



**INITIAL CULTURAL RESOURCE IMPACT PREDICTION FOR
THE NEW SOUTHERN COLORADO NATIONAL CEMETERY
IN EL PASO COUNTY, COLORADO**

by

Travis R. Bugg

Submitted to:

**Studley, Inc.
555 13th Street, NW
Suite 420 E
Washington, DC 20004**

Submitted by:

**Centennial Archaeology, Inc.
300 East Boardwalk Building 4-C
Fort Collins, Colorado 80525**

Principal Investigator: Christian J. Zier

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CONTENTS

| <u>Section</u> | <u>Page</u> |
|--|--------------------|
| Introduction..... | 1 |
| Research Results | 7 |
| 4 Way Ranch..... | 14 |
| Rolling Hills Ranch..... | 15 |
| Bradley Heights | 18 |
| Conclusions..... | 20 |
| Summary | 20 |
| Recommendations for Additional Work..... | 21 |
| General Recommendations | 21 |
| Specific Recommendations..... | 22 |
| References Cited..... | 32 |

LIST OF FIGURES

| <u>Figures</u> | <u>Page</u> |
|--|--------------------|
| 1 Map of El Paso County, Colorado showing the project location..... | 2 |
| 2 USGS 1:24,000 scale maps showing project study areas (4 sheets)..... | 3 |
| 3 View of 4 Way Ranch Study Area looking west | 15 |
| 4 View of Rolling Hills Study Area looking southeast..... | 17 |
| 5 Windmill in eastern portion of Rolling Hills Ranch proposed site location..... | 17 |
| 6 View of Bradley Heights Study Area looking northeast | 19 |
| 7 Modern building in southeastern corner of Bradley Heights proposed site location...19 | |
| 8 USGS 1:24,000 scale maps showing project study areas, previously cultural surveys, and previously recorded sites (4 sheets)..... | 23 |
| 9 USGS 1:24,000 scale maps showing project study areas and historic USGS map feature locations (4 sheets) | 27 |

LIST OF TABLES

| <u>Table</u> | | <u>Page</u> |
|---------------------|--|--------------------|
| 1 | Areas Covered in the Initial Cultural Research Impact Prediction for the New Southern Colorado Cemetery Project..... | 1 |
| 2 | File Search Data: Previously Conducted Surveys within One-Half Mile of the New Southern Colorado Cemetery Project..... | 8 |
| 3 | File Search Data: Previously Recorded Cultural Resources within One-Half Mile of the New Southern Colorado Cemetery Project..... | 10 |
| 4 | Map Review Data: USGS and GLO Features within One-Half Mile of the New Southern Colorado Cemetery Project..... | 12 |

Introduction

The purpose of this report is to describe the results of an initial cultural resource impact prediction study for the New Southern Colorado National Cemetery Project in El Paso County, Colorado (Figure 1). The project is a preliminary study for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to predict the impacts on cultural resources at three proposed site locations being considered for the construction of a national cemetery. The study provides baseline data and makes recommendations with regard to potential actions on the human environment under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and on historic resources under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). The study will be used to inform the VA’s consultation with the Colorado State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) as well as future development of any necessary scope of work for a more detailed impact assessment.

The New Southern Colorado National Cemetery project area involves three site alternatives (one of which is divided into two options) in El Paso County. The study area includes each proposed construction site (“proposed site”) and a one-half mile buffer for each site (“study area”). The one-half mile buffer serves to include surrounding areas that may be directly or indirectly impacted by the project. The alternative sites locations are featured in the table below, with acreages and legal location information.

Table 1
Areas Covered in the Initial Cultural Research Impact Prediction
for the New Southern Colorado Cemetery Project

| Proposed Site Location | Approximate Acres | Approximate Study Area Acres | Township | Range | Section(s) |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------|-------------------|
| 4 Way Ranch | 200 | 1538 | 12 S | 64 W | 22, 27, 28 |
| Rolling Hills Ranch - Site Option A | 480 | 3068 | 15 S | 65 W | 1, 2 |
| Rolling Hills Ranch - Site Option B | 472 | | | | |
| Bradley Heights | 495 | 2545 | 15 S | 65 W | 9, 10, 15 |

Centennial Archaeology, Inc. (Centennial) conducted a file search through the Colorado Historical Society/Office of Archaeology and Historical Preservation (OAHP) Compass online database on April 9, 2012. This database provides records of all archaeological investigations that have been conducted and all cultural resources (prehistoric and historic archaeological sites) that have been recorded previously in the project area. Included are records of National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) properties and Tribal Cultural Properties (TCP). Additionally, OAHP provided GIS data of sites and surveys clipped to a one-half mile buffer around the proposed project area. Centennial also reviewed historic General Land Office (GLO) records and historic U.S. Geologic Survey (USGS) maps to determine if vestiges of trails, transportation routes, homesteads, or other resources may be present in the project area.

