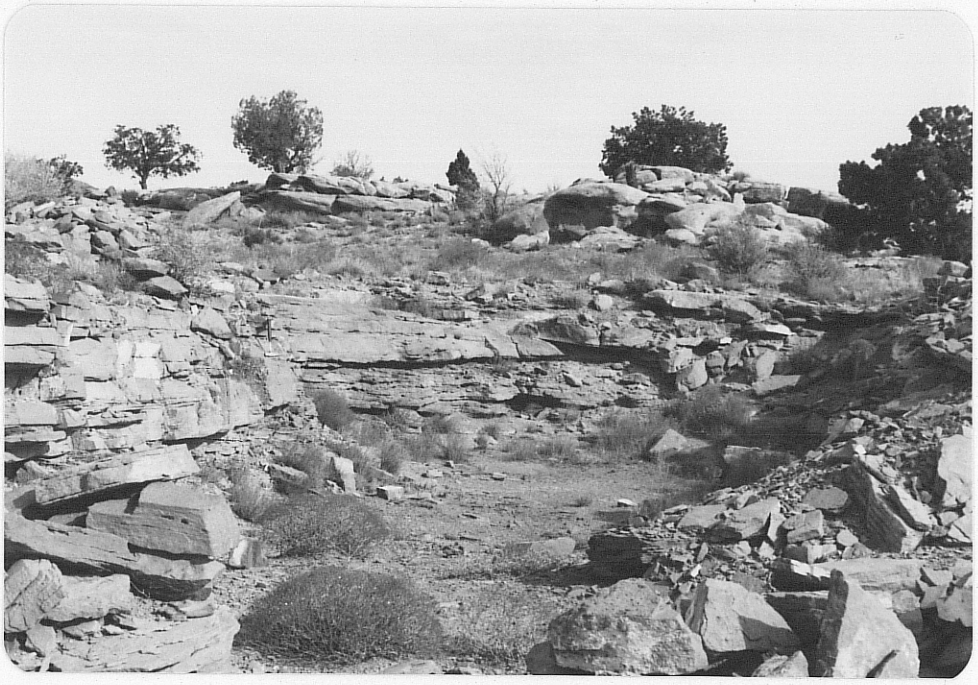

Photo (f) Lookout Point workings; looking east into one of few cuts longer than 20'; note hammer for scale (circled).



Photo (g) Sunnyside adit visible just to right of center; looking south at northern end of Lookout Point. Other mine dumps of Sunnyside workings identified by circles at left; close ups of these workings are shown in photos immediately following.

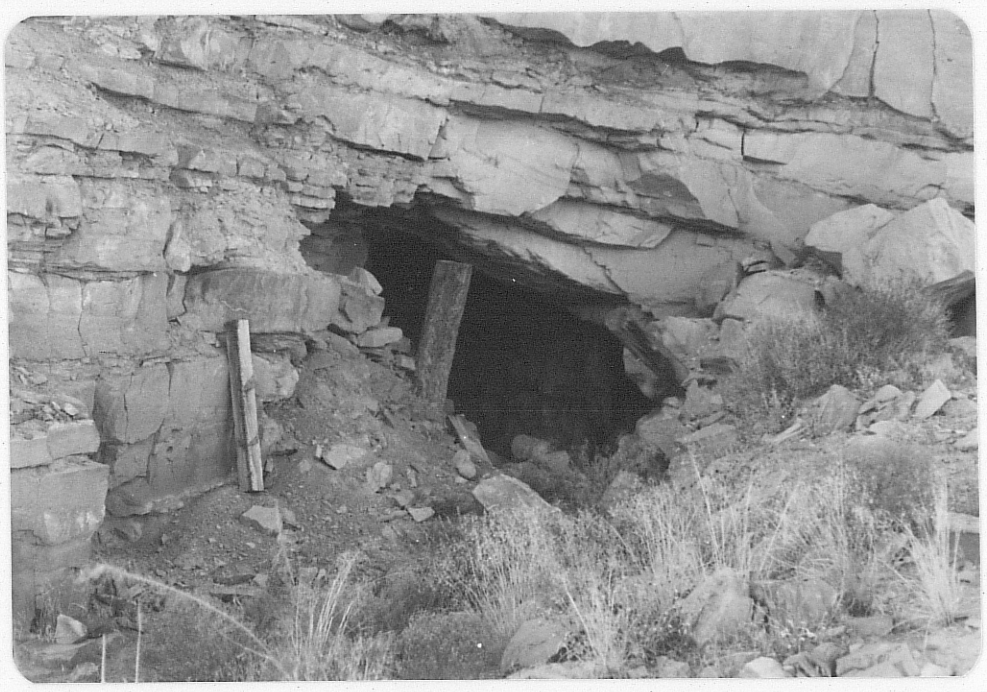

Photo (h) Sunnyside adit, looking west. Portal is 6' x 10', timber is 3' long. Workings split 8' into mine; yellow to greenish yellow uranium minerals very apparent as encrustation on adit walls. Note thin mudstone lenses.

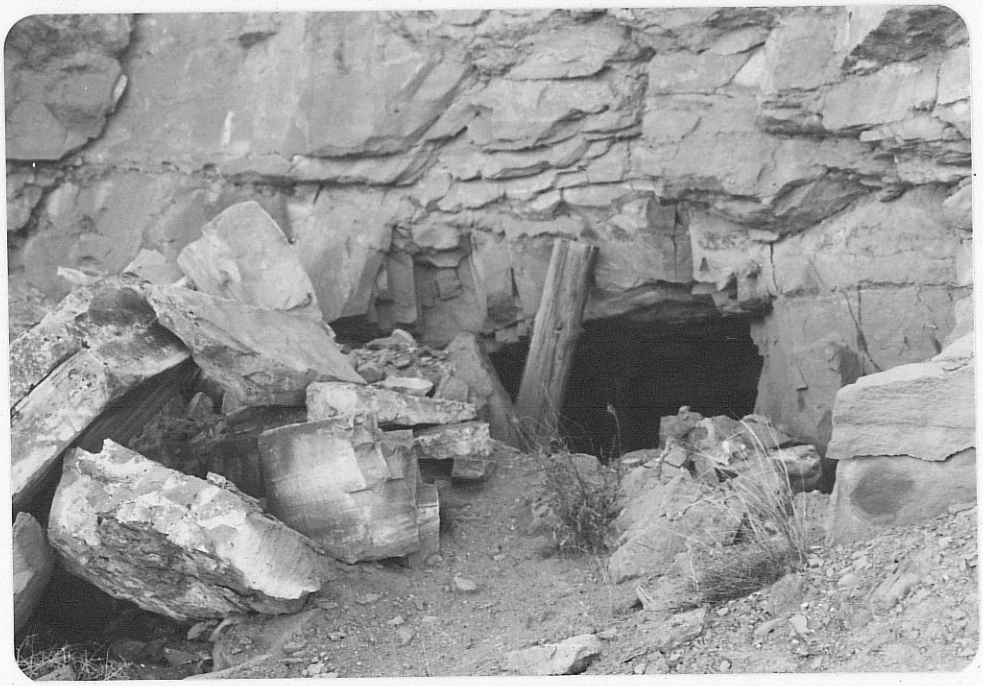

Photo (i) Sunnyside adit, approx. 100' south of photo (h). Portal 5' high, 6' wide, is partially caved; timber is 10" in diameter. Uranium minerals are apparent as encrustation on adit walls, but to lesser extent than others in area.

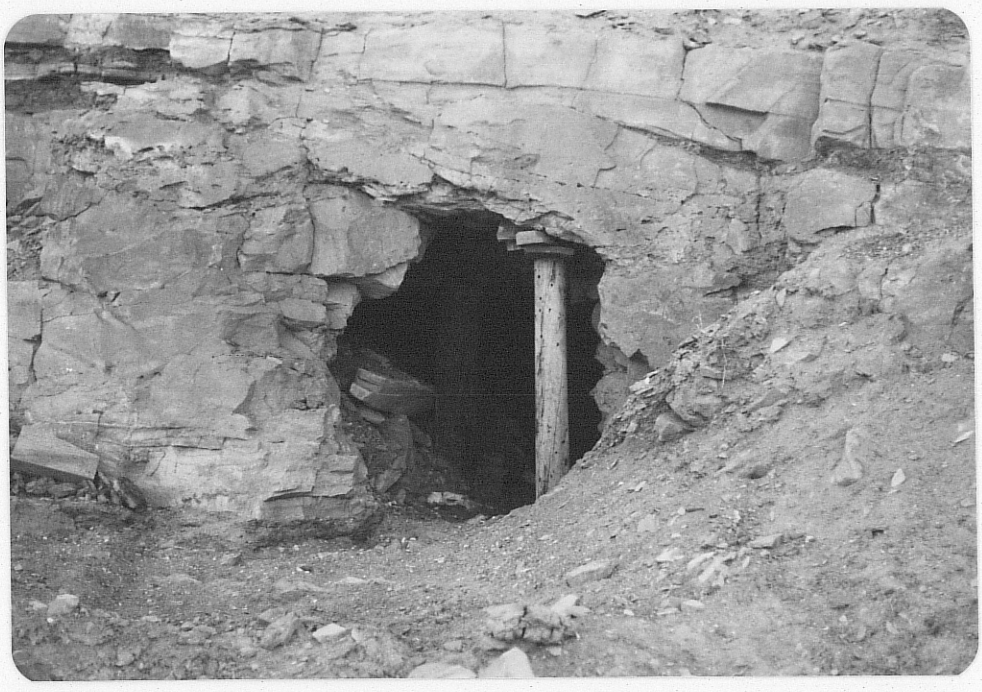

Photo (j) Sunnyside adit about 50' south of photo (i), looking west; portal is 6' high, 5' wide, adit about 60' long. Is crudely timbered and is used occassionally for picnics and cookouts. Uranium mineralization is very apparent as yellow encrustation on adits walls. Scintillometer readings up to and in excess of 6000 cps were recorded in the mine, face counts range somewhat higher.

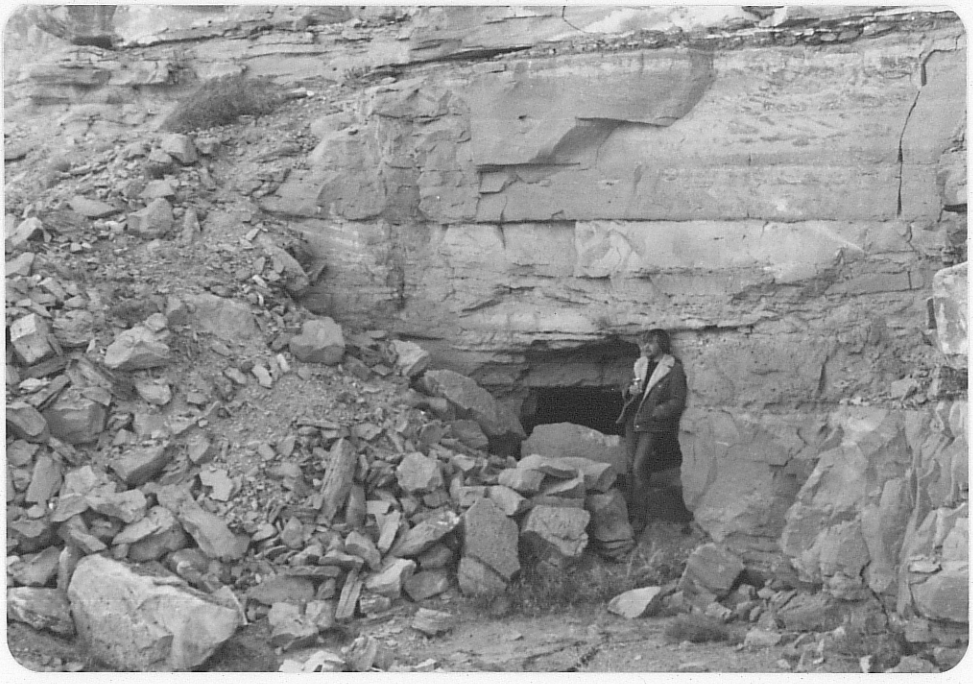

Photo (k) Last (or southernmost) in the Sunnyside adit series, about 100' south of photo (j); looking west. Portal, partially blocked by rock slide, is about 5½' high, 7' wide, adit is at least 40' long. Uranium mineralization is apparent as patchy, yellow encrustation on adit walls. Scintillometer readings up to 2,500 cps were recorded.



Photo (L) Looking SE at Nelson Point dump and collapsed adit; note person in foreground near hand stacked waste rock. Adit was 100' long (AEC-PED-1).

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Photo (m) Panorama looking west at Nelson Point dump and load out facility. Note man on the left side of the photo near the timbering for scale.



Photo (n) Looking west at Shadyside #2 Dump. Sunnyside is located across Canyon; note truck (circled) for scale.



Photo (o) Looking east at face cut on Shadyside #2 workings.



Photo (p) Looking NW at surface workings in the Shadyside 1. Note Sunnyside (circled on left of photo), and stacking of waste rock.



Photo (q) Looking SE at Shadyside 1 incline. Gloves in foreground for scale (circled).

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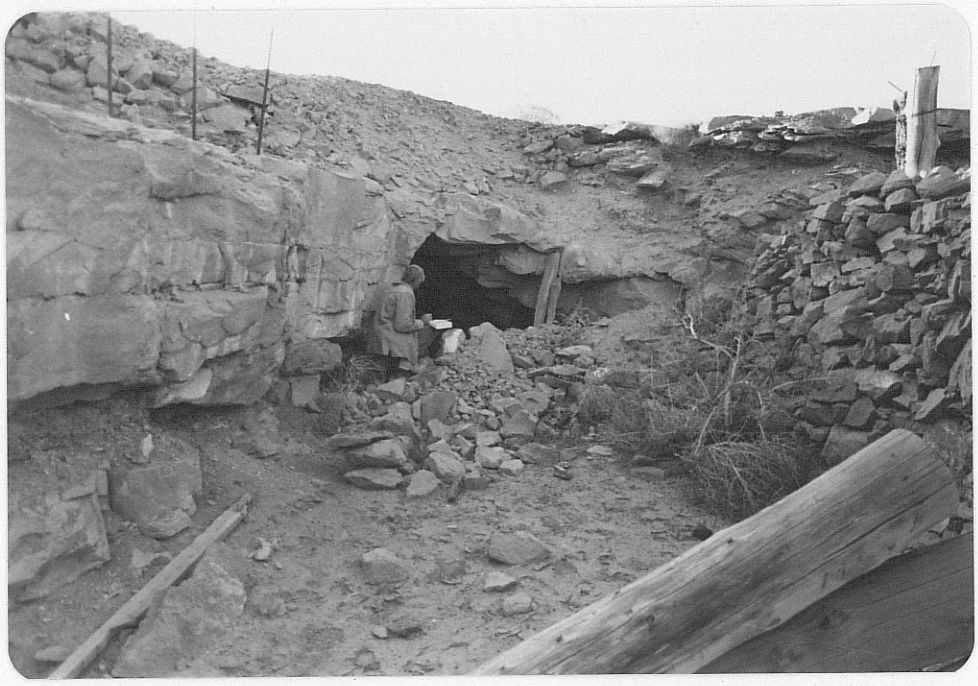

Photo (r) Looking NE at small incline on the southern portion of the VCA Plot #3 workings.



Photo (s) Typical surface disturbance on the southern part of the VCA Plot #3.

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Photo (t) Looking NW at small pit in the far southwestern end of VCA Plot #3.

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Date Visited 11/2/79

Mine name(s) Tent (Tent Claim) County San Juan

Section (Unsurveyed) Sec. 23 Twnsh. 29 N R. 21 W

Quadrangle sheet Redrock Valley 15'

Mining district East Carrizo

Elevation 5600'

Nearest city and/or dwelling Oak Spring, 2½ mi. NW

The Tent Claim borders VCA Plot #3 on the south side (see claim map). It is accessible via the same dirt road leading eastward from the Oak Spring-Redrock road that provides access to VCA Plot #3.

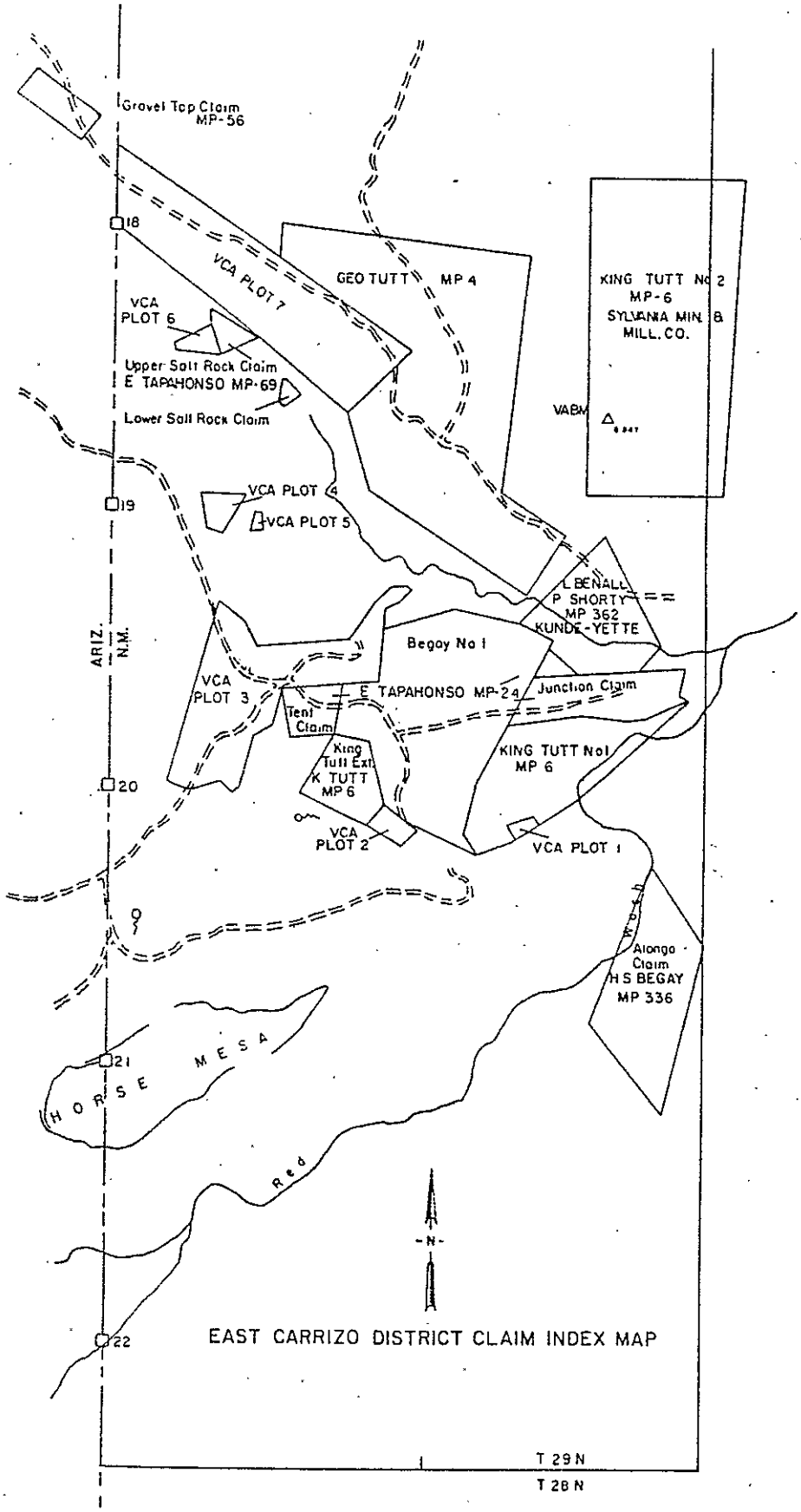
The workings on the Tent consist of an adit driven northward at the end of 120' long open cut (see photo a). The cut is immediately northeast of the Nelson Point Mine and the dumps from the two mines are indistinguishable. The portal of the Tent adit has silted in somewhat and present dimensions are about 3' x 7' (see photo b). Adit is driven in Salt Wash member of the Morrison fm. and is at least 70' long. It was worked from 1955 to 1957 and again in 1963. Total ore production was listed as 1,198 tons containing 5,303 lbs. U_3O_8 at an average grade of .22% and 54,156 lbs. of V_2O_5 at an average grade of 2.26%. U:V ratio was about 1:7 (Hilpert, 1969).

Little evidence of uranium mineralization was noted during the present investigation.

References: (1) Chenoweth, w.L., 1980, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The Eastern Carrizo Mountains, San Juan County, New Mexico, U.S. DOE, TM-210.

(2) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uranium Resources of NW New Mex., U.S.G.S. Prof. Paper 603, p. 51.

(3) East Carrizo District Claim Index Map, 1953.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VCA PLOT 7
GEO TUTT MP 4
KING TUTT No 2 MP-6 SYLVANIA MIN & MILL. CO.
VCA PLOT 6
Upper Salt Rock Claim E TAPAHONSO MP-69
Lower Salt Rock Claim
VABM
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VCA PLOT 4
VCA PLOT 5
L BENALL P SHORTY MP 362 KUNDE-YETTE
ARIZ. N.M.
Begay No 1
VCA PLOT 3
E TAPAHONSO MP-24
Junction Claim
Tent Claim
King Tutt Ext K TUTT MP 6
KING TUTT No1 MP 6
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VCA PLOT 1
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EAST CARRIZO DISTRICT CLAIM INDEX MAP
T 29 N
T 28 N

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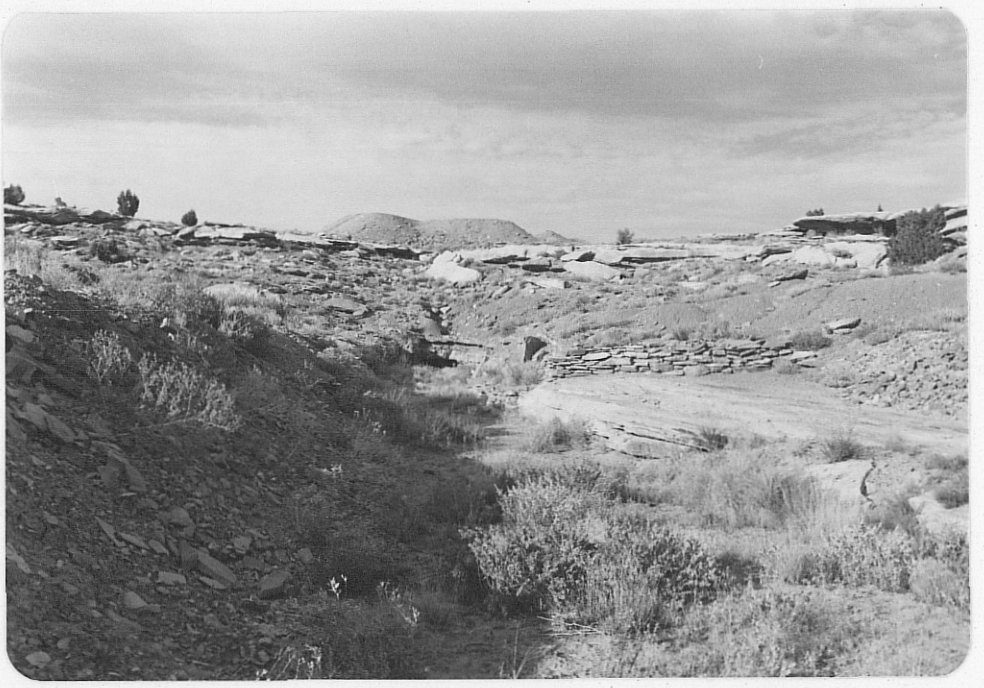

Photo (a) Tent Mine, looking N along 12' wide, 120' long, entrance cut.