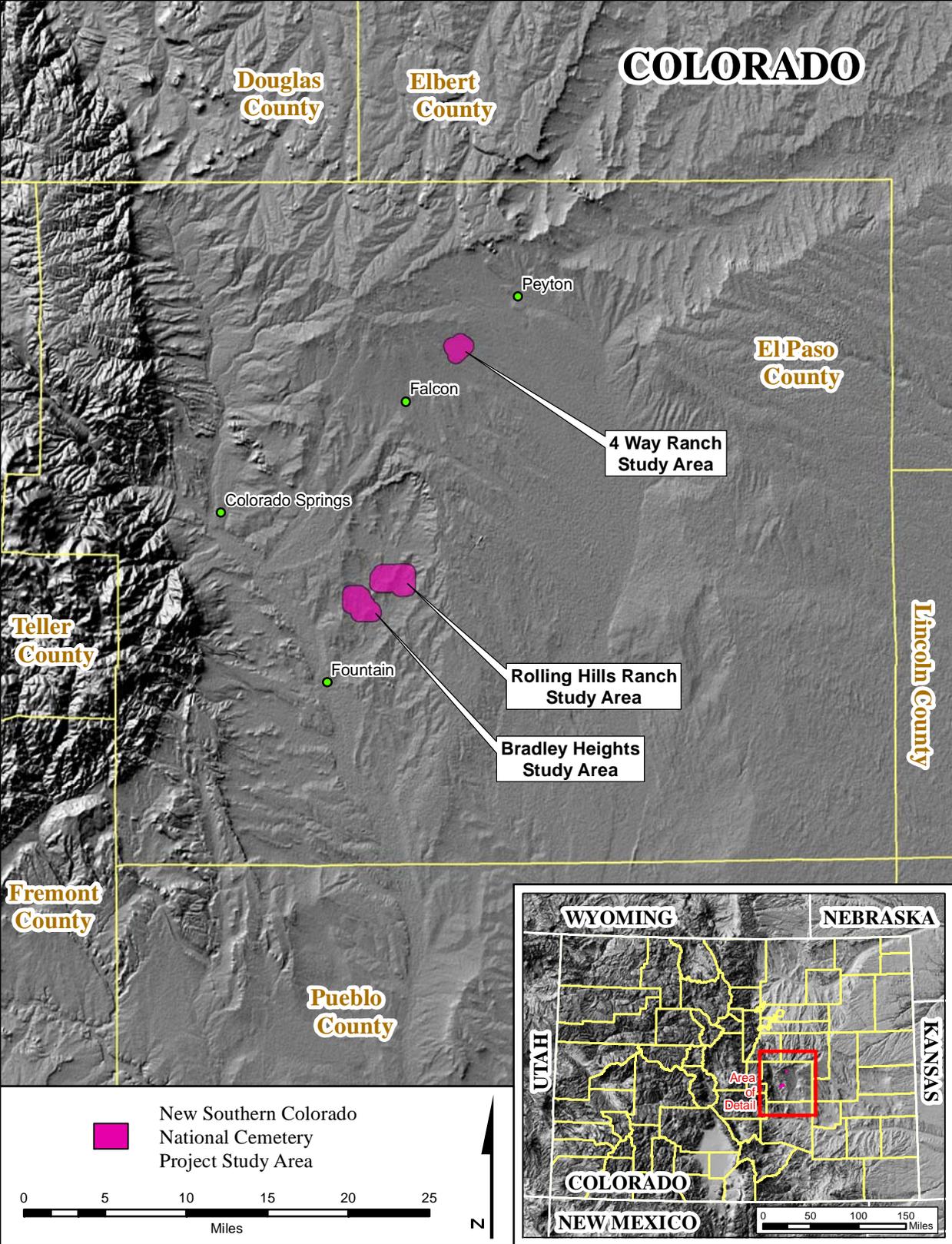


Figure 1. Map of El Paso County, Colorado showing the project location.