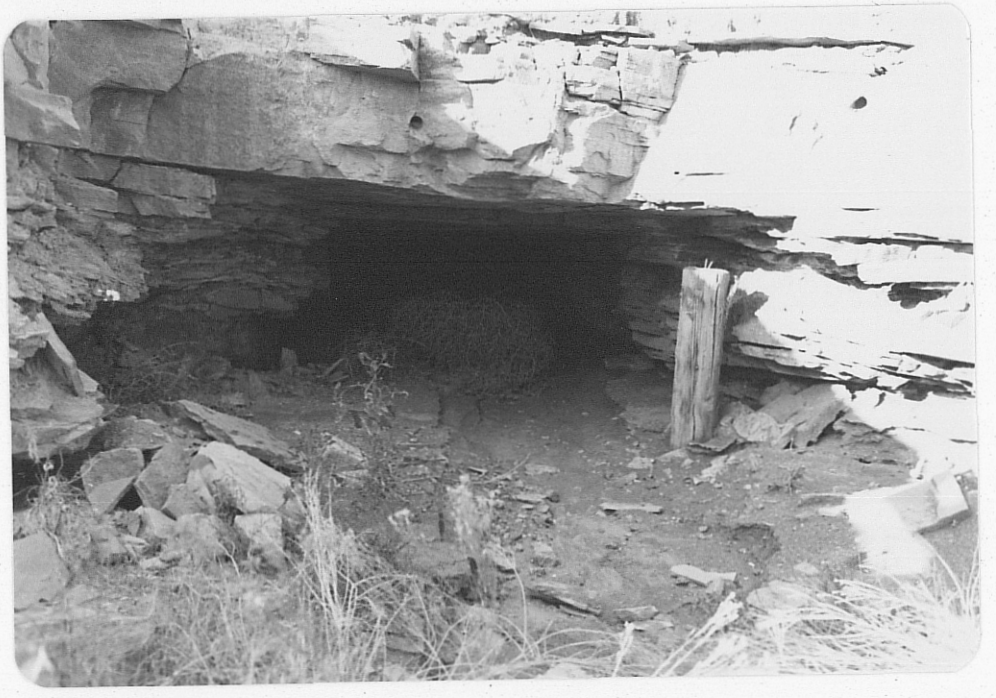

Photo (b) Tent Mine; portal is presently only 3' high by 7' wide.

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Date Visited 11/2/79

Mine name(s) Begay Incline County San Juan

Section (Unsurveyed) NE¼ 24 Twnsh. 29 N R. 21 W

Quadrangle sheet Redrock Valley 15'

Mining district East Carrizo

Elevation 5550'

Nearest city and/or dwelling 2 mi. SE of Oak Springs

The Begay Incline is located on an ENE trending ridge at the confluence of Red and Oak Spring Washes. Access is via dirt road eastward from the Oak Spring/Red Rock road. The dirt road runs ENE towards Red Wash Point, between Horse Mesa and the state line mile marker number 20 (see claim map for roads and location).

Workings consist of a single incline. The entrance is partially caved and untimbered (Photo a). The opening at the surface is 20' x 35', with the internal dimensions of the decline being 6' wide, 8 feet high, and at least 60' deep (Photo b). The decline has a slope of approximately 12 degrees. Directly south of the decline is the dump (Photo c). It is 20' wide, 45' long, and 10' high.

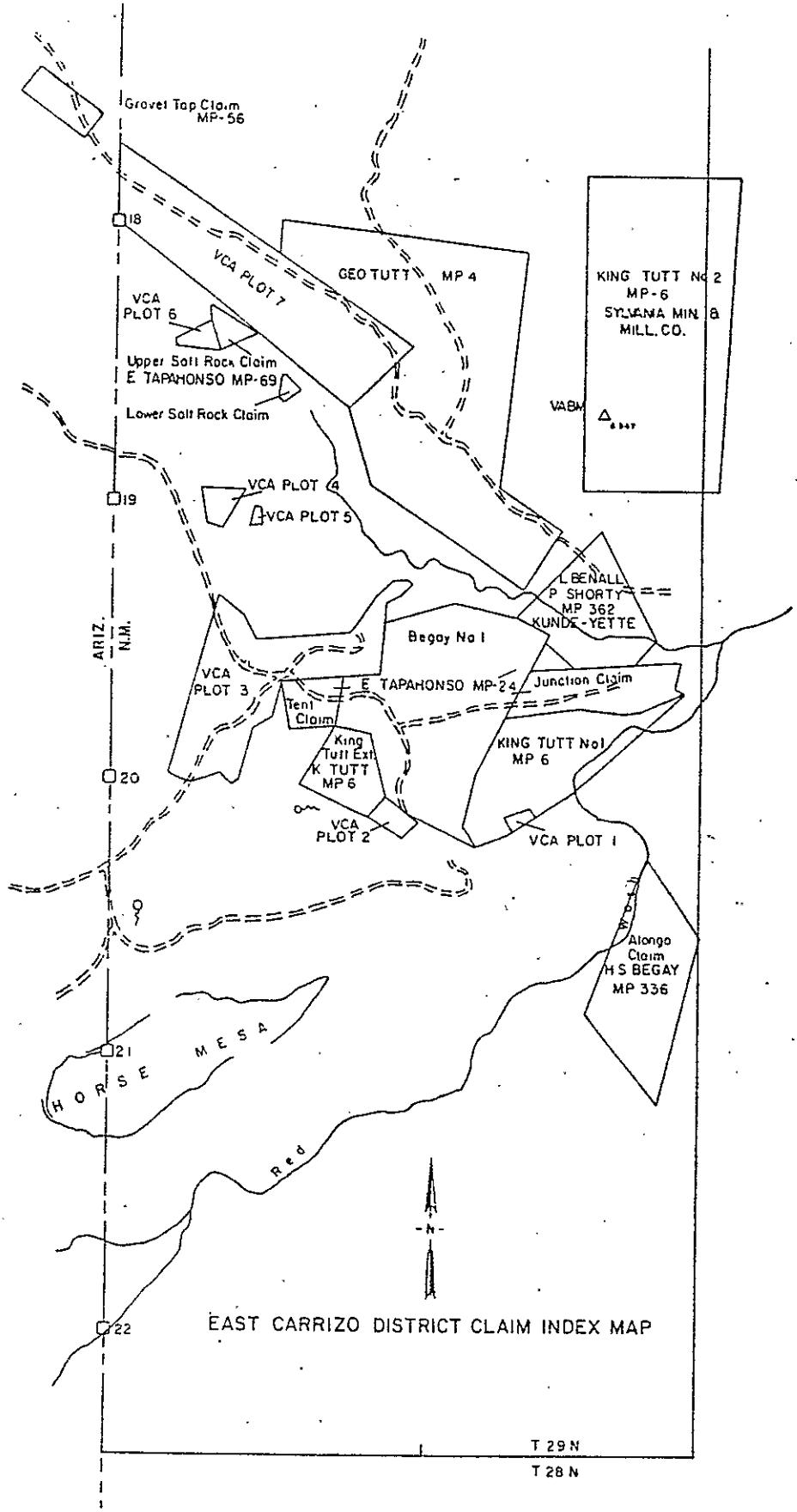
The workings are driven into the Salt Wash Member of the Morrison Formation. No uranium minerals were visible, and scintillometer readings were relatively low. Maximum readings of 200 cps were found 50' into the decline, and 300 cps. were recorded on the dump.

The Begay Incline was operated by the Texas Mining Company in 1955 and 1956. A total of 655 tons of ore was mined, containing 3,475 pounds of U_3O_8 at an average grade of .27%, and 38,215 pounds of V_2O_5, at an average grade of 2.92% (AEC prod. records).

References: (1) Chenoweth, W.L., 1980, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The Eastern Carrizo Mountains, San Juan County, New Mexico, U.S. DOE, TM-210.

(2) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uranium Resources of NW New Mexico, U.S.G.S., pp. 603, p. 52.

(3) East Carrizo District Claim Index Map, 1953.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KING TUTT No 2
MP-6
SYLVANA MIN &
MILL. CO.
VABM
VCA
PLOT 6
Upper Salt Rock Claim
E TAPAHONSO MP-69
Lower Salt Rock Claim
VCA PLOT 4
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VCA PLOT 5
L BENALL
P SHORTY
MP 362
KUNDE-YETTE
ARIZ.
N.M.
Begay No 1
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Junction Claim
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EAST CARRIZO DISTRICT CLAIM INDEX MAP
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T 28 N

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Photo A - looking north at entrance to Begay Incline. Note hammer on wooden post in foreground for scale.

Photo B - closeup of Begay Incline. Note hammer in foreground for scale.

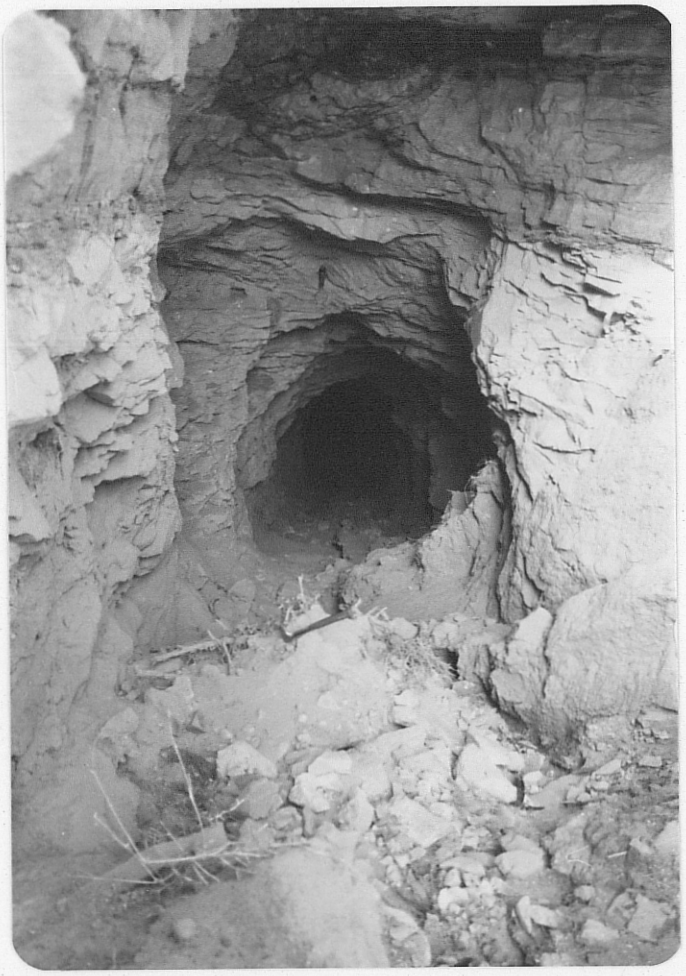

Photo C - looking south at Begay Incline dump. Small stump (circled) on top of dump is 1 foot long.



Date Visited 11/2/79

Mine name(s) Begay #2 County San Juan

Section NE¼ 23 (Unsurveyed) Twnsh. 29 N R. 21 W

Quadrangle sheet Redrock Valley 15'

Mining district East Carrizo

Elevation 5650'

Nearest city and/or dwelling Oak Springs is located 2 mi. to the NW

The workings may be reached by a dirt road trending E NE from the Oak Spring/Red Rock road (see claim map for location and roads).

Workings at the Begay #2 consist of one adit or decline, and small bulldozer cuts and pits. The entrance to the adit (Photo a), is collapsed. A small pit (20' wide x 50' long x 15' deep) leads to the adit entrance. The pit runs north-south, with the adit located in the southern end. A circular dump (60' diameter), and several small bulldozer cuts and pits are located north of the pit and adit (Photo b).

No uranium minerals were visible in the pit or on the dumps. A maximum scintillometer reading of 200 cps. was obtained midway in the pit. Readings of up to 400 cps. were recorded on the dumps. Workings are in the Salt Wash Member of the Morrison Formation.

The Begay #2 was operated by the Davis Mining Company; Hazel I Davis: Fritz-Erickson Co., and the Vanadium Corp. of America from 1962-1967. The workings produced 4,515 pounds or ore, containing 18,450 pounds of U_3O_8 at an average grade of .20%, and 190,638 pounds of V_2O_5 at an average grade of 2.11%. The U:V ratio is 1:5 (Hilpert, 1969).

References: (1) Chenoweth, W.L., 1980, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The Eastern Carrizo Mountains, San Juan County, New Mexico, U.S. DOE, TM-210.

(2) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uranium Resources of Northwestern New Mexico, U.S.G.S. Prof. Paper 603, p.52.

(3) East Carrizo District Claim Index Map, 1953.

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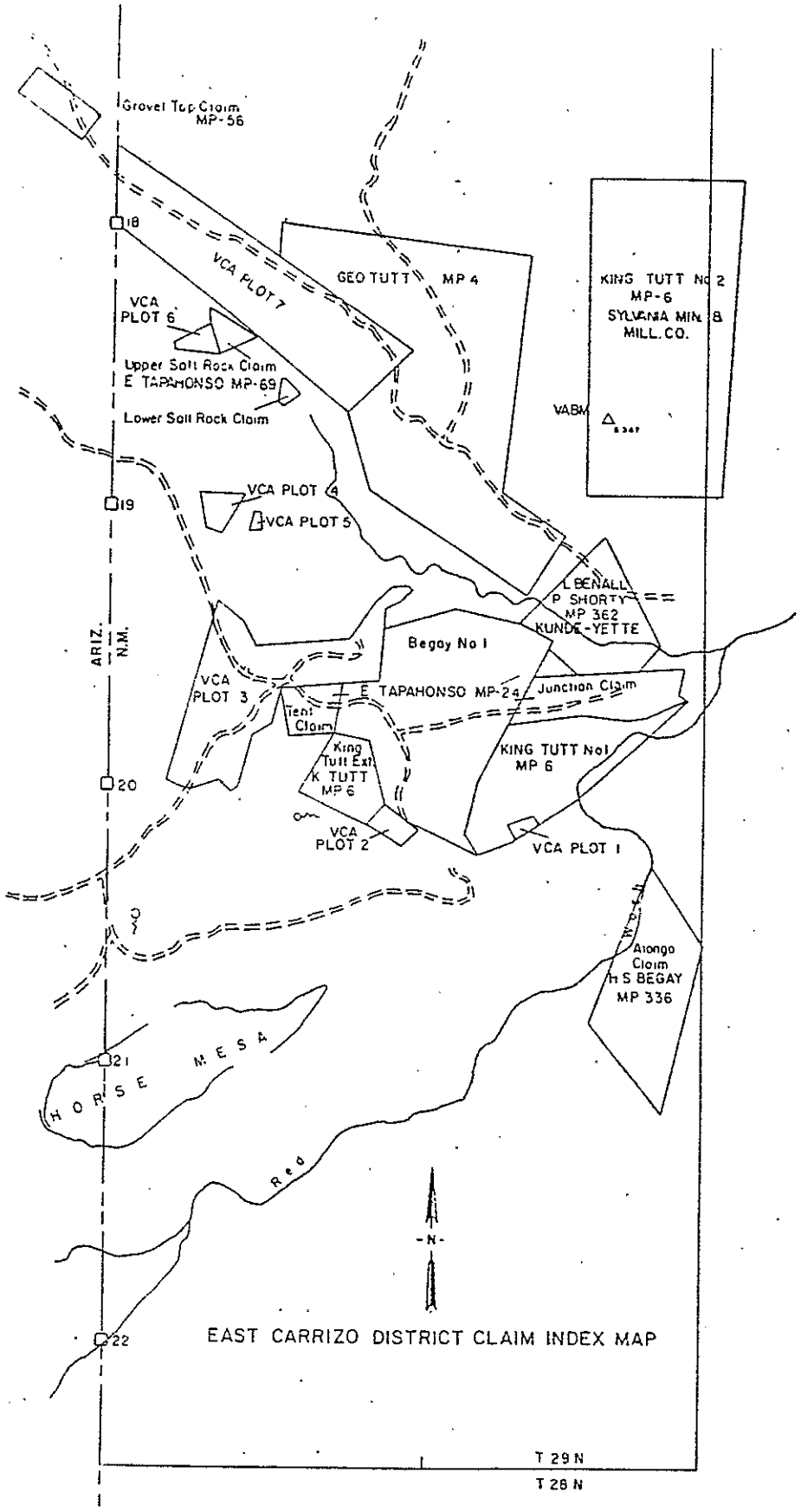
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Lower Salt Rock Claim
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L BENALL P SHORTY MP 362 KUNDE-YETTE
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Begay No 1
VCA PLOT 3
E TAPAHONSO MP-24
Junction Claim
Tent Claim
King Tutt Ext K TUTT MP 6
KING TUTT No1 MP 6
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HORSE MESA
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EAST CARRIZO DISTRICT CLAIM INDEX MAP
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Photo A - looking south at pit entrance to collapsed adit.



Photo B - looking NE at circular dump and surface workings in the Begay #2.

Date Visited 11/2/80

Mine name(s) Carrizo #1 (MP-24) County San Juan

Section (Unsurveyed) Sec. 24 Twnsh. 29 N R. 21 W

Quadrangle sheet Redrock Valley

Mining district East Carrizo

Elevation 5550'

Nearest city and/or dwelling (1) Oak Springs 3 mi. NW (2) single family dwelling 20 mi. S.

The Carrizo #1 is located at the southern end of the plot marked as E. Tapahonso MP-24 (see claim index map). It consists of a single decline which goes down to intersect the Begay #1 workings. It was driven several years after the Begay #1 adit was completed because of a safety problem that developed with the Begay adit.

The entrance is in good condition, well timbered (see Photo a) and is readily entered by a man. Entrance is approx. 6' x 6', decline is about 12°, and lenght is unknown because of poor lighting but is at least 60'. It may have been tracked as two 16' rails lie just outside on the main dump (see Photo b).

The mine was operated from 1956-1958 by Delmer Spafford and Sons. Host rock is Salt Wash ss. member of Morrison formation; total production was 828 tons of ore averaging .21% U_3O_8 and 1.32% V_2O_5. The ore contained 3,426 lbs. of U_3O_8 and 21,917 lbs. of V_2O_5; U:V ratio approximately 1:4.

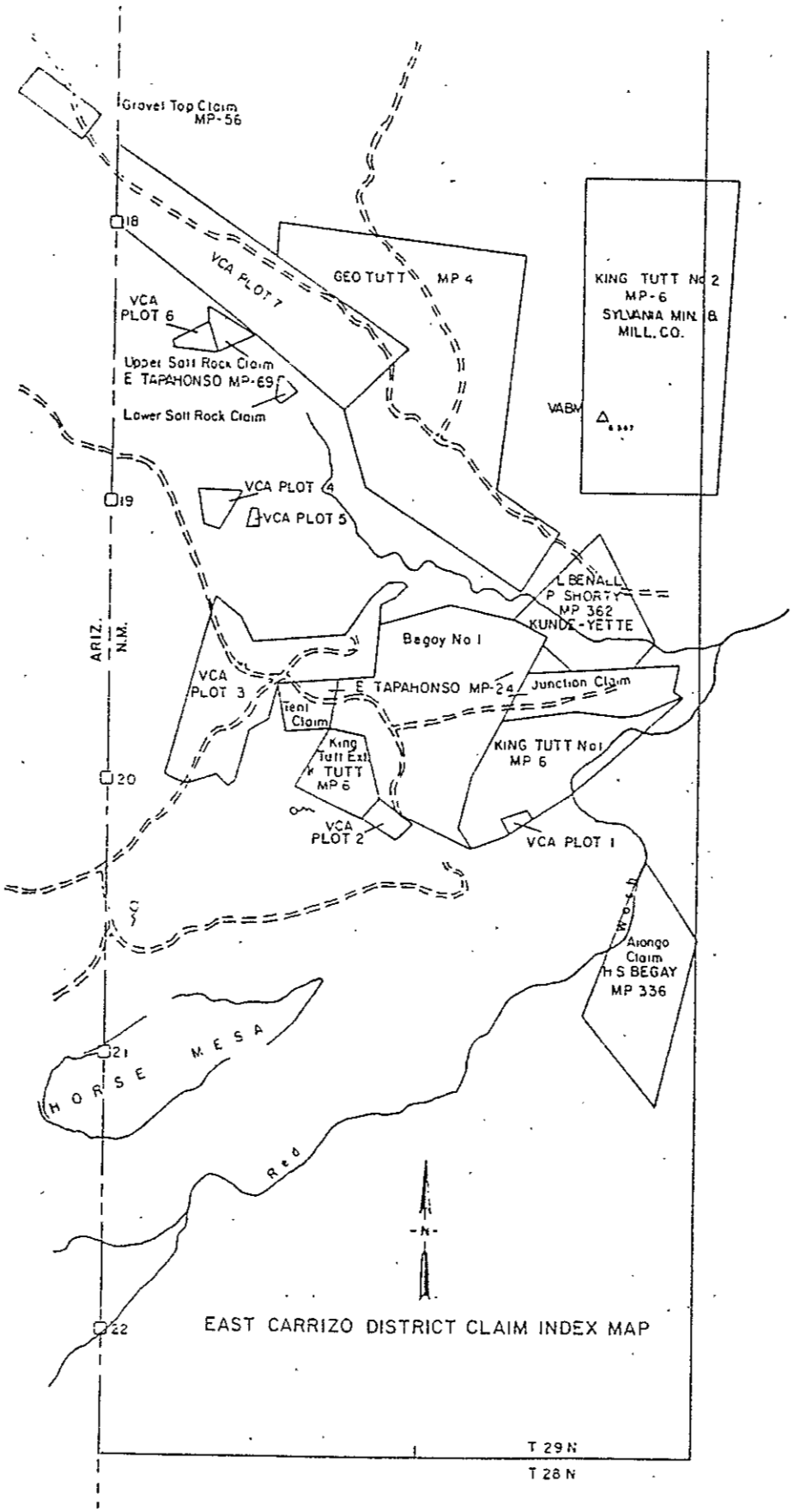
An additional photo of the Begay #1 (Photo c) shows the dump, looking NW, with the decline just visible at extreme left photo; Carrizo Mtns. in background. Dump is 4'-7' high, 80' long in E-W direction by 65' in N-S direction. Photo d looks SE into the mine area showing numerous "standpipes" marking drill hole location.

Access roads are shown on attached claim index map.

References: (1) Chenoweth, W.L., 1980,, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The East Carrizo Mountains, San Juan County, New Mexico, U.S. DOE, TM-210.

(2) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uran. Res. of NW New Mexico; U.S.G.S PP. 603, p. 52.

(3) East Carrizo District Claim Index Map, 1953.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VCA
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E TAPAHONSO MP-69
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VCA PLOT 5
L BENALL
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Tutt Ext
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MP 6
KING TUTT No1
MP 6
20
VCA
PLOT 2
VCA PLOT 1
Arongo
Claim
H S BEGAY
MP 336
21
HORSE MESA
Red
-N-
22
EAST CARRIZO DISTRICT CLAIM INDEX MAP
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T 28 N



Photo A - Looking west into portal, Carrizo #1 mine; note hammer on heading for scale.



Photo B - Looking south, Carrizo #1 dump; note rails lying on dump at just to right of center; Lukachukai Mtns. in background.

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Photo C - Looking NW at main dump, Carrizo #1 ; Carrizo Mtns. in background



Photo D - Carrizo area, looking SE; note "standpipes" marking drill hole locations.

Date visited 11/2/79

Mine name(s) King Tutt Point (VCA Plot #2) County San Juan

Section Unsurveyed (Probably 23) Twnsh. 29 N R. 21 W

Quadrangle sheet Redrock Valley 15'

Mining district East Carrizo

Elevation 5550'

Nearest city and/or dwellings Oak Spring; 3 mi. N NW

The Kint Tutt Point Mine is located on the south side of King Tutt Mesa on VCA Plot #2 (see claim index map). It consists of three adits, plus one stub adit on the west side of the "point", and one adit in a box cut on the east side of the "point". Two of the three west side adits are shown in Photo a, indicated by arrows; Photo b is a close-up of the one on the right. A lenticular sand unit lies above this adit and consequently the height decreases from 7' on the left (north) to 4' on the right (south). It is nearly 15' wide and 40' long with another 4' high drift at the rear going off to the left. Black vandium staining with some carnotite overgrowth was noted at several places along the walls and back near the portal. One timber remains in place and holding. The other adit shown in Photo a is somewhat smaller and was not photographed close-up. Both were driven eastward into the southeastward trending face that was probably part of an open cut worked before the decision was made to go underground.

The third west side adit was driven N NE in the small re-entrant at the north edge of the open cut; the re-entrant is just visible at the left, middle foreground of Photo a; the adit is shown in Photo c; it is 5' high, 15' wide, and 15' in length at which point a small drift goes in another 40'. Some run off flows into the mine; the floor is silting up and is quite damp. Mineralization in the form of black vanadium staining is apparent on adit faces.

The west side stub adit is located 100' west of the adit in Photo c. It is 4' high, 6' wide, and goes back about 12' (see Photo d). It was driven north after a small trench was cut; some crude timbering remains in place. Evidence of mineralization is scant.

The east side adit is located 150' to the east of (behind) the two shown in Photo a. Driven E NE from the end of a 30' long cut, the portal is 5' high, 12' wide, and adit extends back 15' at which point it forks; left fork continues for another 20'; right fork is a stub. Both the cut and the timbered adit entrance are shown in Photos e and f. Note tailings at left foreground and just to left of adit entrance in Photo e. Photo f shows the neat "hand stacking" of coarse waste rock just to left of adit entrance.

The main tailings dump which resulted from the west side operations is shown in Photo g. The tailings at the angle of repose extend down-slope 50'-60' into a small tributary of Blackrock Wash.

Access is provided by a dirt road that ascends King Tutt Mesa just east of state

turn

SJ 105

ine mile post marker #20; road is still passable.

The mine produced from the Salt Wash Member of the Morrison Formation. It was operated in 1950-51, 1953, and 1956 by VCA and by Carl Thomas. Total production was 294 tons of ore averaging .32% U_3O_8 and 2.59% V_2O_5. The ore contained 1900 lbs. U_3O_8 and 15,222 lbs. V_2O_5; U:V ratio about 1:5 in these workings.

References: (1) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uranium Resources of Northwest New Mexico; U.S.G.S. Prof. Paper 603, p. 52.
(2) AEC Production Records, courtesy of Wm. Chenoweth, U.S. Dept. of Energy

one mile post marker #20; road is still passable.

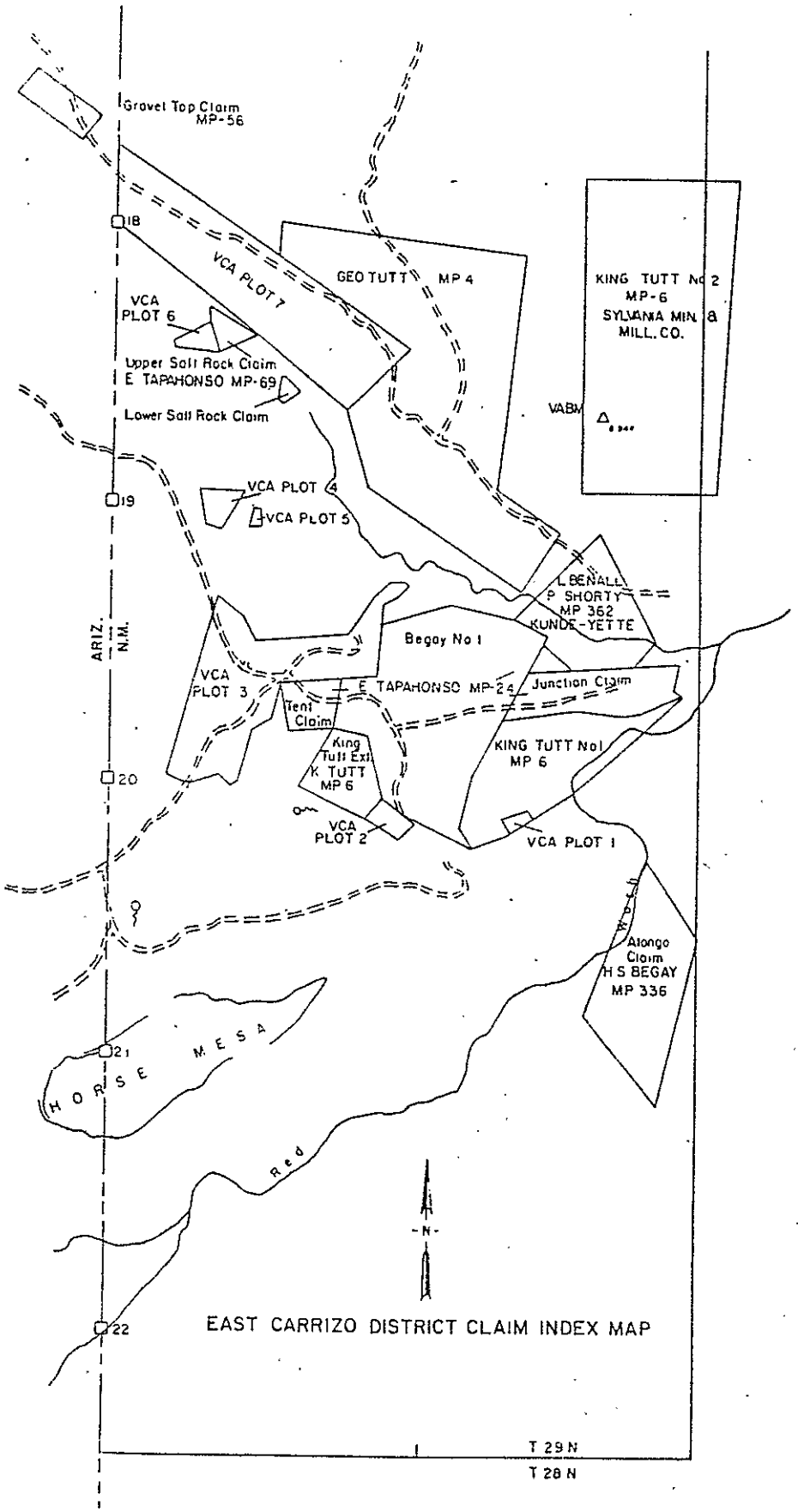
The mine produced from the Salt Wash Member of the Morrison Formation. It was operated in 1950-51, 1953, and 1956 by VCA and by Carl Thomas. Total production was 294 tons of ore averaging .32% U_3O_8 and 2.59% V_2O_5.* The ore contained 1900 lbs. U_3O_8 and 15,222 lbs. V_2O_5; U:V ratio about 1:5 in these workings.

References: (1) Chenoweth, W.L., 1980, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The Eastern Carrizo Mountains, San Juan County, New Mexico, U.S. DOE, TM-210.

(2) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uranium Resources of Northwest New Mexico; U.S.G.S. Prof. Paper 603, p. 52.

(3) East Carrizo District Claim Index Map, 1953.

*Some earlier production, 1942, and 1948, was included in East Reservation Lease production figures.


Gravel Top Claim
MP-56
18
VCA PLOT 7
GEO TUTT MP 4
KING TUTT No 2
MP-6
SYLVANIA MIN a
MILL. CO.
VCA
PLOT 6
Upper Salt Rock Claim
E TAPAHONSO MP-69
Lower Salt Rock Claim
VABM
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VCA PLOT 4
VCA PLOT 5
L BENALLY
P SHORTY
MP 362
KUNDE-YETTE
ARIZ.
N.M.
Begay No 1
VCA
PLOT 3
E TAPAHONSO MP-24
Junction Claim
Tent
Claim
King
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K TUTT
MP 6
KING TUTT No1
MP 6
20
VCA
PLOT 2
VCA PLOT 1
Alongo
Claim
H S BEGAY
MP 336
21
HORSE MESA
Red
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EAST CARRIZO DISTRICT CLAIM INDEX MAP
T 29 N
T 28 N

SJ-10



Photo A - King Tutt Point, looking SSE; two adits indicated by arrows.

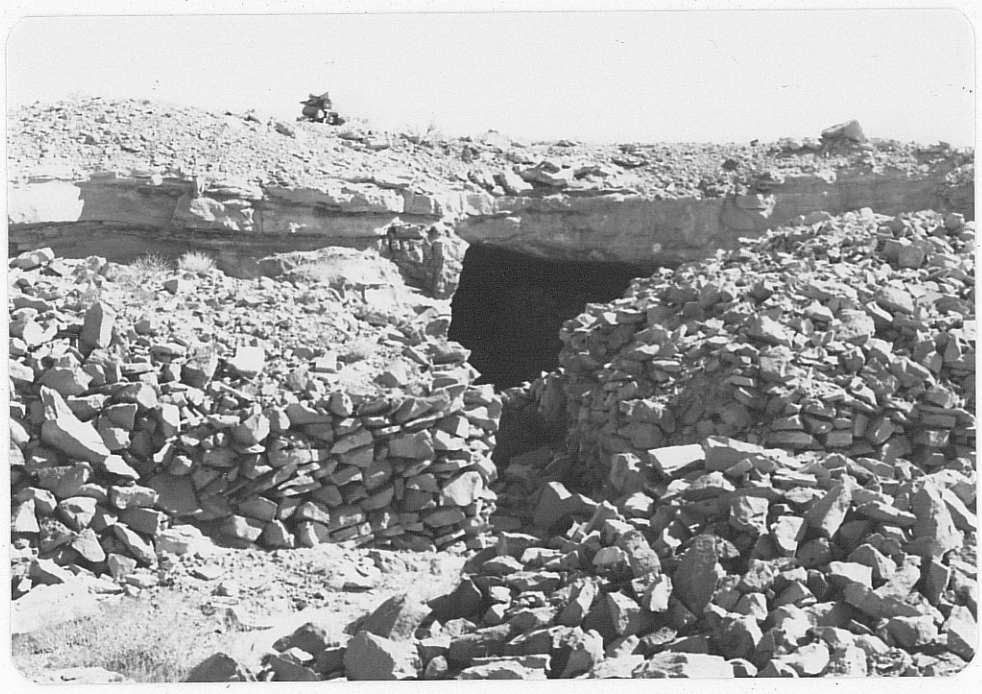

Photo B - King Tutt Point, looking east; note hand stacking of coarse waste rock just outside adit.



Photo C - King Tutt Point, looking NE into adit entrance 5' high, 15' wide.



Photo D - King Tutt Point, looking north into stub adit; exposed portion of timber about 4'.



Photo E - King Tutt Point, looking NE toward eastside adit; portal about 5' high, 8' wide.



Photo F - King Tutt Point, looking NE into eastside adit; note hand stacking of coarse waste rock just left of portal.



Photo G - King Tutt Point, looking east at main dump at west side of point.

Date Visited 11/2/79

Mine name(s) Begay (Begay #1) County San Juan

Section (Unsurveyed) Probably 24 Twnsh. 29 N R. 21 W

Quadrangle sheet Redrock Valley 15'

Mining district East Carrizo

Elevation 5550'

Nearest city and/or dwelling Oak Spring, 3 mi. N NW; single family dwelling ¼ mi. S.

The Begay Mine consists of an adit driven northward on the south edge of King Tutt Mesa ¼ mi. east of the King Tutt Point Mine. The portal is about 5' high, 7' wide, and several hundred feet deep plus drifts. Adit is untimbered but in very stable condition; little if any roof debris has fallen. Numerous footprints suggest that the local population frequents the mine. A 12' wide trench, 180' long leads to the portal of the mine, see photo (a); depth of trench increases to nearly 30' as the mine entrance is approached.

Some minor amounts of black vanadium oxide staining was noted on adit faces, but other evidence of mineralization is scant. Access is provided by dirt road leading eastward from the Red Rock-Oak Spring road and ascending King Tutt Mesa just east of the state line mile post marker #20. The road then turns southeastward and traverses the Begay claim (also called the E. Tapahonso No. 24); see claim index map attached.

Approximately 50' out front of the trench (southward) the mine tailings dump begins which extends another 100' southward (see photo b). At its terminus the dump is approximately 60' high with the material at the angle of repose. Dump contains mineralized fragments, mostly black vanadium oxide staining with some yellowish to greenish yellow coloration on surfaces-probably carnotite/tyuyamunite. Also in photo (b) note the drainage line below the dump, the single family dwelling near the bottom of the arroyo, Horse Mesa at center and left in the middle distance, and Beautiful Mountain in the far distance.

Photo (c) shows what is probably a ventilation shaft for this mine. It is located on the mesa top several hundred feet north of the adit entrance, is not fenced, and measures about 7' in diam. It is filled with plant debris, but is somewhat dangerous.

The mine produced from the Salt Wash member of the Morrison formation. It was operated during 1953-54 and 1966-67 by Walter Duncan, Jr., and also by VCA. Total production was reported as 3,921 tons or ore averaging .21% U_3O_8 and 1.63% V_2O_5; the ore contained 16,491 lbs. of U_3O_8 and 127,499 lbs. of V_2O_5, for a U:V ratio of approximately 1:5. The Carrizo Mine which also produced from these workings, (see Carrizo Mine report) reported a slightly lower U:V ratio of about 1:4.

(turn)

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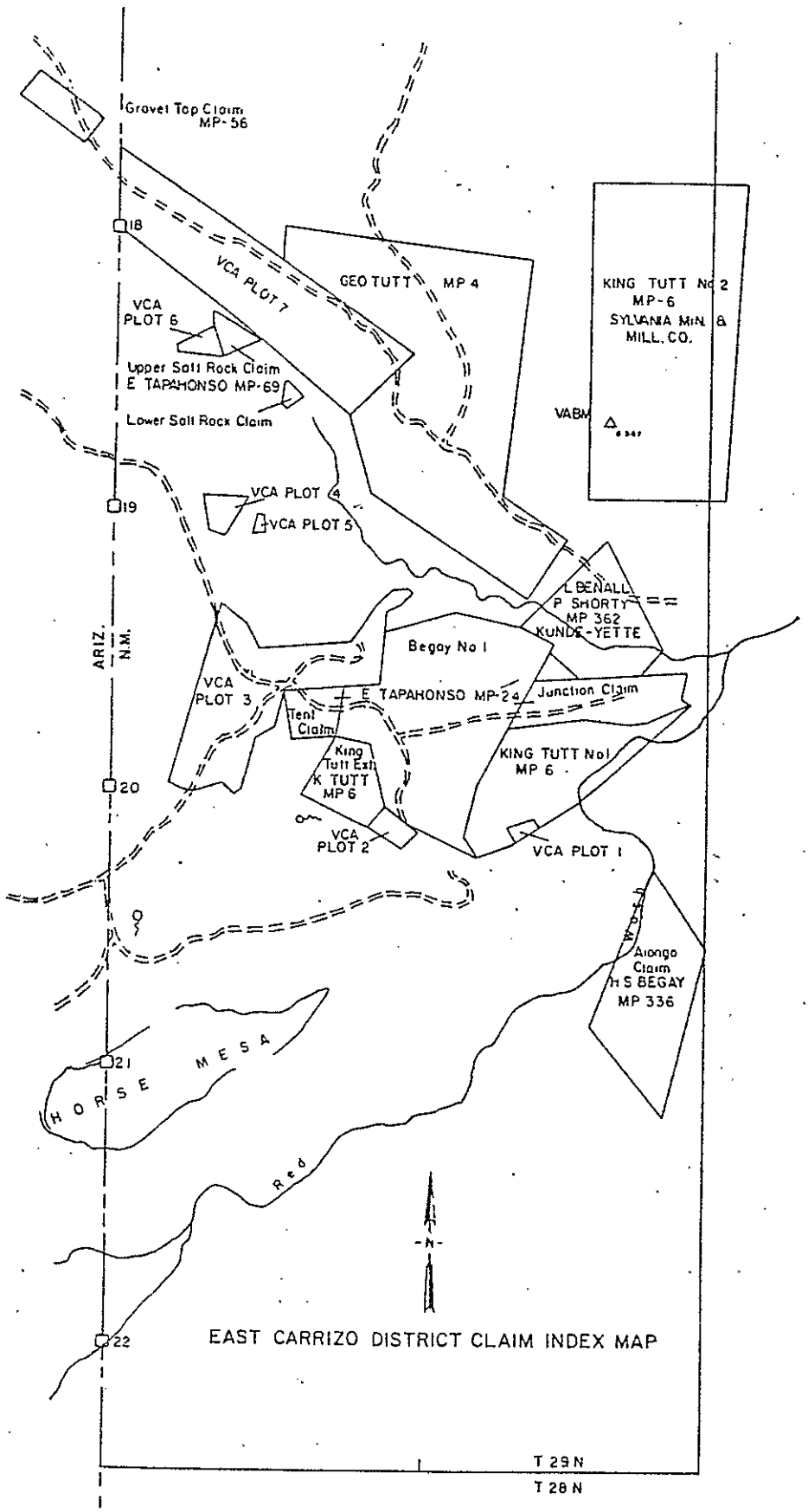
References: (1) Chenoweth, W.L., 1980, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The Eastern Carrizo Mountains, San Juan County, New Mexico, U.S. DOE, TM-210.

(2) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uran. Res. of NW New Mexico; U.S.G.S. pp. 603, p. 52.

(3) East Carrizo District Claim Index Map, 1953.


Gravel Top Claim
MP-56
18
VCA PLOT 7
GEO TUTT MP 4
KING TUTT No 2
MP-6
SYLVANIA MIN &
MILL. CO.
VCA
PLOT 6
Upper Salt Rock Claim
E TAPAHONSO MP-69
Lower Salt Rock Claim
VABM
19
VCA PLOT 4
VCA PLOT 5
L BENALL
P SHORTY
MP 362
KUNDE-YETTE
ARIZ.
N.M.
Begay No 1
VCA
PLOT 3
E TAPAHONSO MP-24
Junction Claim
Tent
Claim
King
Tutt Ext
K TUTT
MP 6
KING TUTT No1
MP 6
20
VCA
PLOT 2
VCA PLOT 1
Arongo
Claim
H S BEGAY
MP 336
21
HORSE MESA
Red
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22
EAST CARRIZO DISTRICT CLAIM INDEX MAP
T 29 N
T 28 N

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Photo (a) Begay #1, looking N into 12' wide trench with adit entrance at end.



Photo (b) Looking SE at waste dump of Begay #1; note dwelling and drainage line in background; Beautiful Mtn. in far distance.



Photo (c) Ventilation shaft of Begay #1; pole at right is 5" diam, 7' long.

Date Visited 11/2/79

Mine name(s) Red Wash Point (VCA Plot #1) County San Juan

Section SW¼ 24 (Unsurveyed) Twnsh. 29 N R. 21 W

Quadrangle Sheet Redrock Valley 15'

Mining district East Carrizo

Elevation 5500'

Nearest City and/or dwelling Oak Springs 2½ mi. NW

The Red Wash Point on VCA Plot #1 is located on a small NE trending ridge, on the west side of Red Wash (see Claim map). Access is by dirt road just north of Horse Mesa.

Workings on the property consist of two small adits and numerous small bulldozer cuts and pits. The disturbed area is roughly triangular shaped, trending or pointing NE, and measure about 500' E-W by 30' N-S, fanning into 75+ feet maximum on the southwest. A large dump runs the entire lenght of the property on the southeast side, and a small dump spills over the north side opposite a small adit.

Photo (a) shows twin adit entrances on the far southwestern end of the property. The adits are approx. 5' high, 6 feet wide, and are located in a small pit, or quarry, 25' x 45', the maximum depth being about 12'. Note stacking of waste rock in Photo (a). Photo (b) shows a closeup of the adits in Photo (a), note hammer for scale. The adits connect ten feet in the trend SE for at least 30'. Photo (c) shows the smaller, partially collapsed adit in the north-central portion of the claims. The opening is 3' high, 4' wide, and extends in about 15'. Photo (d) is looking NE along the southern edge of the workings. A typical pit is shown in the foreground with dumps in the right center and bulldozer cuts on the left side of the photo. The low cliffs in the upper middle of the photo border Red Wash.

The Red Wash Point workings are in the Salt Wash member of the Morrison formation. No scintillometer readings were available, but yellow and yellowish/green uranium oxides were noted. Total production was 305 tons averaging .37% U_3O_8 and 2.95% V_2O_5, containing 2,244 and 18,230 lbs. respectively.* Production was in 1950 and 1952, being operated by the VCA and Harry Russell.