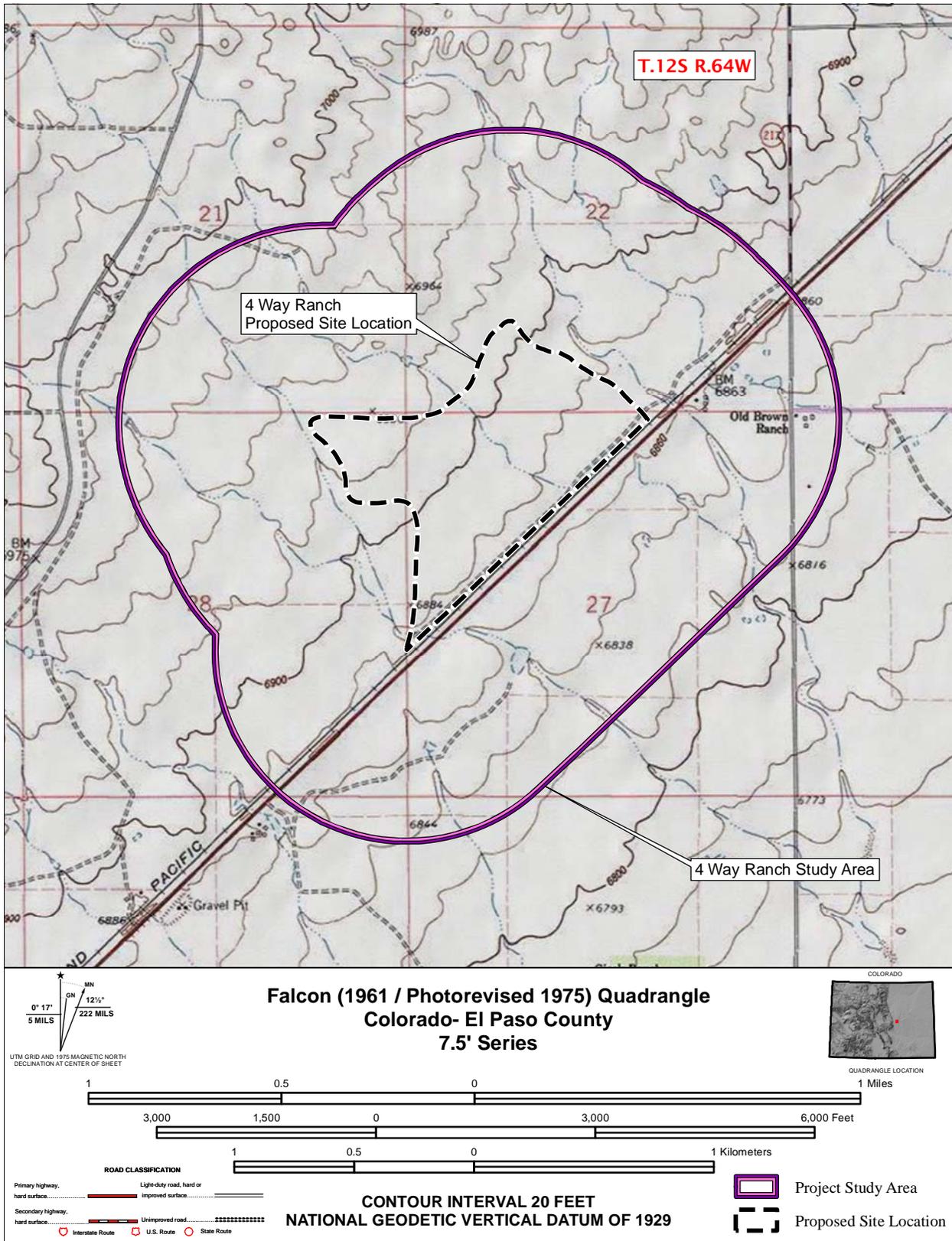


Figure 2, Sheet 1 of 4. USGS 1:24,000 scale map showing project study areas.