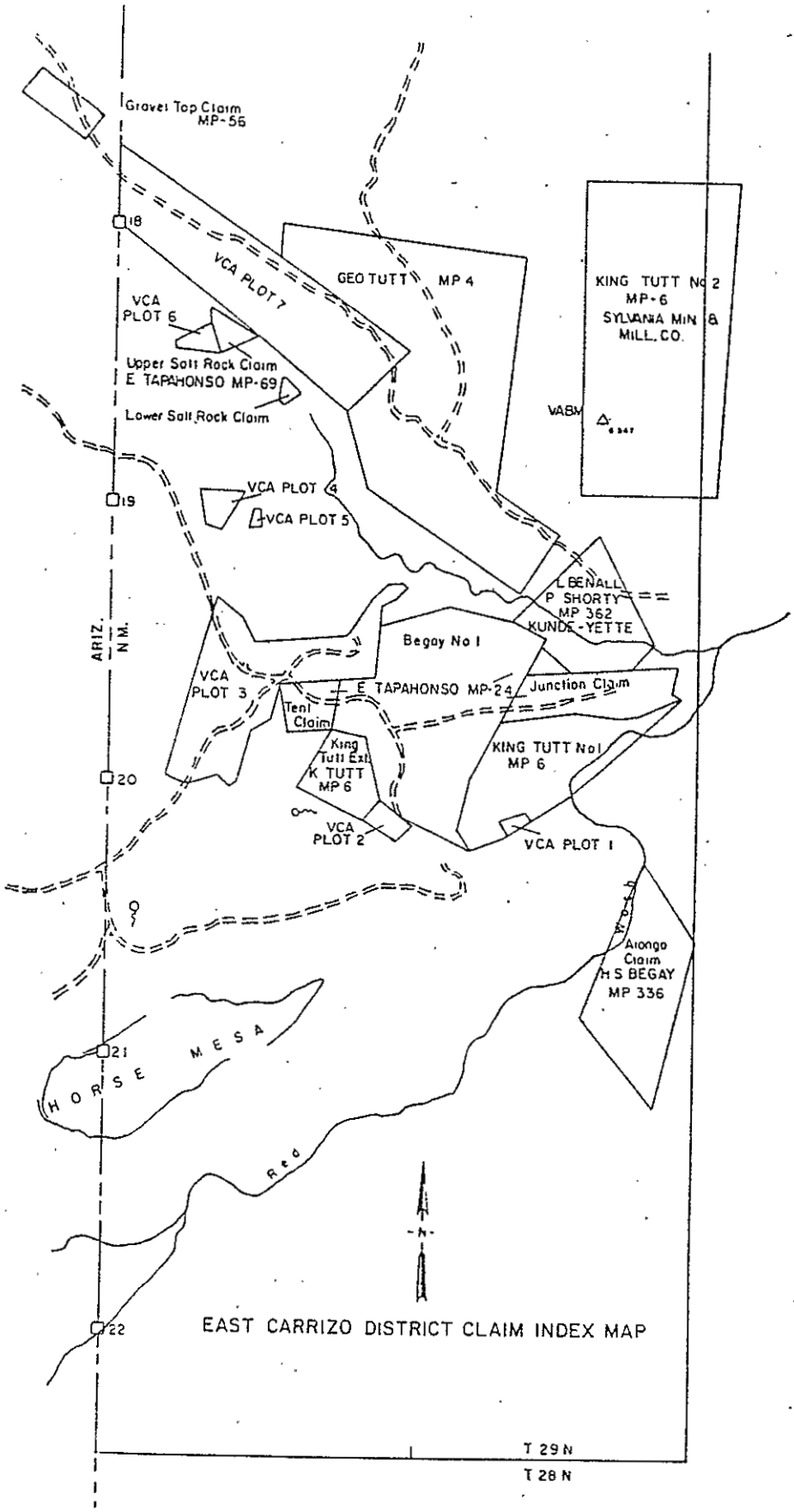
References: (1) Chenoweth, W.L., 1980, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The Eastern Carrizo Mountains, San Juan County, New Mexico, U.S. DOE, TM-210.

(2) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uranium Resources of Northwestern New Mexico, U.S.G.S. Prof. Paper 603, p.52.

(3) East Carrizo District Claim Index Map, 1953

* Some earlier production, 1942-44, 1948-50, was included with East Reservation Lease production.

SJ-118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VCA PLOT 7
GEO TUTT MP 4
KING TUTT No 2 MP-6 SYLVANIA MIN & MILL. CO.
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Upper Salt Rock Claim E TAPAHONSO MP-69
Lower Salt Rock Claim
VABM
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VCA PLOT 4
VCA PLOT 5
L BENALL P SHORTY MP 362 KUNDE-YETTE
ARIZ. N.M.
Begay No 1
VCA PLOT 3
E TAPAHONSO MP-24
Junction Claim
Tenl Claim
King Tutt Ext K TUTT MP 6
KING TUTT No1 MP 6
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VCA PLOT 2
VCA PLOT 1
Arongo Claim H S BEGAY MP 336
21
HORSE MESA
Red
22
EAST CARRIZO DISTRICT CLAIM INDEX MAP
T 29 N
T 28 N



Photo A - Looking SW at twin adit entrance in SW corner of workings. Note stacked waste rock; entrance about 5' high.



Photo B - Looking SW into adit shown in Photo A; note hammer for scale.



Photo C - Looking north at entrance to small adit. Hammer for scale.



Photo D - Looking NE along southern end of workings. Cliffs in background form the west bank of Red Wash.

Date Visited 11/2/79

Mine name(s) King Tutt 1 (MP6) County San Juan

Section Center 24 Twnsh. 29 N R. 21 W

Quadrangle Sheet Redrock Valley 15'

Mining district East Carrizo

Elevation 5,520'

Nearest City and/or dwelling 2½ mi. SE of Oak Springs.

The King Tutt #1 is located on the west side of a small tributary which drains northeastward into Red Wash (photo a). Access is by dirt road eastward from the Oak Springs/Red Rock road towards Red Wash Point. The road runs ENE just north of Horse Mesa, and south of the 20 mile state line marker (see claim map).

Workings at the King Tutt #1 consist of a southern decline and a northern adit. The southern decline (Photos b & c) trends S65°W with a 10-15° grade for the first 100', at which point it levels out to horizontal. The portal is 10' wide, 7' high, and the lenght is at least 150'. The northern adit is approximately 200 feet north of the decline (photos d & e). The area leading into the adit has been mined as an open cut. The open cut dimensions are 25 feet wide (N-S), 35 feet long (E-W), and attains a maximum depth of 6 feet. The portal is 4 feet high and 15 feet wide (see plan map for dimensions). The first ten feet of the small adit are timbered.

Both the adit and the decline are driven in the Salt Wash Member of the Morrison Formation. Mineralization is in the form of yellow uranium and black vanadium oxides. Scintillometer readings were 7,000 cps. 50 feet into the decline, and 8,000 cps. at the portal of the northern adit. The King Tutt #1 was worked by Shorty and Tutt; Sylvania Mining; and, Charles N. Pickens in 1951, 1953, 1956, and 1958. Total production was 290 tons of ore which contained 1,060 pounds of U_3O_8 at an average grade of .18%, and 8,257 pounds of V_2O_5 at an average grade of 1.42% (A.E.C.). The U:V ratio was 1:3 (Hilpert, 1969).

References: (1) Chenoweth, W.L., 1980, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The Eastern Carrizo Mountains. San Juan County, New Mexico, U.S. DOE, TM-210.

(2) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uranium Resources of Northwestern New Mexico, U.S.G.S. Prof. Paper 603, p. 52.

(3) East Carrizo District Claim Index Map, 1953.

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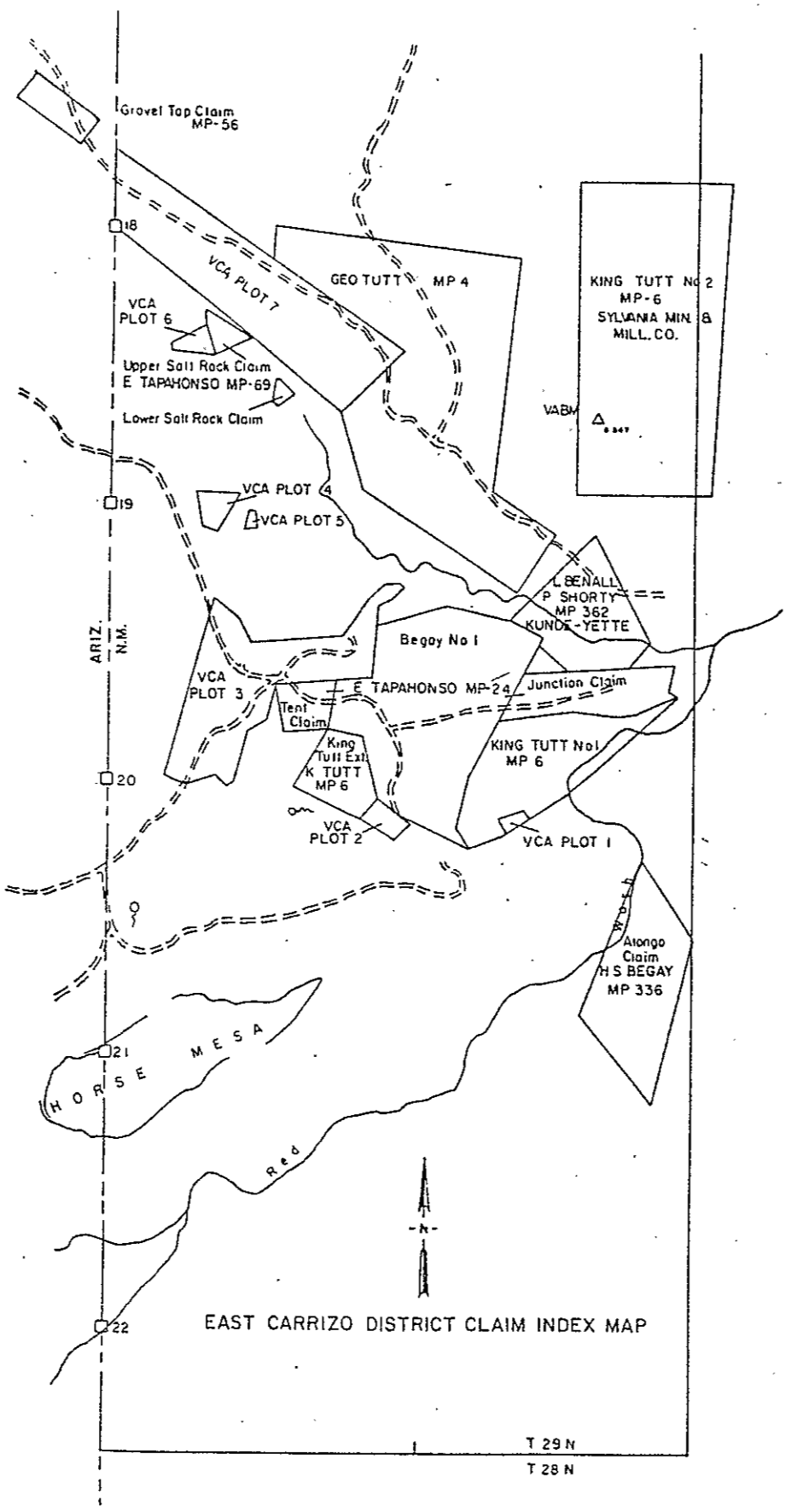
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KING TUTT No 2
MP-6
SYLVANIA MIN. &
MILL. CO.
VCA
PLOT 6
Upper Salt Rock Claim
E TAPAHONSO MP-69
Lower Salt Rock Claim
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VCA PLOT 5
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KUNDE-YETTE
ARIZ.
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Begay No 1
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E TAPAHONSO MP-24
Junction Claim
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KING TUTT No1
MP 6
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VCA
PLOT 2
VCA PLOT 1
Atongo
Claim
H S BEGAY
MP 336
21
HORSE MESA
Red
-N-
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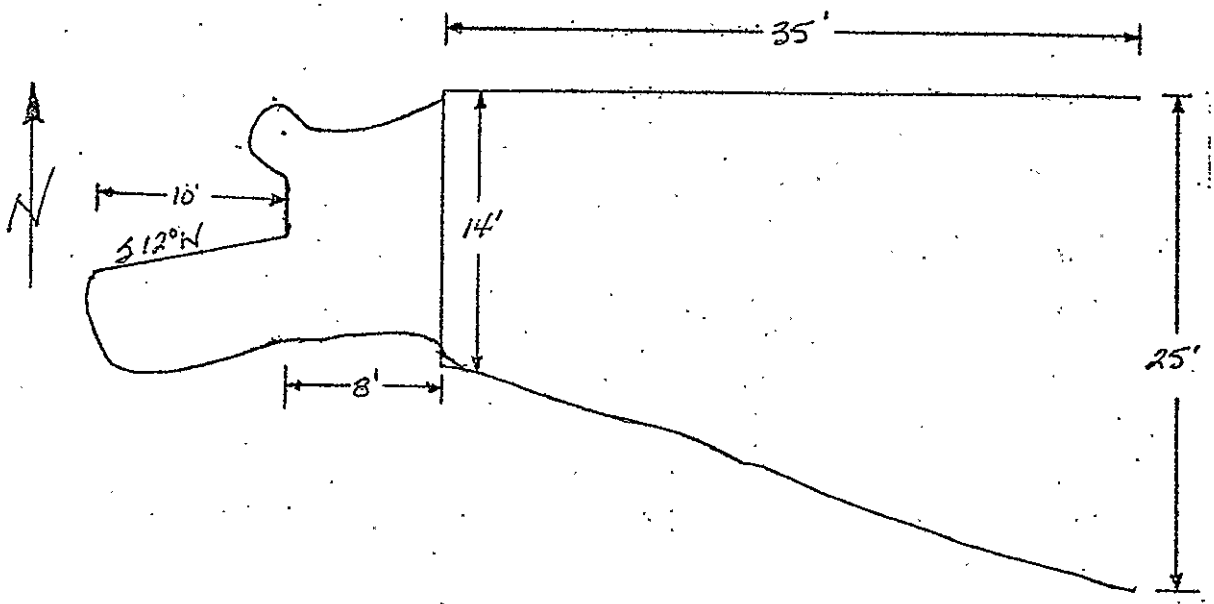
EAST CARRIZO DISTRICT CLAIM INDEX MAP
T 29 N
T 28 N

Plan Map of the Northern King Tutt #1 Workings

Scale: 1"=10'



Adit Area

Open Pit Area



Photo A - location of King Tutt 1. Wash in left foreground is the small tributary leading into Red Wash. Big Greg Mesa is located on the right center of the photo. The arrow indicates the location in the northern adit. The dump in the far right is the Red Wash Point workings. Photo looking NE.

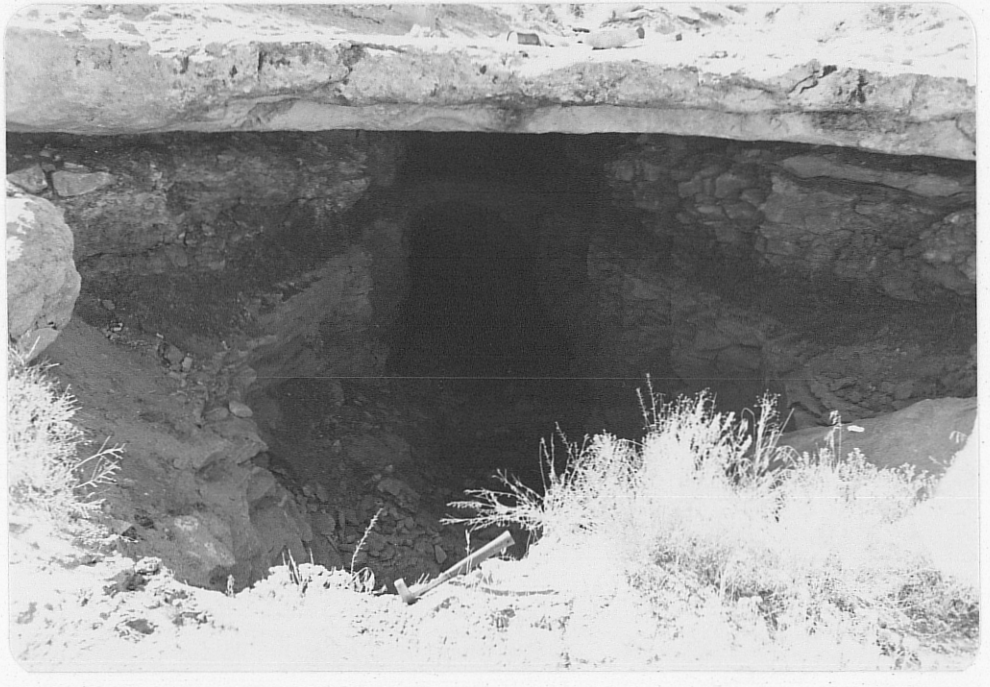


Photo B - Portal to southern decline. Hammer in foreground for scale. Photo looking SW.



Photo C - Close up inside decline. Note leveling off of slope at the center of the photo. Material at the bottom of the decline is silt. Tumbleweed on the floor is approximately 1½ feet across.



Photo D - Looking west at pit leading to northern adit portal. Timbered entrance to adit is 4 feet high.



Photo E - Looking west. Close up of adit in Photo D showing timbering. Note hammer in left post for scale.

Date Visited 11/2/79

Mine name(s) Junction County San Juan

Section NE¼ 24 Twnsh. 29 N R. 21 W

Quadrangle Sheet Redrock Valley 15'

Mining district East Carrizo

Elevation 5440'

Nearest City and/or dwelling 2 mi. SE of Oak Springs

The Junction deposit is on the northwest side of Red Wash, just south of the confluence of Red Wash and Oak Spring Wash. Access to the property is via dirt road eastward from the Oak Spring/Red Rock road. The dirt road runs ENE towards Red Wash Point between Horse Mesa and the 20 mile state line mile marker (see claim index map).

Workings at the Junction are a bench cut (Photo A), and a small adit (Photo B) located 100' northwest of the bench cut. The bench cut is 4 feet by 15 feet wide, and 6 feet high. A small dump 15 feet by 15 feet spills over the edge of the cliff face directly south of the cut. Maximum scintillometer readings were 110 CPS along the face of the cut. The adit is 5 feet wide and 4 feet high at the protal, and is 25 feet long. It gradually thins to a width of 3 feet at the back face. Maximum scintillometer readings were 1,300 CPS about 10 feet inside the adit. A small dump 20' x 15' is located directly south of the adit.

Both workings are located in the Salt Wash Member of the Morrison Formation. No uranium minerals were visible. The mine was operated by Walter Duncan in 1953, and produced 18 tons of ore containing 38 pounds of U_3O_8 at an average grade of .11%, and 153 pounds of V_2O_5 at an average grade of .43% (AEC).

References: (1) Chenoweth, W.L., 1980, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The Eastern Carrizo Mountains, San Juan County, New Mexico, U.S. DOE, TM-210.

(2) Chenoweth, William, and Malan, R. C., 1973, The Uranium Deposits of Northwestern Arizona, in New Mexico Geol. Soc. 24th guidebook, Monument Valley, pp. 139-149.

(3) Hilpert, 1969, Uranium Resources of Northwestern New Mexico, U.S.G.S. Prof. Paper 603, p.52.

(4) East Carrizo District Claim Index Map, 1953.

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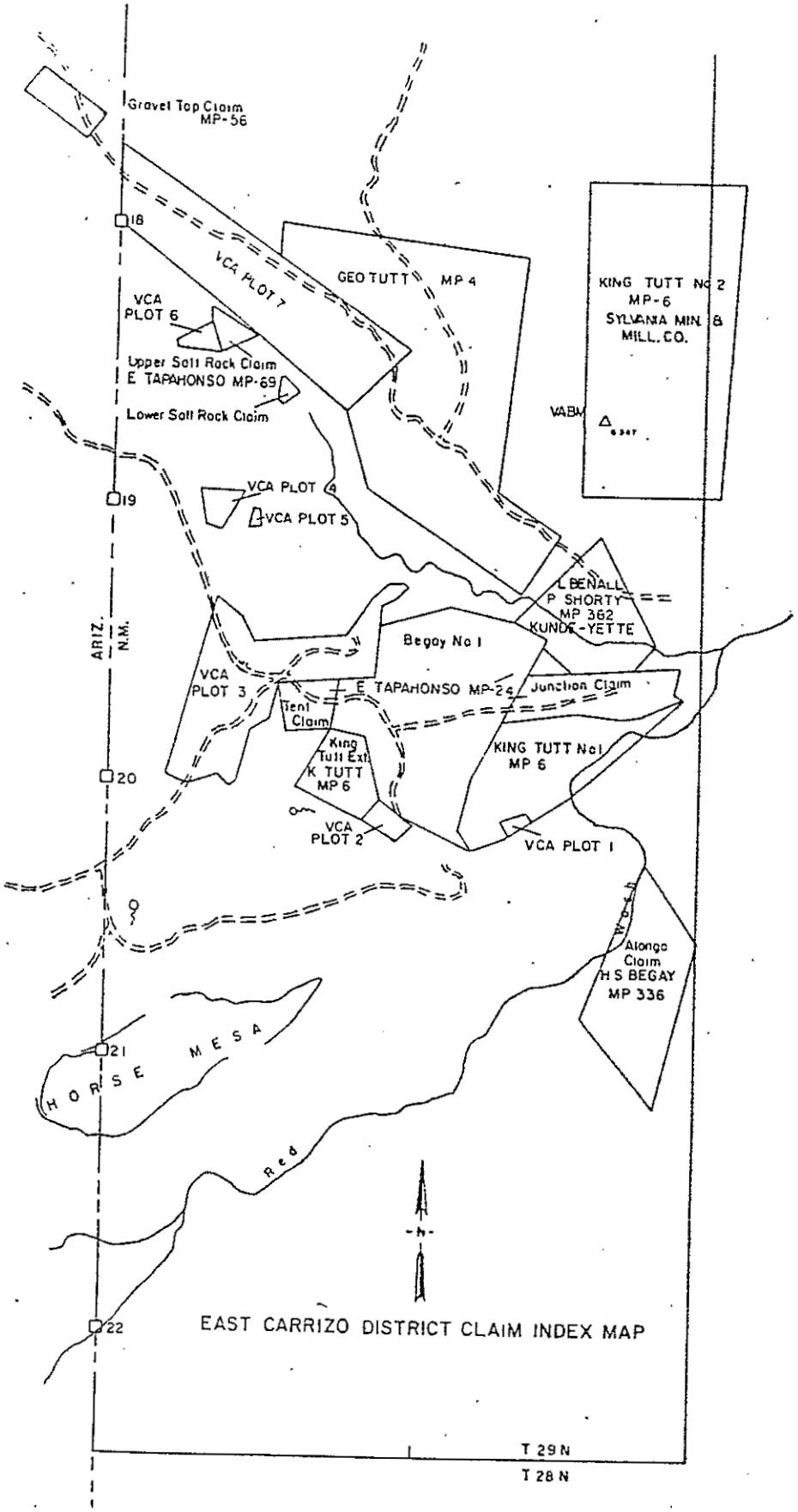
Gravel Top Claim
MP-56
18
VCA PLOT 7
GEO TUTT MP 4
KING TUTT NO 2
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SYLVANIA MIN. &
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VCA
PLOT 6
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P SHORTY
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KUNDE-YETTE
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Junction Claim
Tent
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Tutt Ext.
K TUTT
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KING TUTT No1
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Alonzo
Claim
H S BEGAY
MP 336
21
HORSE MESA
Red
22
EAST CARRIZO DISTRICT CLAIM INDEX MAP
T 29 N
T 28 N



Photo A - Looking north at locations of the bench cut and adit on the Junction Claims.



Photo B - Looking NW at adit entrance. Note hammer (circled) for scale.

Date Visited 11/2/79

Mine name(s) Alongo (Alongo Claim) County San Juan

Section NE¼ 25 (Unsurveyed) Twnsh. 29 N R. 21 W

Quadrangle Sheet Redrock Valley 15'

Mining district East Carrizo

Elevation 5580'

Nearest City and/or dwelling Farm house ¼ mile west of the mine. 3 mi. SE of Oak Spring.

The Alongo is located approximately 20' below the mesa top on the east side of Red Wash. Roads lead into the area from Beclabito and Oak Spring on the north and from Red Rock on the south. However, the last 1/2-3/4 of a mile must be made on foot (see claim index map for roads into area). Workings at the Alongo consist of two adits about 220' apart along the west facing rim above Red Wash (see photo a). The north adit is 50 feet long and trends E SE; it contains over 60' of drifts. A thin band of uraniferons material is present, but is not of ore grade (Tipton and Grundy, 1960). The portal of the southern adit is S 18° W from the north adit, is 72' long, and driven nearly due east. Two drifts totaling 12 feet driven off this adit, but no ore was intersected (Tipton and Grundy, 1960). In the field check of 11/2/79, only one adit was encountered by the author, one which matches the description of the northernmost adit of Tipton and Grundy, 1960; adit shown in Photo (b).