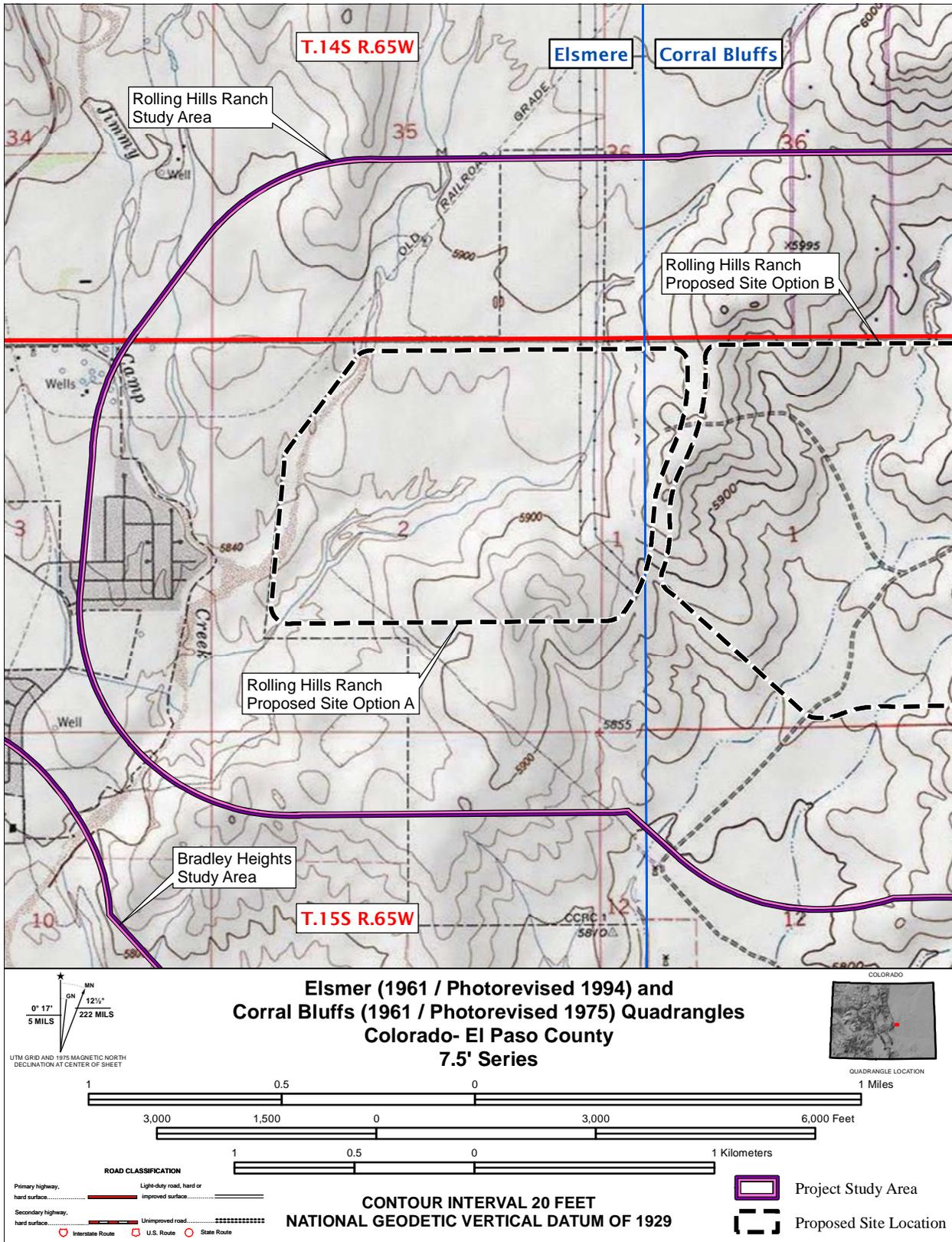


Figure 2, Sheet 2 of 4. USGS 1:24,000 scale map showing project study areas.