The adits were driven in the Salt Wash member of the Morrison formation, approximately 40 feet above the contact with the Bluff Sandstone. No Uranium minerals were visible. Total production was 27 tons, which produced 76 pounds of U_3O_8, averaging .14% and 76 pounds of V_2O_5 averaging .14% (A.E.C.). The property was operated in 1956 by E. J. Alongo.

References: (1) Chenoweth, W.L., 1980, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The Eastern Carrizo Mountains, San Juan County, New Mexico, U.S. DOE, TM-210.

(2) Hilpert, L.S., 1969, Uranium Resources of Northwestern New Mexico, U.S.G.S. Prof. Paper 603, p. 52.

(3) Tipton, W. D., and Grundy, W. D., 1960, Field Examination of Alongo Tract (C-711), San Juan County, New Mexico, unpublished A.E.C. field report.

(4) East Carrizo District Claim Index Map, 1953.

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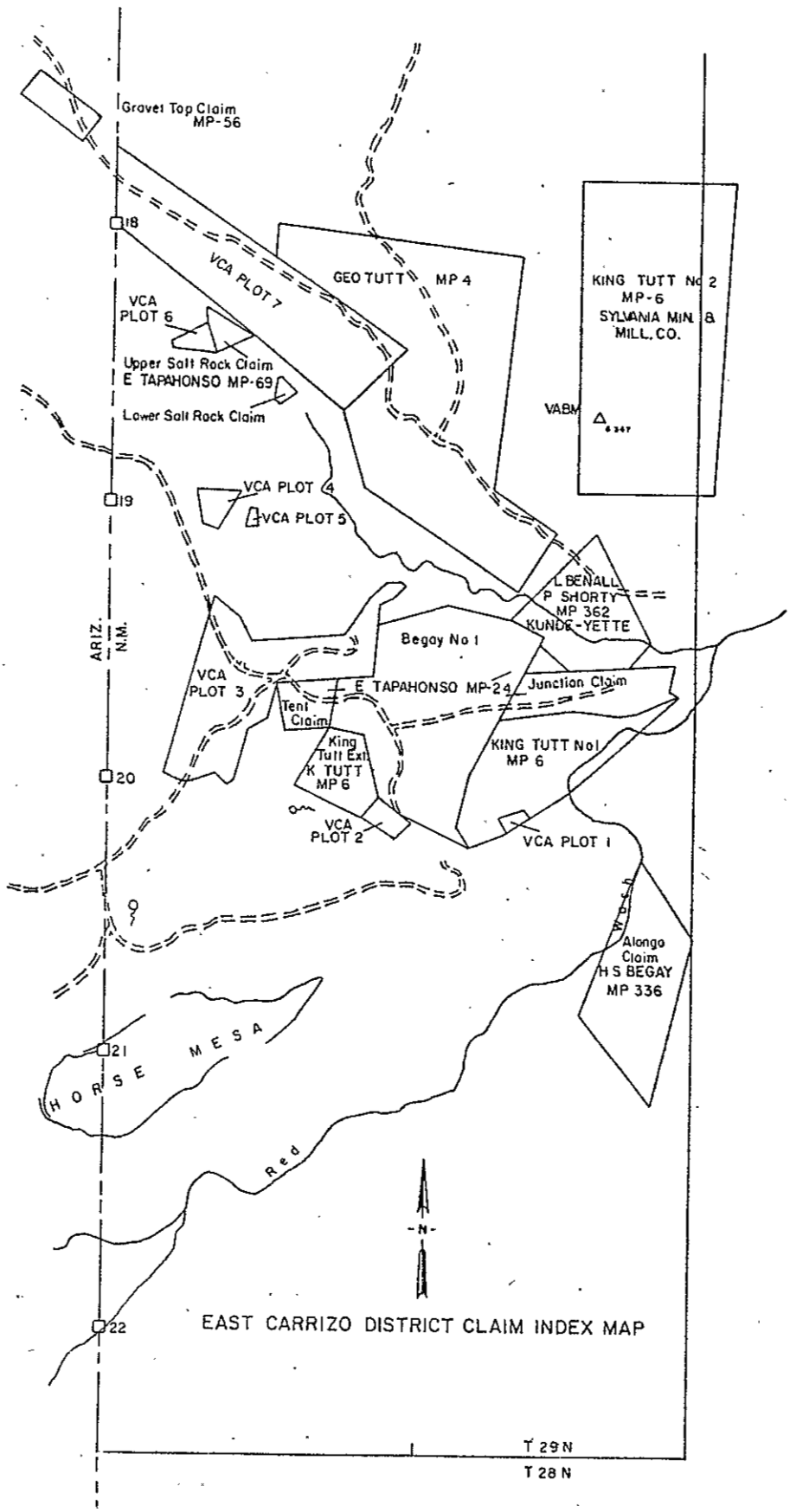
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MP-56
18
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GEO TUTT MP 4
KING TUTT No 2
MP-6
SYLVANIA MIN. &
MILL. CO.
VCA
PLOT 6
Upper Salt Rock Claim
E TAPAHONSO MP-69
Lower Salt Rock Claim
VABM
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VCA PLOT 5
L BENALL
P SHORTY
MP 362
KUNDE-YETTE
ARIZ.
N.M.
Begay No 1
VCA
PLOT 3
E TAPAHONSO MP-24
Junction Claim
Tent
Claim
King
Tutt Ext
K TUTT
MP 6
KING TUTT No1
MP 6
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VCA
PLOT 2
VCA PLOT 1
Alongo
Claim
H S BEGAY
MP 336
21
HORSE MESA
Red
-N-
22
EAST CARRIZO DISTRICT CLAIM INDEX MAP
T 29 N
T 28 N



Photo A - Looking downslope and to the west of the Alongo workings. Note Red Wash at the top of the photo.



Photo B - Looking west at Alongo adit. Red Wash below at left photo.

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Date visited 11/2/79

Mine name(s) Canyon View (Alongo Claim) County San Juan

Section (Unsurveyed) Probably NE¼ 25 Twnsh. 29 N R. 21 W

Quadrangle sheet Redrock Valley 15'

Mining district East Carrizozo

Elevation 5,580'

Nearest city and/or dwellings Farm house ¼ mi. to the W. Beclabito is 11 miles to the northeast:

The Canyon View is located approximately 20' below the mesa top on the east side of Red Wash, several hundred feet south of the Alongo Mine. Access to the Canyon View is by dirt road eastward from the Oak Spring/ Red Rock road toward Red Wash Point, with the last 1/2-3/4 mile on foot. Workings at the Canyon View consist of a single adit (Photo a) with a portal 4' high and 5' wide. Approximately 10' into the adit a small drift branches to the left and the main workings to the right. See attached mine sketch, and claim index map.

Although no scintillometer readings were available, the ore was apparently associated with the black vanadium stains or streaks in the sandstone. No uranium minerals were visible. Host rock is the Salt Wash member of the Morrison formation.

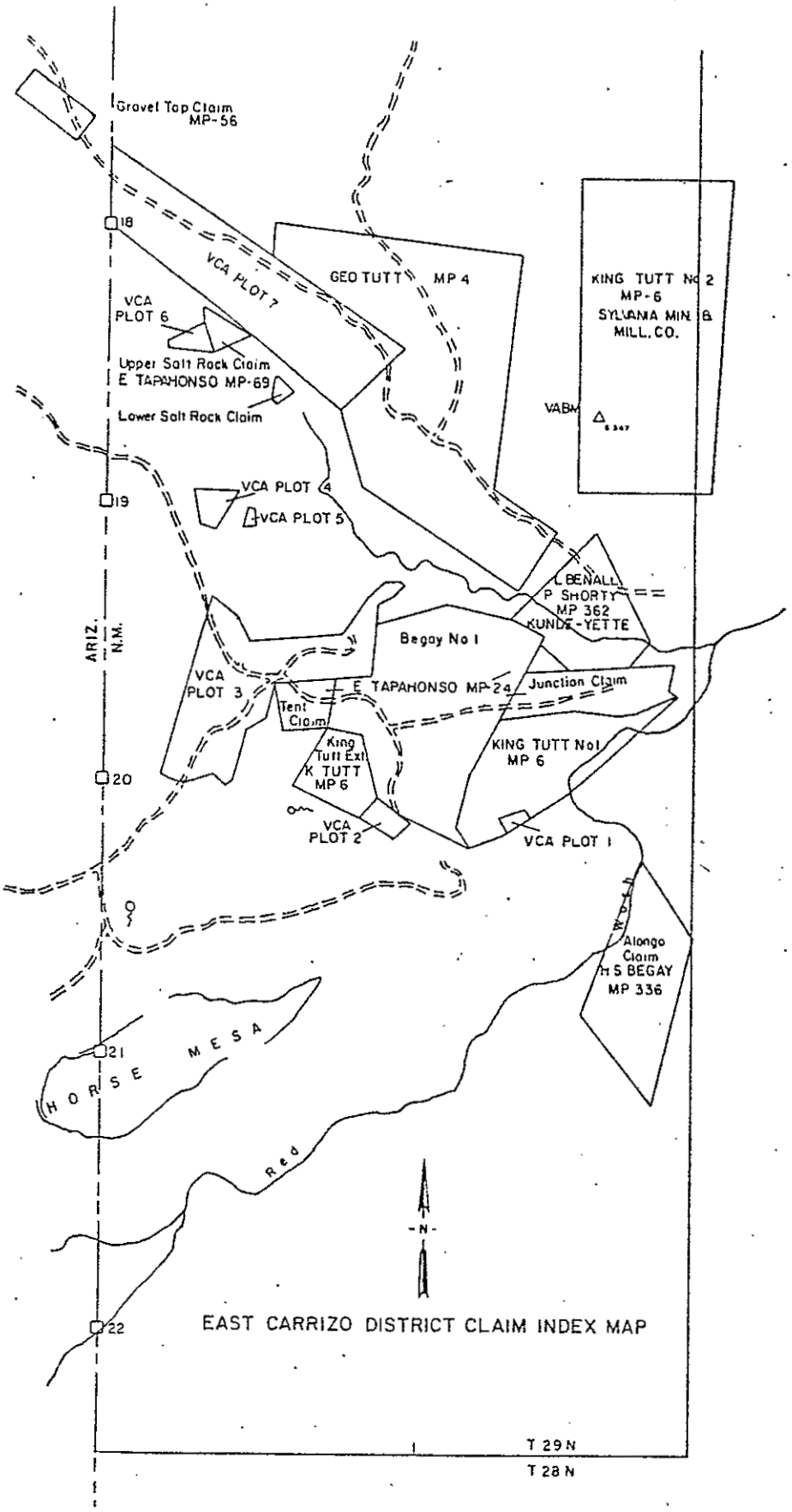
The Canyon View Mine was operated by H.S. Begay from 1950-1952, producing 497 tons of ore averaging .37% U_3O_8, and V_2O_5; containing ,3,699 lbs. U_3O_8 and 32,870 lbs. of V_2O_5.

References: (1) Chenoweth, W. L., 1980, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The Eastern Carrizo Mountains, San Juan County, New Mexico, U.S. DOE, TM-210.

(2) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uranium Resources of Northwestern New Mexico, U.S.G.S., Prof. Paper 603, p. 52.

(3) East Carrizo District Claim Index Map, 1953.

SJ-134


Gravel Top Claim MP-56
18
VCA PLOT 7
GEO TUTT MP 4
KING TUTT No 2 MP-6 SYLVANIA MIN & MILL. CO.
VCA PLOT 6
Upper Salt Rock Claim E TAPAHONSO MP-69
Lower Salt Rock Claim
VABM
19
VCA PLOT 4
VCA PLOT 5
L BENALL P SHORTY MP 362 KUNDE-YETTE
ARIZ. N.M.
Begay No 1
VCA PLOT 3
E TAPAHONSO MP-24
Junction Claim
Tent Claim
King Tutt Ext K TUTT MP 6
KING TUTT No1 MP 6
20
VCA PLOT 2
VCA PLOT 1
Alongo Claim H S BEGAY MP 336
21
HORSE MESA
Red
-N-
22
EAST CARRIZO DISTRICT CLAIM INDEX MAP
T 29 N
T 28 N

Scale: 1" = 10'

Mine Plan - Canyon View

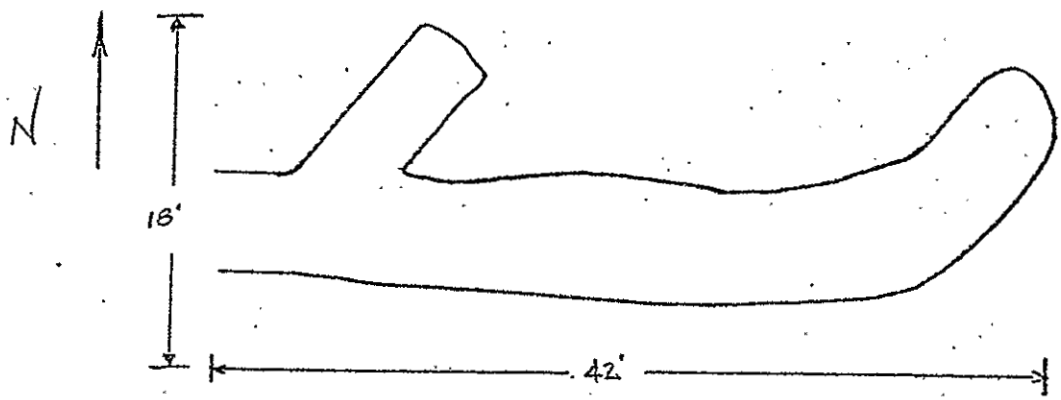




Photo A - Looking east into Canyon View, note hammer for scale.

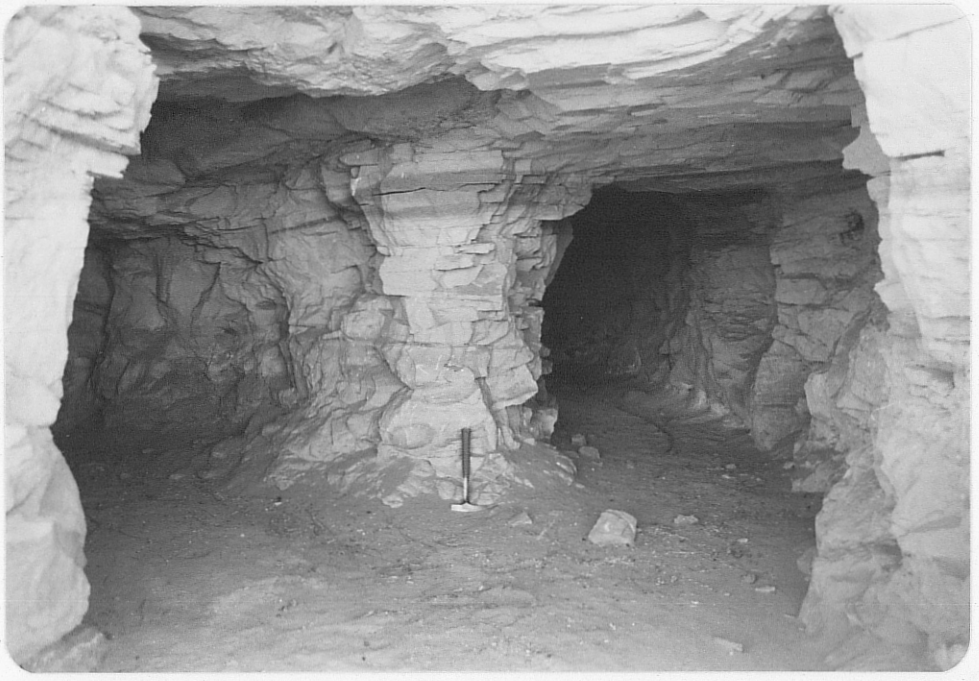


Photo B - Looking east inside adit. Note drift on left side of photo. Hammer in foreground for scale.

Date Visited 10/24/79

Mine name(s) King Tutt #2 (MP-6 Sylvania Mining) County San Juan

Section _____ Twnsh. 29 N R. 21 W

Quadrangle sheet Red Rock Valley 15'

Mining district East Carrizo

Elevation 5550'

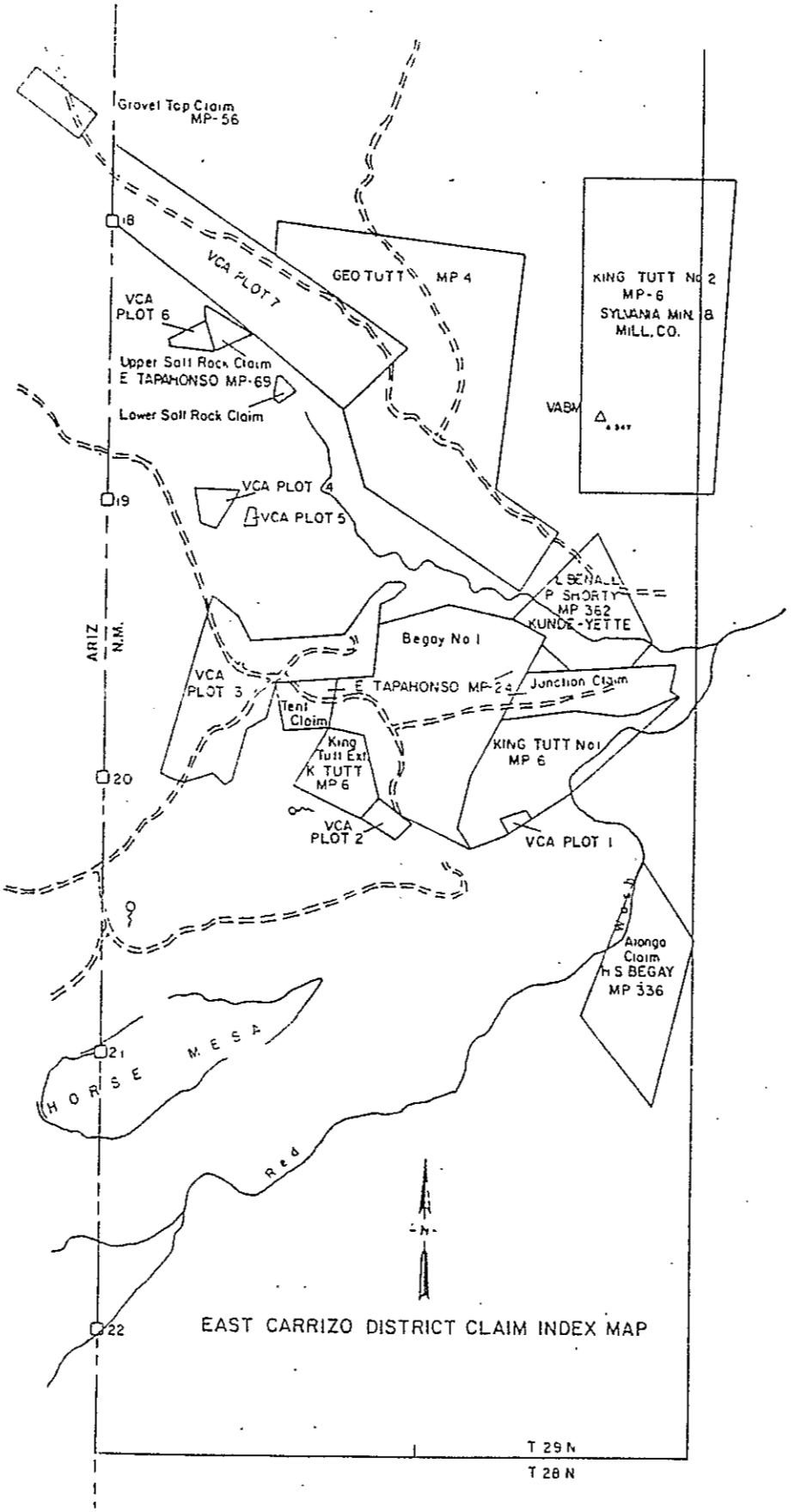
Nearest city and/or dwelling Oak Springs, 2 mi. NW

This claim is shown on the 1953 claim index map, just east of the Salt Canyon mines which are on what is labeled the George Tutt MP-4 claims. The AEC, however, shows no productions from these claims, nor were we able to find any workings in this area which may have produced any tonnage.

The conclusion is; no production from the King Tutt #2.

References: (1) Chenoweth, W.L., 1980, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The Eastern Carrizo Mountains, San Juan County, New Mexico, U.S. DOE, TM-210.

(2) East Carrizo District Claim Map, 1953.


Gravel Top Claim
MP-56
18
VCA PLOT 7
GEO TUTT MP 4
KING TUTT No 2
MP-6
SYLVANIA MIN &
MILL. CO.
VCA
PLOT 6
Upper Salt Rock Claim
E TAPAHONSO MP-69
Lower Salt Rock Claim
VABM
19
VCA PLOT 4
VCA PLOT 5
L BENALL
P SHORTY
MP 362
KUNDE-YETTE
Begay No 1
ARIZ
N.M.
VCA
PLOT 3
E TAPAHONSO MP-24
Junction Claim
Tent
Claim
King
Tutt Ext
K TUTT
MP 6
KING TUTT No1
MP 6
20
VCA
PLOT 2
VCA PLOT 1
Alongo
Claim
H S BEGAY
MP 336
21
HORSE MESA
Red
22
EAST CARRIZO DISTRICT CLAIM INDEX MAP
T 29 N
T 28 N

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REFERENCES FOR CARRIZO MINING DISTRICT

(1) AEC Office Memorandum, 1960, Field Examination of the John John #1 Tract.

(2) AEC-PED-1, 1959, Mine Operation Data Report, GJO/AEC.

(3) Chenoweth, W. L., 1980, Historical Review of Uranium-Vanadium in The Eastern Carrizo Mountains, San Juan County, New Mexico, U.S. DOE, TM-210.

(4) Chenoweth, William, and Malan, R. C., 1973, The Uranium Deposits of Northwestern Arizona, in New Mexico Geol. Soc. 24th guidebook, Monument Valley, pp. 139-149.

(5) Coleman, A. H., 1944, A report of the Geology and Ore Deposits of The Beclabito District, Carrizo Uplift Area, Arizona, RMO-469.

(6) Corey, A. S., 1958, Petrography of the Uranium-Vanadium Ores of the Nelson Point Mine, San Juan County, New Mexico; U.S. AEC, RME-122.

(7) East Carrizo District Claim Index Map, 1953.

(8) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uranium Resources of Northwestern New Mexico; USGS pp. 603.

(9) Hilpert, L. S., 1965, Uranium Section in Mineral and Water Resources, Bull. 87; pp. 216.

(10) Oral communication with Wm. Chenoweth, U.S. Dept. of Energy.

(11) Tipton, W. D., and Grundy, W. D., 1960, Field Examination of Alongo Tract (C-711), San Juan County, New Mexico, unpublished A.E.C. field report.

PREFACE TO CHUSKA DISTRICT REPORTS

The Chuska Mining District lies along or within several miles of the Arizona border in townships 25 and 26 N, and ranges 20 and 21 W (only one mine in R 21 W).

This area is unsurveyed and the land net projected into the district and used in the AEC publication, RME-111, 1959, was probably tied into a point 3 townships to the north in T 29 N. However, a correction line at the T 20-T 29 line offsets townships lying to the south nearly 1 mile to the west. In addition T 28 N is a short township which creates another correction at this point. The RME-111 land net did not, so it seems from the present investigation, take into consideration the correction offset or the short township, or perhaps the correction had not been surveyed and/or published at the time of the RME-111 release. Hilpert, 1969, however, also used the same land net projection used in RME-111, and at that time the correction offset had been published in the form of a 1:250,000 AMS series map entitled Shiprock, and undoubtedly elsewhere.

In the present investigation a new land net has been projected into the district based on the intersection of the T 25 N/T 26 N line and the R 19 W/R 20 W line, which intersection appears on the Sanostee West 7½' quadrangle. Hence, the section locations assigned to mines in the following reports will not agree with those of Hilpert, 1969, and in RME-111.

The 7½' minute topographic quadrangle sheet(s) used in this area is a composite of a preliminary edition of the Sonsala Butte 1 NE sheet and the Sanostee west sheet. The Lukachukai quadrangle sheet would cover the area under consideration, but it is a 15 minute quadrangle.

Orin J. Anderson

New Mexico Bureau of Mines and Mineral Resources
Socorro, New Mexico
June, 1980

55-10

Chuska Mining District

Sanostee Area Mines With Recorded Uranium

Production: Source AEC Records Grand Junction,

Colorado, Courtesy William Chenoweth

Mine	Formation	Tons of Ore	Gr.	Lbs. U_3O_8
Carl Yazzie	Jms	23	.15%	66
Castle Tsosie	Jmr	12	.25%	60
Dennet Nezz #1	Jmr	131	.24%	639
Dennet Nezz #2	Jmr	113	.14%	327
Dennet Nezz #3	Jmr	7	.39%	60
H. B. Roy	Jt	6	.10%	11
Horace Ben	Jmr	8	.17%	13
Joe Ben #1	Jms	6	.36%	42
Joe Ben #3	Jms	219	.20%	884
John Joe	Jmr	94	.13%	243
Kee and Tohe	Jmr	47	.10%	90
Reed Henderson	Jt	24	.03%	14
Enos Johnson	Jmr	Active	-	-

In addition to these mines the geologic map (Figure 5 in RME-111) shows the David Kee Prospect, the Alfred Talk Prospect, and the Joe Ben #2; of the three only the latter one was visited. None of the 3 produced.

Road log from Junction of U.S. Highway No. 666 and Navajo No. 34 to Sanostee and The Chuska Mining District, San Juan County, New Mexico

by

O. J. Anderson

November, 1979

SJ-144

Road log from Junction of U.S. Highway #666 and Navajo #34 to Reed Henderson claims, Chuska Mining Dist., San Juan Co., N. M.

0.00 Cattleguard at junction of 666 and 34.

5.10

5.10 Gently dipping Gallup ss. fm., both sides of road.

1.4

6.50 Turn off at right to Sanostee Trading Post.

2.4

8.90 Cattleguard at right on entrance to Sanostee school, BIA campus. Turn right; cross the cattleguard and follow dirt road to west.

0.40

9.30 Road passes under power line.

0.50

9.80 Note hogans on left.

0.20

10.00 Road passes under power line.

0.40

10.40 Another power line crossing.

0.20

10.60 Note growth of tamarisks along Sanostee Wash on the right.

0.10

10.70 Minor junction, stay left.

0.20

10.90 Minor junction, stay left.

0.40

11.30 Road crosses Sanostee Wash.

0.40

11.70 Note small abandoned dwelling in cottonwoods on left; Mancos Shale - Gallup ss. contact in Mesa at right.

0.50

12.20 Road forks, stay left.

0.70

12.90 Note small village on right with Beautiful Mountain for backdrop.

0.60

13.50 Junction, windmill on right. Road to right goes to Beautiful Mountain, but a turnoff to the left at approx. 0.2 mi follows Sanostee Wash up to the Dennet Nezz, the Joe Ben, etc. Road to left continues on to the Enos Johnson turnoff and to the Reed Henderson claims. Stay on left fork and continue.

0.20

13.70 Road crosses Sanostee Wash.

0.30

14.00 Junction; right fork is road to Enos Johnson mine (active), and to the Carl Yazzie mine (abandoned); note white house on south side of this fork. Left fork, or straight ahead, is road to the Reed Henderson claims. Continue straight ahead on left fork.

0.25

14.25 Gate posts with discarded tire attached, on either side of road; note new house on right side of road set back about 400 ft.

0.40

14.65 Junction, in stream bed; turn to right (west) and begin climbing a dip slope.

3.10

17.75 At "Sage Meadow" junction; take right fork and continue on to Reed Henderson claims.

2.2

19.95 At Reed Henderson claim road; park and walk along "mine road" to right approx. 1/3 mi. to Reed Henderson claims and small open pit mine. The mine consists of a 75 ft long cut on the crest of a Todilto ls. capped cuesta, and views westward over Sanostee Canyon are spectacular. Production from the Todilto ls, here about 10 ft thick totaled about 24 tons of ore yielding 14 lbs. of U_3O_8 in the early 1950's (av. gr. = 0.03). Potential is considered nil.

For additional information on this and the other claims mentioned above - The Carl Yazzie, Dennet Nezz, Joe Ben, etc., see the following:

Blagbrough, J., et. al., 1959; Uranium Reconnaissance and Drilling in the Sanostee Area, San Juan Co., N.M., Apache Co., Ariz.; AEC RME-111.

Hilpert, L., 1969; Uran. Res. of NW New Mexico; U.S.G.S. pp. 603.

Date visited 11/14/79

Mine name(s) Dennet Nezz #1 and #2 County San Juan

Section (Unsurveyed) Probably 5 Twnsh. 25 N R. 20 W

Quadrangle sheet Sanostee West 7½'

Mining district Chuska

Elevation 6800'

Nearest city and/or dwellings Sanostee, 7 mi. E; other scattered single family dwellings within a 3 mi. radius.

The Dennet Nezz claims were staked in the N½ of Sec. 5, north of Sanostee Wash in the Recapture Member of the Morrison fm. The Dennet Nezz #1 and #2 are indistinguishable, hence are reported together. The workings consist of a 6' high by 6' wide adit driven westward into the hillside, see photo (a), and exploration or drill hole roads that wind up the slope above the adit (no photographs available). One or more areas along these roads may have been a bench cut or rim cut to which a separate name was given, e.g. #1 or #2. If so, slumping and erosion has obliterated the details thereof. Reduction was reported separately for the #1 and #2. The #1 was reported to have produced 131 tons of ore averaging .24% U_3O_8 (639 lbs. U_3O_8), and the #2,113 tons of ore averaging .14% U_3O_8 (327 lbs. U_3O_8). The inclination would be to assign the higher grade ore to the underground workings, however, the adit is only 25' long and it is doubtful if more than 60 to 70 tons of material was taken out. A close-up view of the adit is given in photo (b); maximum scintillometer readings inside adit=120 cps. The ore is reported to have been in and around mineralized fractures in calcified logs, Hilpert 1969, p. 50.

Access to the claims is provided by dirt road leading west of Sanostee; at 5 mi. turn right at the road fork near windmill on north side of Sanostee Wash and stay on jeep trail that parallels the wash for 2 3/4 mi; workings are just to north at this point.

Reference: (1) Blagbrough, J., et. at., 1959, Uranium Reconnaissance and Drilling in the Sanostee Area ..., AEC RME-111.
(2) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uran. Resources of NW New Mexico, U.S.G.S. pp. 603.
(3) AEC Production Records, courtesy Wm. Chenoweth U.S. Dept. of Energy.

SJ-142

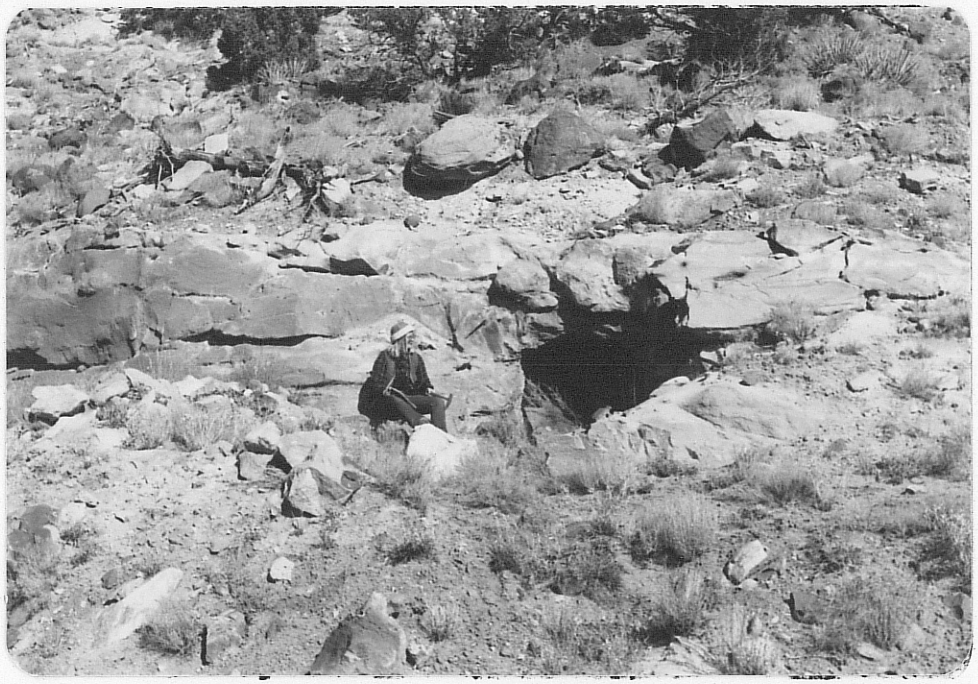

Photo (a) Dennet Nezz claim; looking east at small adit.

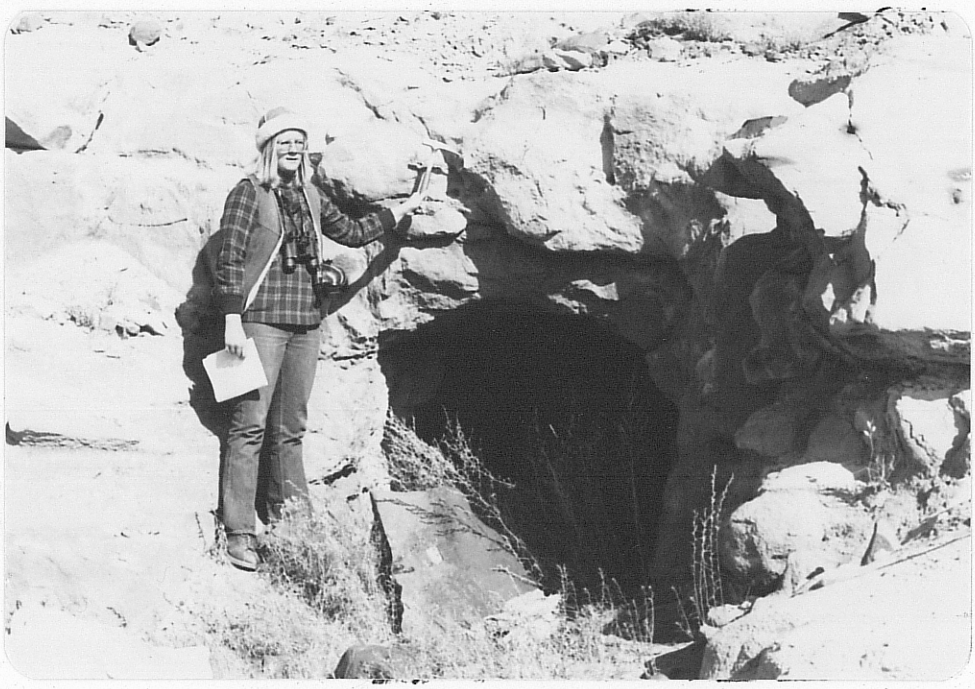

Photo (b) Dennet Nezz claims, looking east; close up of small adit shown in (a).

563 SJ-149

Date visited 11/14/79

Mine name(s) Dennet Nezz #3 County San Juan

Section (Unsurveyed) Probably 5 Twnsh. 25 N R. 20 W

Quadrangle sheet Sanostee West

Mining district Chuska

Elevation Approx. 6800'

Nearest city and/or dwellings Sanostee, 7 mi. E; other scattered single family dwellings within a 3 mi. radius.

Although The Dennett Nezz #3 claims reported production separate from the #1 and #2, no recognizable workings were found at or near the location specified by Blagbrough, et. al., 1959, fig. 5. Exploration and drill hole roads pass through the area in question and perhaps a small road cut may have been worked as a rim cut or bench cut. However, no anomalous scintillometer readings were recorded along the roads traversed in the area.

Total production was listed as 7 tons of ore from the Recapture member of the Morrison fm., averaging .39% U_3O_8 (60 lbs. U_3O_8). Deposit reportedly was worked as an open cut in 1955; the ore occurred in and around fractures in calcified logs.

Reference: (1) Blagbrough, J., et. al., 1959, Uranium Reconnaissance and Drilling in the Sanostee Area ..., AEC RME-111.
(2) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uran. Resources of NW New Mexico, U.S.G.S. pp. 603.
(3) AEC Production Records, courtesy Wm. Chenoweth U.S. Dept. of Energy.

NM-49-Z-1001

Date visited 11/6/79

Mine name(s) (Unnamed) Sec. 8 Adit County San Juan

Section ~~(Unsurveyed)~~ 8 Twnsh. 25 N R. 20 W

Quadrangle sheet Sanostee West 7½'

Mining district Chuska

Elevation 7,100'

Nearest city and/or dwellings Sanostee, 7 air miles east; additional single family dwellings in 3-4 mi. radius.

This adit was found while doing an exploratory traverse generally northeastward from the Enos Johnson Mine toward Sanostee Wash. It is located about 1/2 air mile E NE from the Joe Ben #3, in the Recapture member of the Morrison Fm., driven eastward into an alternating red sandstone-maroon to greenish gray mudstone sequence. Photo (a) shows the adit from across the canyon, photo (b) shows the access road, below which is the mine dump, and photo (c) is a close up of the 7' x 9' portal. The adit is about 50' long, untimbered, but in good stable condition; two prominent mudstone lens can be traced into the adit and probably are uraniferous (no scintillometer readings available).

Site can be reached by following road which parallels Sanostee Wash up to the approximate locality of the Joe Ben #1 and #2 turnoff. From here on the journey is on foot and necessitates climbing the south wall of Sanostee Wash Canyon for several hundred feet to reach the Joe Ben #3, then eastward along the canyon along an exploration/drill road. Can also be reached by a walk from the active Enos Johnson Mine (see the Chuska District map).

Reference: (1) Field notes, 11/6/79.



Photo (a) Looking eastward at portal of adit (shown by arrow) in Sec. 8; road at adit level in Recapture member continues to the active Enos Johnson Mine.



Photo (b) Looking northeastward at adit (arrow); a small portion of the excavated material mantling lower slope is mine waste, but larger portion is from road construction.

566 SJ-152

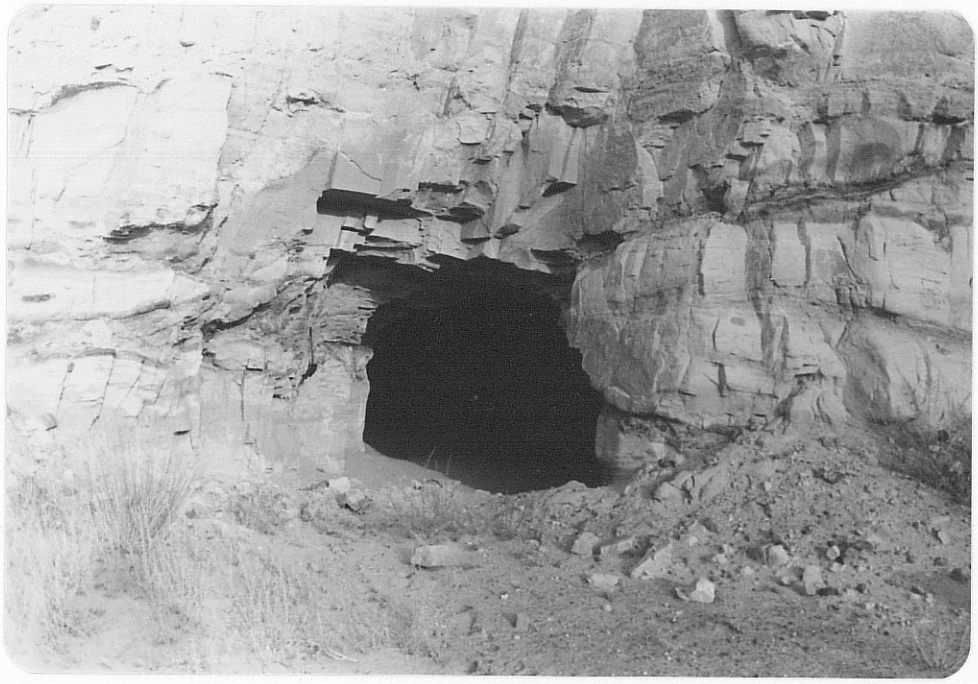

Photo (c) Looking eastward into 7'x 9' portal of Sec. 8 adit; note field glasses hanging at left of portal for scale.

567 55-153

NM-49-2-3

Horace Ben

The Horace Ben Mine was not found.

Date visited 11/13/79

Mine name(s) Kee and Tohe County San Juan

Section (Unsurveyed) Probably 31 Twnsh. 26 N R. 20 W

Quadrangle sheet Sonsala Butte 1 NE

Mining district Chuska

Elevation 7400'

Nearest city and/or dwellings Sanostee, 8 mi. E; additional scattered single family dwellings within 3-4 mi. radius.

The Key and Tohe Mine consists of an adit about 27' long flanked by what is probably a powder magazine on the left and a stub adit (or another powder mag.) on the right, all driven northwestward into the upper part of the Recapture member of the Morrison fm. Photo (a) shows the powder magazine on the left, the dump from adit to the immediate right, and the stub adit to right of the dump (arrow points to dump). Photo (b) is a close up of the main adit showing material caved from the face partially blocking the 6'x6' entrance; scintillometers readings in the adit ranged up to 400 cps; no mineralization is apparent.

The powder magazine and stub adit, which are the first to come into view in approaching the mine, are each only 6'-8' long; none of the underground workings are particularly dangerous; the main adit is nearly sealed off by the caving already mentioned, but a man could still enter. This adit was probably tracked, or plans were made to track it, as an ore cart remains at the site (see photo e).

Access is by dirt road west of Sanostee for 5 mi.; then a right turn at the road fork near windmill. Follow Sanostee Wash up to vicinity of the Dennet Nezz #1 and #2 workings (about 2 3/4 mi.). From this point on the journey is on foot.

The mine reportedly produced a total 47 tons of ore averaging .10% U_3O_8. The ore contained about 90 lbs. of U_3O_8. Although the upper Recapture member has yielded the largest deposits in this area (The Enos Johnson Mine) the potential at the Key and Tohe would appear to be extremely limited to nil.

References: (1) Blagbrough, J., et. al., 1959, Uranium Reconnaissance and Drilling in The Sanostee Area ..., AEC RME-111.
(2) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uranium Resources of NW New Mexico USGS pp. 603.
(3) AEC Production Records, courtesy Wm. Chenoweth, U.S. Dept. of Energy.

ST-154

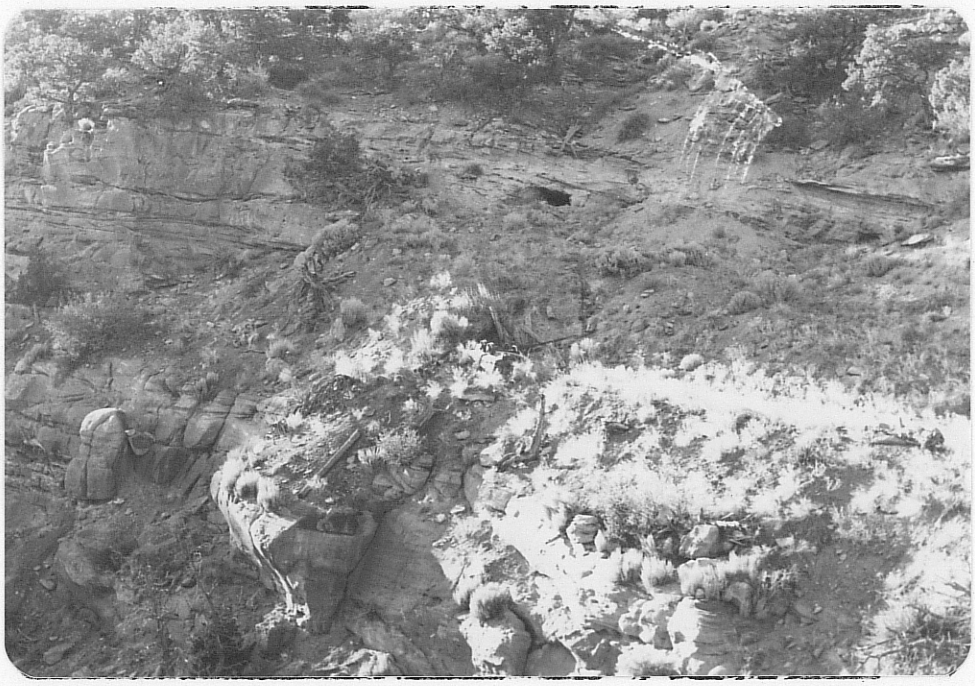

Photo (a) Key and Tohe Mine, looking N NW at the adit (arrow) blocked from view by tailings dump; flanking it are a powder magazine, left, and a short adit, right.

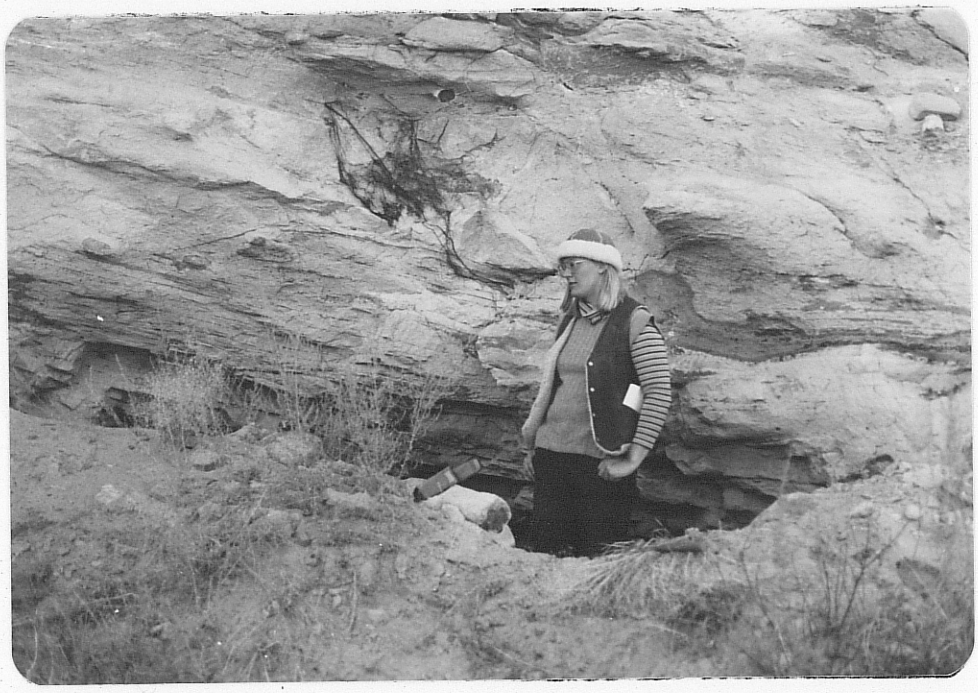

Photo (b) Key and Tohe adit, close up; face caving has nearly blocked adit entrance.