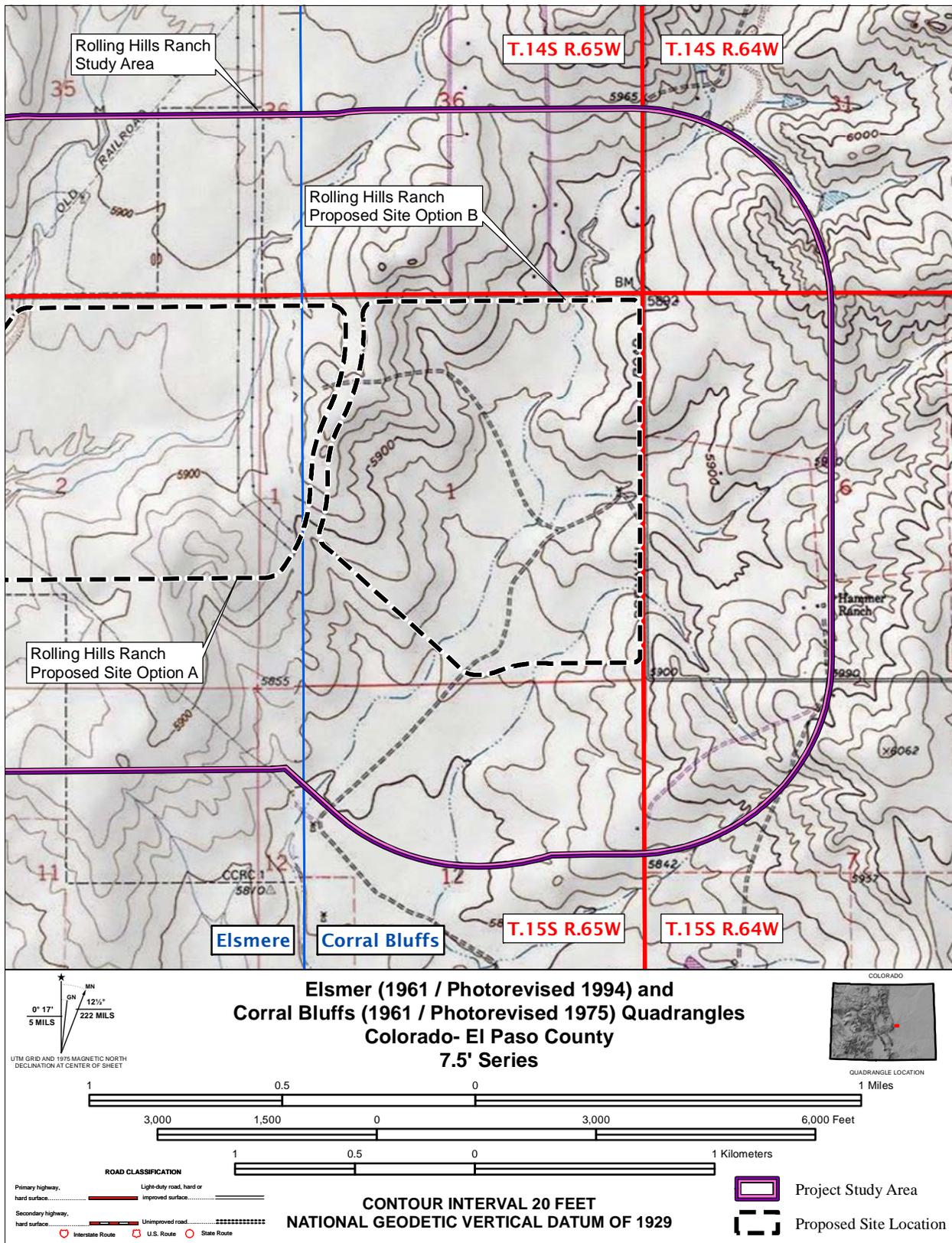


Figure 2, Sheet 3 of 4. USGS 1:24,000 scale map showing project study areas.