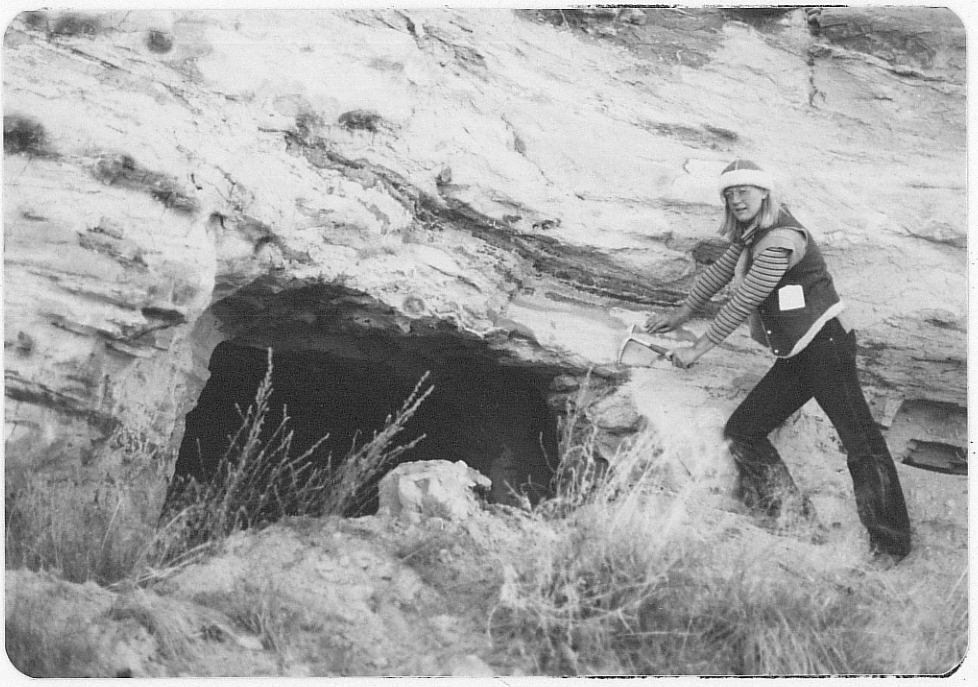

Photo (c) Key and Tohe workings; powder magazine to left of main adit.



Photo (d) Key and Tohe workings; short adit to right of main adit.

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Photo (e) Key and Tohe mine site; tracked ore cart out front of main adit.

AZ-60-1-2

John Joe

The John Joe mine was not found.

AZ-60-1-3

Castle Tsosie

The Castle Tsosie mine was not identified.

Date visited 11/14/80

Mine name(s) Joe Ben #2 Prospect County San Juan

Section (Unsurveyed) 6 Twnsh. 25 N R. 20 W.

Quadrangle sheet Sonsola Butte 1 NE, 7½'

Mining district Chuska

Elevation

Nearest city and/or dwellings Sanostee, 7½ mi. east; additional single family dwellings within a 3-4 mi. radius.

The workings at the Joe Ben #2 consisted of very minor rim stripping in the Salt Wash member of the Morrison fm. along the east side of a small canyon which is tributary to Sanostee Wash. Erosion and slumping has probably obliterated the exact locality and extent of the workings. All that remains is a small pile of rubble or waste rock and a few scattered sticks of Giant Brand explosives, (see photo a). The dynamite comprises the only hazard, whatsoever, at the site. There is no reported production from the property.

Site can be reached by vehicle; side road leads northward from road along Sanostee Wash in Sec. 5; (see Chuska district map).

References: (1) Blagbrough, J. W., et. al., 1959, Uranium Reconnaissance and Drilling in The Sanostee area ...". U.S. AEC RME-111.
(2) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uranium Resources of NW New Mex., U.S.G.S. Prof. Paper 603, p. 50.
(3) U.S. AEC Production Records, courtesy Wm. Chenoweth, U.S. Dept. of Energy.
(4) Field notes, 11/14/79.

SJ 160



Photo (a) Joe Ben #2 prospect; dynamite sticks about 5 in. long laying in area showing minor disturbance.

Date visited 11/14/80

Mine name(s) Joe Ben #1 Prospect County San Juan

Section (Unsurveyed) 6 Twnsh. 25 N R. 20 W

Quadrangle sheet Sonsala Butte 1 NE, 7½'

Mining district Chuska

Elevation 7,000'

Nearest city and/or dwellings Sanostee, 8 mi. east; additional single family dwellings within a 3-4 mi. radius.

The Joe Ben Prospect is no more than a radiometric anomaly in the lower Salt Wash member of the Morrison Fm. (see photos a & b). A side road off the road paralleling Sanostee Wash leads directly to this site, but there are no recognizable workings or disturbance (see Chuska district map).

The anomalous readings of up to 230 cps (or 4 x background)were found just below a pronounced bedding plane in massive, medium to fine grained, red to brownish red sandstone (see again photo b). No uranium mineralization was noted.

Reportedley 6 tons of ore averaging .36% U_3O_8 were shipped from the property (A.E.C. production records) in 1952, but other than the road no ground disturbance was noted.

References: (1) Blagbrough, J. W., et. al., 1959 Uranium Reconnaissance and Drilling in the Sanostee area ...". U.S. A.E.C. RME-111.
(2) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uranium Resources of NW New Mexico, U.S.G.S. Prof. Paper 603, p. 50.
(3) U.S. A.E.C. Production Records, courtesy Wm. Chenoweth, U.S. Dept. of Energy.

SJ-162

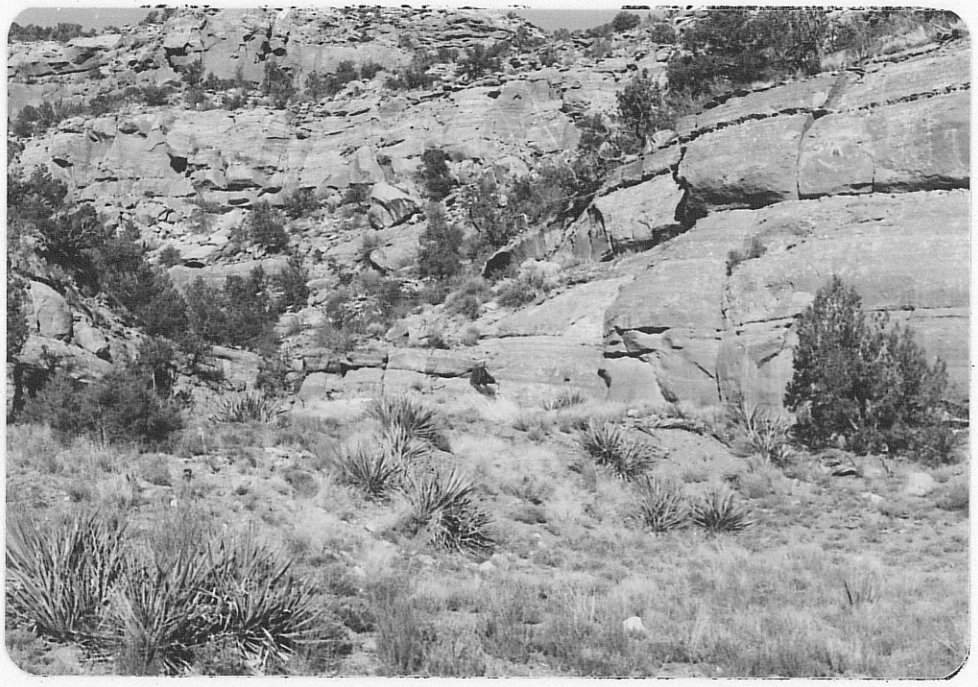

Photo (a) Looking E, at the Joe Ben #1 prospect on south side of small canyon.

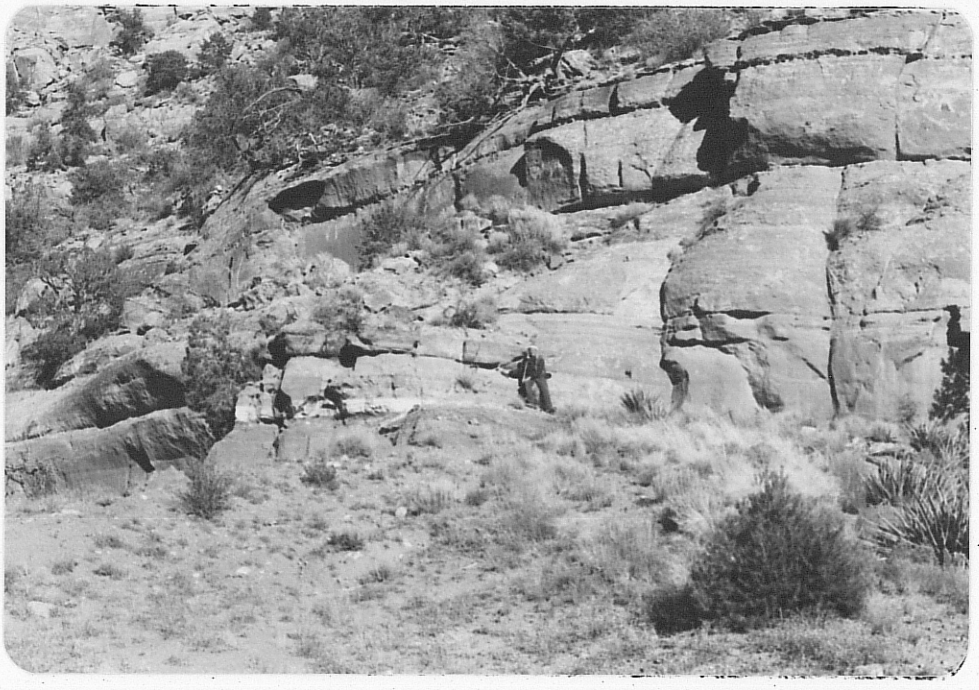

Photo (b) Close up of view shown in photo (a); person in photo is pointing to parting having radiometric anomaly.

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AZ-60-1-6

Date Visited 11/6/79

Mine name(s) Joe Ben #3 County San Juan

Section (Unsurveyed) Sec. 8 Twnsh. 25 N R. 20 W

Quadrangle Sheet Sonsala Butte #1, NE, 7½'

Mining district Chuska

Elevation 6900'

Nearest City and/or dwelling Sanostee, 7 mi. E.

The major workings on the Joe Ben #3 consists of 125' of rim stripping along the NW side of a Salt Wash sandstone nose just 1/2 mi. N of the Enos Johnson Mine. The cut is shown from above in photo (a); the resulting bench is up to 30' wide and a small tailings dump extends downslope for several hundred feet at the angle of repose.

A close-up of the cut, see photo (b), shows that the sandstone beds are interrupted repeatedly by shale (mudstone) lenses. Although it has been thought that the Salt Wash is most favorable where the sandstone-mudstone ratio is about 1:1 (Gruner, 1956), as it is at this locality, the deposits are often too small to be mineable. Further north toward the Carrizo district, the mudstone percentage in the Salt Wash decreases and the deposits become somewhat larger.

According to Blagbrough, 1959, exploration on the Joe Ben #3 claim totaled about 2500' of rim stripping in the Salt Wash member mostly during the summer of 1953. Many of the small cuts are indistinguishable from exploration roads. There are, however, two adits in the vicinity of the Joe Ben #3 cut described above. It is not certain they are on the Joe Ben #3 claim, but will be included here because of their proximity and for the sake of convenience. One is a 5' x 5' opening located approximately 1000' to the SW of the cut; the length of this adit is not known for certain, but judging from the size of the tailings dump it probably is no more than 15'-20', (no photograph available). The other is a 4' high by 5' wide opening located approximately 1/4 mi. to the NE of the cut on the other side of the prominent spur, see photo (c). It is about 15' long and driven generally westward into a massive sand unit of the Salt Wash member; some crude timbering remains in place. A scour and fill feature is visible just above the adit entrance.

Access is provided by dirt road leading west of Sanostee; at approximately 5 mi. take right fork after passing windmill and follow jeep trail along Sanostee Wash for 3½ mi. At this point the Joe Ben #3 cut will lie above on canyon wall to south; the last ½ mi. is made on foot.

Total production from the Joe Ben #3 was reported as 219 tons of ore averaging 20% U_3O_8; contained U_3O_8 was 884 lbs. U:V ratio of samples taken on this claim are about 1:2.5.

(turn)

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References: (1) Blagbrough, J., et. al., 1959, Uranium Reconnaissance and Drilling in the Sanostee Area...; AEC RME-111.
(2) Gruner, J., 1956, Concentration of Uranium in Sediments by Multiple Migration-Accretion; Econ. Geol., vol. 51, no. 6.
(3) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uranium Resources of NW New Mexico; U.S.G.S. PP 603, p. 50.
(4) AEC production records, courtesy Wm. Chenoweth, U.S. Dept. of Energy.

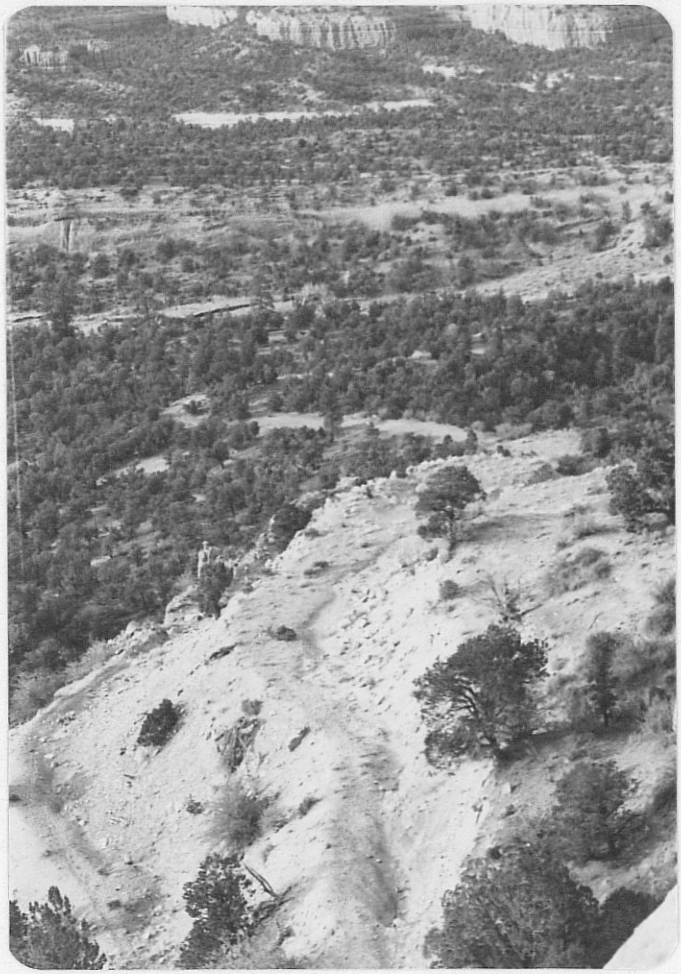

Photo (a) Joe Ben #3 rim cut; looking N from cliff top.



Photo (b) Joe Ben #3 rim cut; looking S. Note numerous shale (mudstone) beds at this locality.



Photo (c) Adit in Salt Wash member, thought to be on Joe Ben #3 claim; looking westward. Note field glasses hanging above adit entrance for scale; also note scour and fill feature above and to right of adit.

AZ-60-1-7

ENOS JOHNSON

The Enos Johnson mine is an active mine.

Az-6D-1-8 **Date visited** 11/6/79

Mine name(s) Carl Yazzie #1 **County** San Juan

Section 17 (Projected) **Twnsh,** 25 N **R.** 20 W

Quadrangle sheet Sonsala Butte 1 NE 7½'

Mining district Chuska

Elevation 7000'

Nearest city and/or dwellings Sanostee, 7 mi. E

The Carl Yazzie #1 consists of two adits each of which is split into two drifts a short distance in. They are both driven generally southeastward into a 25' high face that was worked as an open cut before the mine went underground (see photo a).

The adit on the right in the photo contained standing water in a shallow pond back from the entrance. It is approximately 5' high, 5' wide, and 10' into the tunnel it splits into two which go off at 45° angles to each other. The left drift is the largest ranging up to 14' in width and contains the water about 25' back from the split; water is actively dripping from roof. The right drift goes back about 20' and contains a very small pool of water. Scintillometer readings obtained were in the 1200-1600 cps range, with local face counts up to 2000 cps.

The adit on the left in the photo is about 6' high, 7' wide and is also split a short distance in. The left drift goes back about 18', the right about 22'; each contains a small pool of water, and each produced scintillometer readings in the 600-1000 cps range (see Table 1 for water quality data).

The adits are driven in the Salt Wash Member of the Morrison Formation which here appears as oxidized ground, although some finer grained zones may be incompletely oxided. Evidence of uranium mineralization is mainly in the form of an oxidized yellow-green encrustation on rock faces in the adits, which have formed since development of the mine. Tailings dump lies to west of adits a short distance; it is 40' long, up to 5' high. Access is provided by dirt road leading west of Sanostee for approx. 5 mi., then left at a road fork just north of Sanostee Wash for another 3 mi. This road is currently used as an ore haul road for the nearby Enos Johnson Mine; (see Topographic sheet).

The mine was operated during the early and mid 50's and produced a total of 23 tons of ore averaging .15% U_3O_8; the ore contained 66 lbs. of U_3O_8 with a U:V ratio of about 1:3.

References: (1) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uranium Resources of NW New Mexico, U.S.G.S. pp. 603, p. 50.
(2) Blagbrough, J., et, al., 1959, Uranium Reconnaissance and Drilling in the Sanostee Area..., AEC RME-111.
(3) AEC production records, courtesy Wm. Chenoweth, U.S. Dept. of Energy.

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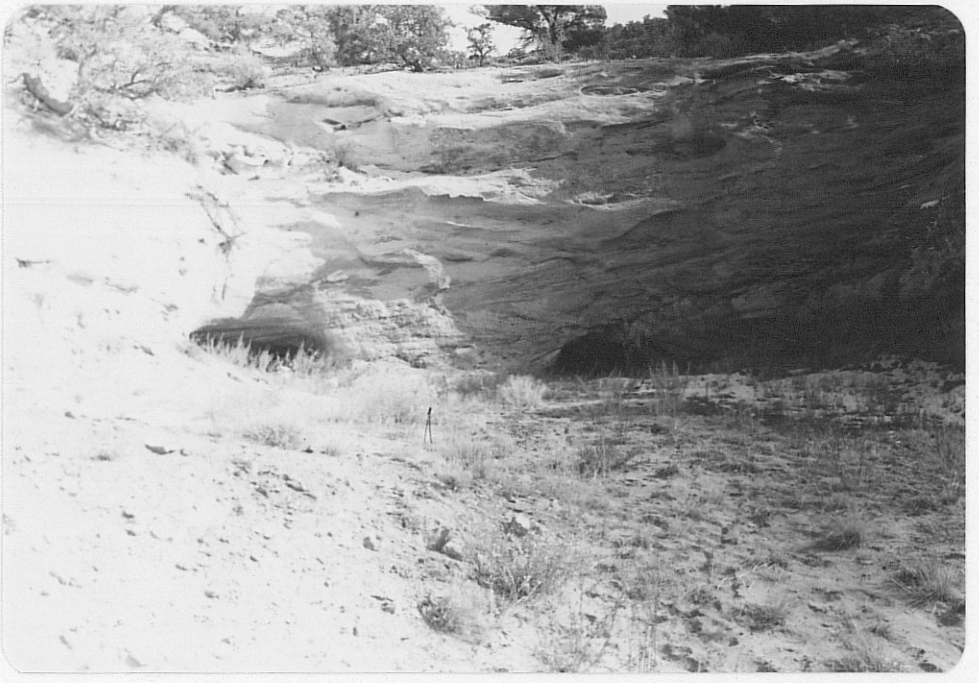

Photo (a) Carl Yazzie #1; looking SE. Note person in front of right adit for scale. Small tailings dump lies off to the right.

TABLE 1

Selected Water Quality Data, obtained
From Sample Taken Inside Left Adit

Conductivity in mmhos/cm^3	pH	in ppm			
		Fe	SO_4	U_3O_8	Se
1,900	7.2	<.1	160	.40	<.005

Az-60-1-9 Date visited 11/7/79

Mine name(s) H. B. Roy #2 County San Juan
(Unsurveyed)
Section Probably 18 Twnsh. 25 N R. 20 W

Quadrangle sheet Sonsala Butte 1 NE, 7½'

Mining district Chuska

Elevation 7100'

Nearest city and/or dwellings Sanostee, 8 mi. E NE

The ~~H.~~ B. Roy #2 consists of two end to end bench cuts on the southwestern side of a spur in the SE¼ of Sec. 18 (projected). It appears that the northern cut was mined and the southern cut was merely a road widening to provide for a stockpile and load out facility (however very little ore was produced). Photo (a) looks eastward at the northern bench cut which presumably intersected some ore bearing Todilto ls. at the base; exposed 15' high face is Summerville fm. Scintillometer counts were approx. 200 cps, or 3 x background. The stockpile or dump area 100' to the S SE, shown in photo (b) gave scintillometer readings up to 450 cps, or approx. 7 x background; this area is about 150' long and up to 50' wide.

Access at present is by foot; the road system in the area is unclear. It is nearly a 1 mile walk from the Carl Yazzie #1.

The mine reportedly produced a total of 6 tons of Todilto ls. ore, which averaged .10% U_3O_8 and contained 11 lbs. of U_3O_8.

The H. B. Roy #1 is a prospect in the Recapture member of the Morrison fm. located to the north in Bear Creek Canyon; it has no reported production. Hilpert, 1969, p. 51 is probably referring to the H. B. Roy #1 rather than the #2 in his descriptive tabulation.

Reference: (1) Blagbrough, J., et. al., 1959, Uranium Reconnaissance and Drilling in the Sanostee Area ...; AEC RME-111.
(2) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uranium Resources of NW New Mexico; U.S.G.S. pp.603, p. 51.
(3) AEC production records, courtesy Wm. Chenoweth U.S. Dept. of Energy

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Photo (a) H.B. Roy #2, looking E into 15' high bench cut.

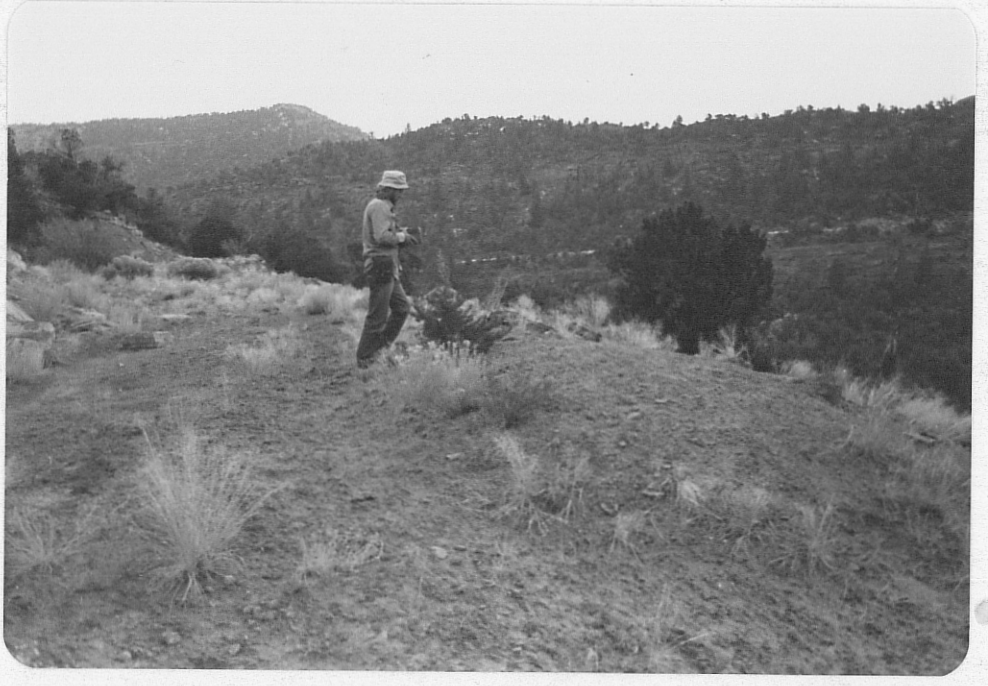

Photo (b) H.B. Roy #2, looking SW at ore stockpile/dump area.

Date visited 11/15/79

Mine name(s) Reed Henderson (Reed Henderson Claims) County San Juan

Section (Unsurveyed) 19 Twnsh. 25 N R. 20 W

Quadrangle sheet Sonsala Butte 1 NE, 7½'

Mining district Chuska

Elevation 7,800'

Nearest city and/or dwellings Sanostee, 9 mi. E NE; additional single family dwellings scattered throughout area.

The Reed Henderson workings in projected section 19 consist only of a 75' long by 30' wide open cut on the western edge of a Todilto limestone capped cuesta, (see photo a). The pit or cut is no deeper than 3 feet at any place, and would be very difficult to find were it not for the road leading into the site. No definite uranium mineralization found at this site, however, Hilpert, 1969 stated that "deposits (of tyuyamunite and metatyuyamunite) are principally on the flanks of intraformational anticlinal folds, which have amplitudes of as much as 1 to 2 feet, are about 3 feet wide, and 10-15 feet long. The limestone is mineralized in areas of most intense folding."

Minor folding was noted at the site, but scintillometer readings even in these areas were only 300 to 400 cps. Records show that 24 tons of Todilto limestone ore averaging .03% U_3O_8 was shipped in 1954.

Photo (b) offers another view of the disturbed area, and photo (c) gives some indication of the rugged topography in the area. Photo (d) shows a Navajo camp a few hundred feet southeast of the prospect; it is used primarily for pinon nut collecting.

A complete road log discribing the route to this site has been included following photo (d). See also the Chuska District map.

References: (1) Blagbrough, J. W., et. al., 1959, Uranium Reconnaissance and Drilling in the Sanostee area ..." U.S. AEC RME-111.
(2) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uranium Resources of NW New Mexico, U.S.G.S. Prof. Paper 603, p. 51.
(3) U.S. AEC Production Records, courtesy Wm. Chenoweth, U.S. Dept. of Energy.
(4) Field notes, 11/15/79.

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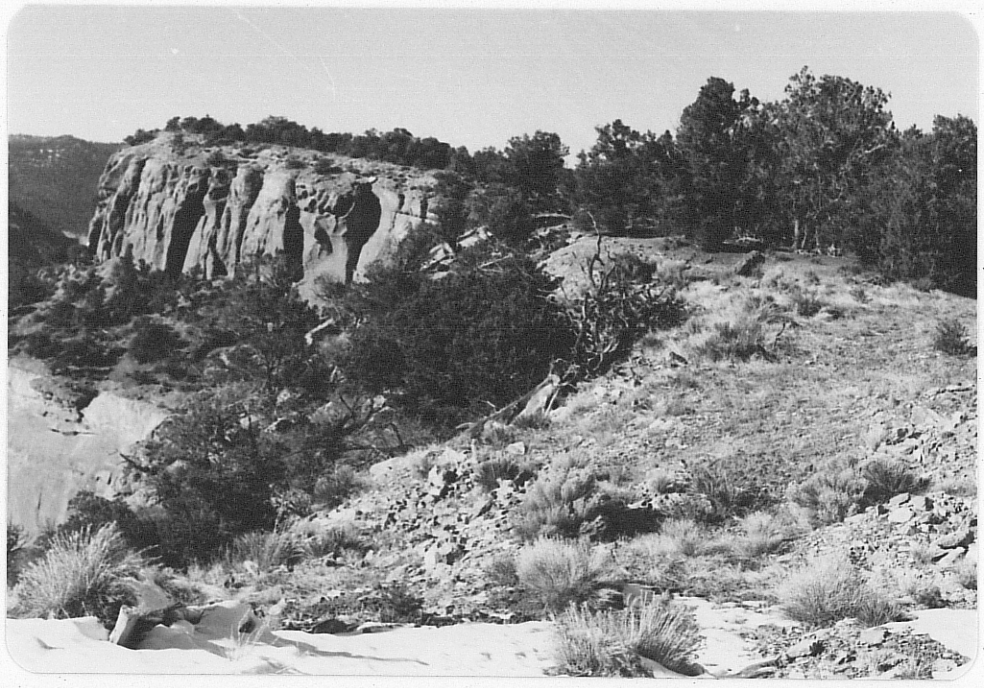

Photo (a) Looking N, at Reed Henderson claim workings; disturbed area in foreground measures about 70' in length, up to 30' wide. Site has largely revegetated itself.



Photo (b) Looking SE at Reed Henderson claim workings, showing southern edge of disturbed area; ponderosa pine seedlings at center middle distance are about 3' tall.



Photo (c) Looking SW from same vantage point as photo (b), showing canyon of Sanostee Wash with Chuska Mtns. in background.

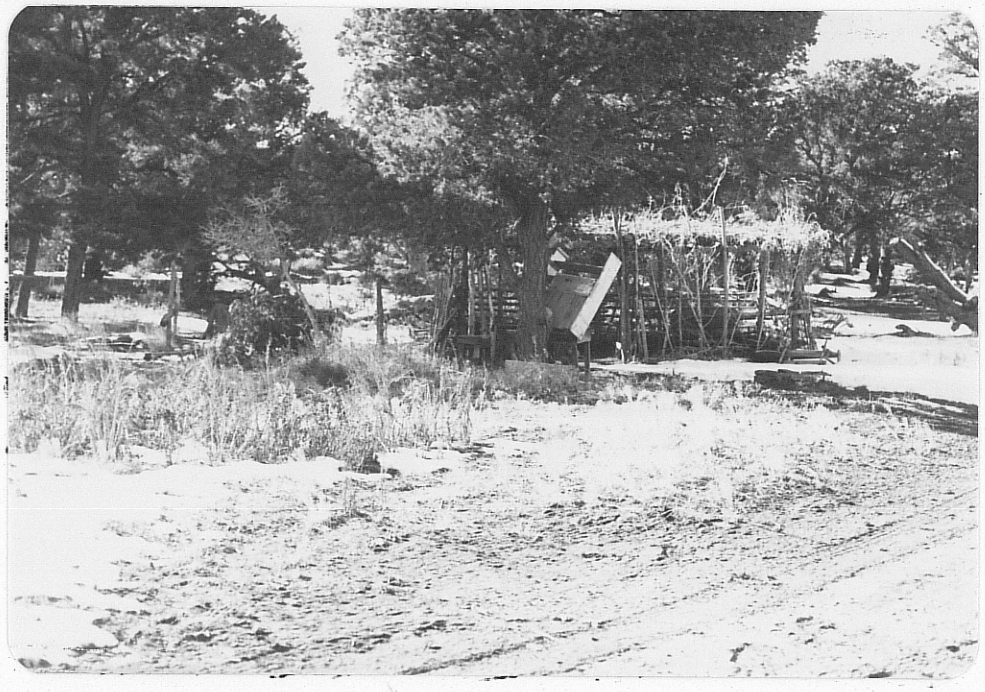

Photo (d) Navajo pinon nut collecting camp several hundred feet from Reed Henderson workings.

REFERENCES FOR CHUSKA DISTRICT

(1) AEC Production Records, courtesy Wm. Chenoweth, U.S. Dept. of Energy.
(2) Blagbrough, J. W., et. al, 1959, Uranium Reconnaissance and Drilling in The Sanostee Area..., AEC RME-111.
(3) Gruner, J., 1956, Concentration of Uranium in Sediments by Multiple Migration-Accretion; Econ. Geol., Vol. 51, No. 6.
(4) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uranium Resources of NW New Mexico, U.S.G.S. pp. 603.

OTHER SAN JUAN CO. MINES

NM-2-O-1

Date visited March 17, 1980

Mine name(s) Hogback Claim **County** San Juan

Section 15 **Twnsh.** 30N. **R.** 16W

Quadrangle sheet Chimney Rock 15'

Mining district (sole occurrence) numerous abandoned Menefee Coal mines in area

Elevation 5,350'

Nearest city and/or dwellings Waterflow, 4 air miles south; numerous other single family dwellings in the area

The Hogback claim is located in the SW-1/4, Sec 15, 30N, 16W. It may be reached by turning north onto the dirt road 8 mi. east of Shiprock at the Hogback. At about 5 mi. the remains of the Davidson coal mine may be seen near the high voltage power transmission line. Claims are .2 mi north of power line on west side of road.

Workings on the claim consist of 3 very small bulldozer cuts. The main one, shown in photo (2), is closest to the road and measures about 20' x 25', up to 2½' deep, with a 4' high waste pile at the east end (photo b). Scintillometer readings here ranged up to 2,000 cps with the highest counts being recorded at the northeast corner of the pit on a bedrock face.

The other two pits lie about 100' to the west of the main one, are much smaller, and have much lower radioactivity values--about 300 cps maximum. They are shown in photos (c) and (d).

Host rock is a yellowish brown to dark grayish brown fine-grained sandstone of the Point Lookout fm. It is actually a tongue of the Point Lookout up in the Menefee fm. (Chenoweth & Carithers, 1955). Mineralization is about 5' below the lowest Menefee Coal bed. The deposit is located on the Hogback monocline which here dips about 10°E.

Several samples collected and assayed by the U.S. AEC showed U_3O_8 grades in the .01 to .003% range (chemically) with radiometric grades up to an order of magnitude higher (Chenoweth & Carithers, 1955). One load of ore was taken out, but was refused at the Shiprock mill.

References

1. Chenoweth, W. L. and Carithers, W., 1955, Preliminary Reconnaissance Report-Hogback claims, U.S. AEC Prr ED:R - 456.

2. Hilpert. L., 1969, Uranium Resources of NW New Mexico, U.S.G.S. Prof. Paper 603.

3. Field notes, 3/17/80.



Photo (a) Hogback claim, main pit, looking east



Photo (b) Hogback claim, east end of main pit and waste pile; looking northeast.



Photo (c) Looking west at one of smaller dozer cuts about 10' wide.



Photo (d) Looking north at small dozer cut with dump from cut in photo (c) visible in background.

Date visited Nov. 16, 1979

Mine name(s) Boyd Claims (Boyd deposit) County San Juan

Section N/2, 3 Twnsh. 30N R. 15W

Quadrangle sheet Waterflow 7 1/2'

Mining district sole occurrence (in Fruitland Coal Field)

Elevation 5,680'

Nearest city and/or dwellings N.M. Public Service Co., San Juan Generating Plant, 3 1/2 mi. south

Workings on the Boyd Claims consist of very small open pit work and some rim stripping and blasting of vertical cliffs in Fruitland fm. sandstone beds. The claims may be reached by leaving U.S. Highway 550 about 12 mi. west of Farmington and traveling north on the hard surfaced road 3 mi. to the New Mexico Public Service Co. San Juan Electrical Generating Plant. At this point a Public Service Co. escort will be required for the remaining 3 1/2 mi. trip northward, as the property is all leased and being actively mined to supply coal to the generating plant. The claims lie in sec. 3 about 1/4 mi south of the Ute Mountain Indian Reservation.

Uranium occurs at the base of a yellowish gray to dusky yellowish gray sandstone lens of the Fruitland fm. At places, such as the prospect pit near the east side of claim no. 10 (see claim map, Fig. 1), this lens contains small (0.5 to 1.5 cm diam.) limonite stained plant impressions. The base of the ore bearing sandstone is usually sharply defined. Underlying it is generally a 0.3' to 1.2' bed of friable sandstone; fine grained, greenish-gray, and argillaceous (Chenoweth, 1958). Photo (a) offers a view of the base of the ore zone in claim no. 10. Photo (b) gives a similar view of the ore zone at the main pit in claim no. 5. Scintillometer readings at these two sites ranged up to 2,500 cps, but no uranium mineralization is apparent. Chenoweth (1958) cited earlier work which indicated most of the uranium occurs as a micro-crystalline film on quartz grains. The main pit is a 50 to 60' long (E-W) rim stripped area which probably produced most of the 73.8 tons of ore reportedly shipped to the mill in Shiprock in 1955. The ore averaged 0.05% U_3O_8 and 0.05% V_2O_5, although one shipment reportedly went at 0.10% U_3O_8.

Photos (c) and (d) are views of small prospect pits in the southern portion of claim no. 5 where scintillometer readings of 2,000 cps or higher were recorded.

None of the workings constitute a hazard. The Public Service Land Co., a subsidiary of New Mexico Public Service Co. has recently staked claims in the area, perhaps to insure that their coal exploration and development work can progress as planned.

References:

(1) Chenoweth, W., 1958, The Boyd Uranium Deposit in the Fruitland Formation, San Juan Co. N.M., U.S. A.E.C. RME-107.

(over)

(2) Hilpert, L., 1969, Uranium Resources of N.W. New Mexico, U.S.G.S. Prof. paper 603, p. 52

(3) Field notes, 11/16/79

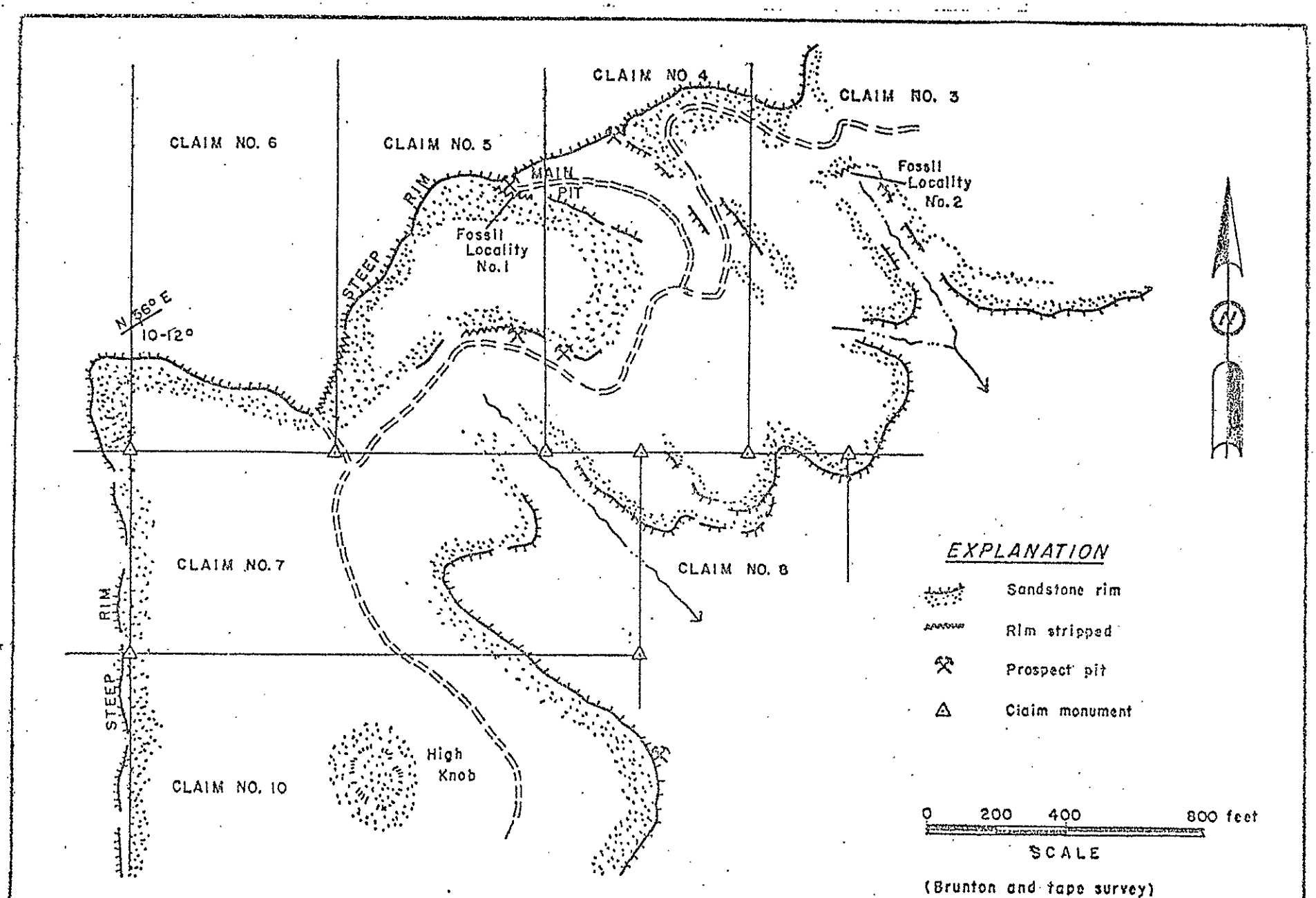

Figure – 1 Plan of the Boyd claims, San Juan County, New Mexico

After Chenoweth (1958)

53-184

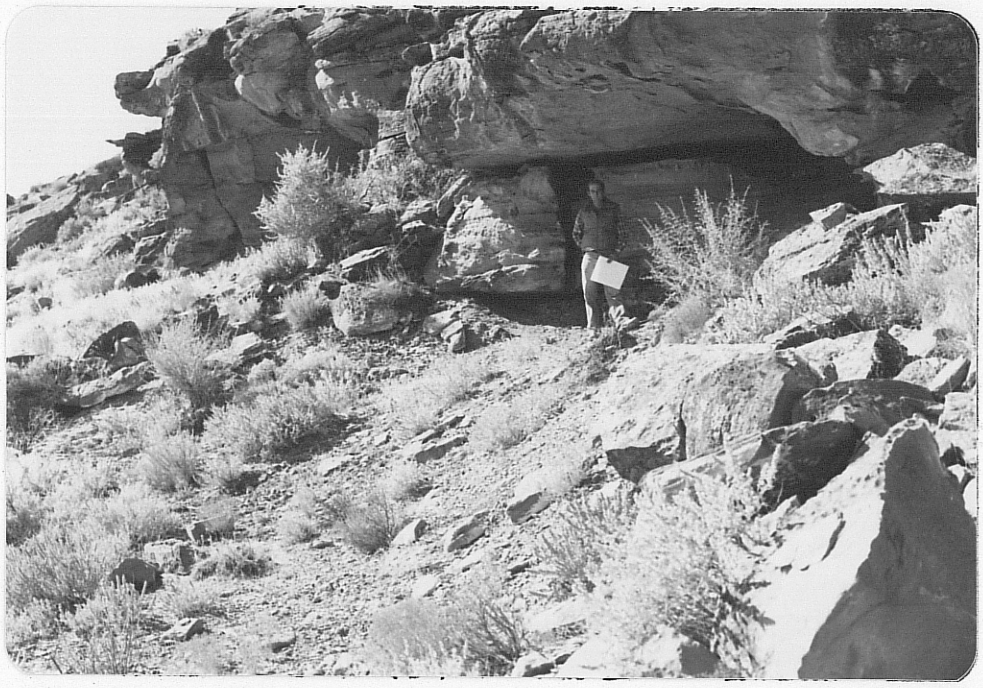

Photo (a) Looking SW at prospect pit, east end of claim no. 10 of Boyd Claims. Person in photo is standing near base of ore zone.



Photo (b) Looking SW at main pit in claim no. 5. Again note person standing at level of ore zone.

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Photo (c) Small prospect pit in southern portion of claim no. 5, looking NW.

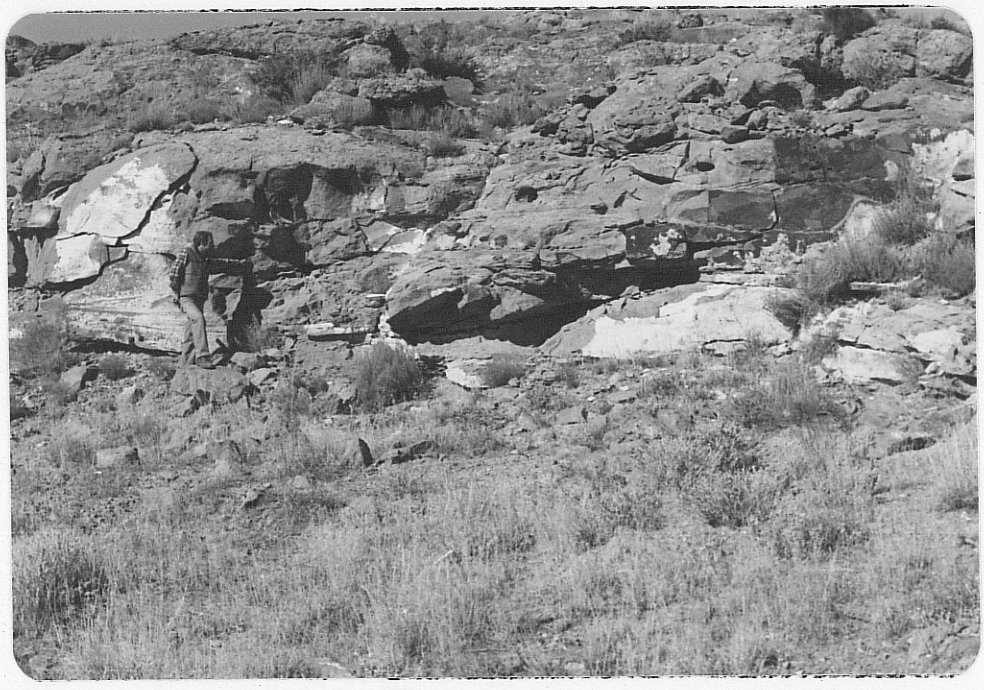

Photo (d) Small prospect pit in southern portion claim no. 5, showing evidence of blasting.

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