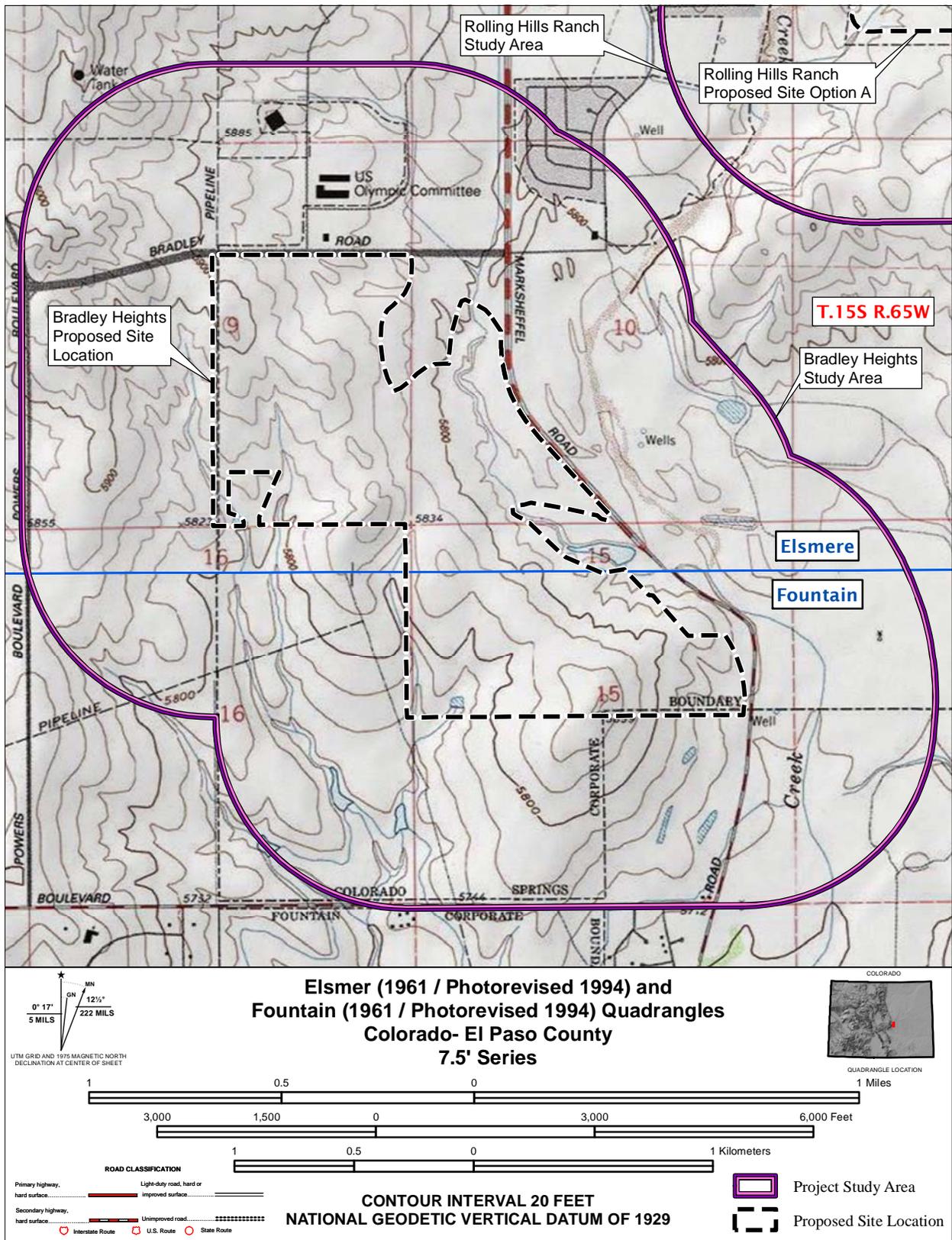


Figure 2, Sheet 4 of 4. USGS 1:24,000 scale map showing project study areas.

As a supplement to the file search and map review, Centennial contacted experts in the Colorado Springs area to garner additional information concerning sites or investigations near the study areas. The following is a list of sources contacted and their responses.

University of Colorado at Colorado Springs (UCCS)

William R. Arbogast – Responded but rendered no specific information.

Minette Church – Responded but rendered no specific information.

Roche M. Lindsey – Sent a report on nearby site 5EP2762

Thomas Wynn – No response.

Colorado Archaeological Society (CAS) / Pikes Peak Chapter

Laurie Lee, Chapter President – No response.

City of Colorado Springs / Pioneers Museum

Matt Mayberry, Museum Director – Responded that the museum does not have collections from the study areas, but suggested that Centennial consult records of the Southern Delivery Supply Project in the vicinity.

Field inspections were also conducted by Centennial at each of the three study areas on April, 18, 2012. Permission was granted from Peter Martz, the land owner of the 4 Way Ranch, and from Craig Anderson, the land broker for the Rolling Hills and Bradley Heights proposed sites, to visit these areas for the purpose of documenting the general character of the land as well as buildings, structures, and other cultural features. Special attention was paid to areas in which archaeological sites had been recorded previously and historic resources were depicted on historic USGS or GLO maps. No formal recording was performed, and no test excavation or subsurface probing was implemented.

Research Results

On March 9, 2012, Centennial conducted a file search for the New Southern Colorado National Cemetery Project. This file search was conducted through the OAHP Compass online cultural research database and from GIS data procured from the OAHP. The Compass database includes records of all archaeological investigations conducted and all cultural resources (prehistoric and historic archaeological sites) that have been recorded in the study area. TCPs and NRHP properties are also included in the database.

The online file search and GIS analysis revealed that a total of 14 prior investigations have taken place and that 23 cultural resources have been recorded within one-half mile of the proposed cemetery sites. This information is summarized in Tables 1 and 2, respectively. The previous investigations consist almost entirely of Class III (intensive) linear surveys along roadways, although one water pipeline survey and two oil and gas pipeline surveys were performed as well. Three block surveys and one combination block/linear survey have also been implemented. The 23 cultural resources that have been identified within the study areas include

Table 2
File Search Data: Previously Conducted Surveys within One-Half Mile of the New Southern Colorado Cemetery Project

| OAHP Survey ID | Year | Project Name (OAHP Project No. in Parenthesis) | Project Type | Investigation Type | Study Area (Site Option) |
|-----------------------|-------------|--|---------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| EP.CH.NR33 | 1994 | Cultural Resource Survey Of Two Bridges East Of Falcon On US Highway 24, El Paso County, Colorado (CXBRF 04-0024-44) | Class III | Linear | 4-Way Ranch |
| EP.CH.NR46 | 2000 | An Intensive Archaeological Resource Survey At Several Intersections Along US Highway 24 Between Falcon & Calhan, El Paso County, Colorado (NH 0243-060) | Class III | Linear | 4-Way Ranch |
| EP.CH.R29 | 2001 | An Intensive Archaeological Resource Inventory Along Us Highway 24 Between Powers Boulevard & Calhan, El Paso County, Colorado (NH 0243-00058 And NH 0243-059) | Class III | Linear | 4-Way Ranch |
| EP.CH.R30 | 2000 | Historical Architectural Resources Study Along U.S. Highway 24 From Peterson Road To The Western Edge Of Calhan, Colorado | Class III | Linear | 4-Way Ranch |
| EP.AE.NR6 | 2009 | A Class III Cultural Resource Inventory Of 34.74 Acres Including A 15-Acre Preferred Parcel For A Proposed U.S. Army Reserve Center Between Foreign Trade Zone Boulevard And Aerospace Boulevard In Colorado Springs, El Paso County, Colorado | Class III | Block | Bradley Heights |
| EP.CH.NR18 | 1988 | Archaeological Survey Of Two Bridge Replacements & One Road Re-Alignment, El Paso County, Colorado (BRM 2910(1), BRM 2926(1), HOS 0002(15)) | Class III | Linear | Bradley Heights |
| EP.CH.R39 | 1977 | The Archaeological Survey Of The Proposed Powers Boulevard Corridor Colorado Springs, El Paso County, Colorado (M-7780(1)) | Class III | Linear | Bradley Heights |

| OAHP Survey ID | Year | Project Name (OAHP Project No. in Parenthesis) | Project Type | Investigation Type | Study Area (Site Option) |
|-----------------------|-------------|---|-----------------------|---------------------------|---|
| EP.CH.R49 | 2004 | A Class III Cultural Resource Inventory Of The Powers Boulevard Corridor El Paso County, Colorado (Original And Addendum) | Class III | Linear | Bradley Heights |
| MC.E.R35 | 2000 | Colorado Interstate Gas Company's Proposed Valley Line Expansion And 5C-24 Central Pipelines: Cultural Resource Inventory And Evaluation In Adams, Arapahoe, Douglas, Elbert, El Paso & Weld Counties, Colorado | Class III | Linear | Bradley Heights |
| EP.CH.R17 | 1996 | An Intensive Archaeological Inventory Of The Proposed Falcon Air Force Base Defense Access Road, El Paso County, Colorado (Original And Addendum) | Class III | Linear | Bradley Heights / Rolling Hills (Site Option B) |
| EP.AE.NR2 | 1989 | An Archaeological Survey Of 80 Acres Of Private Land Along Jimmy Camp Creek Between Bradley Road And Drennan Road, Colorado Springs, El Paso County, Colorado | Class III | Block | Rolling Hills (Site Option A) |
| MC.FS.R103 | 1994 | Cultural Resource Inventory And Excavations For The Diamond Shamrock Colorado Springs Pipeline, Southeastern Colorado | Class III | Linear | Rolling Hills (Site Option A) |
| EP.R.R6 | 2006 | Cultural Resource Inventory Report Of Rolling Hills Ranch, Colorado Springs, El Paso County, Colorado | Class III | Block | Rolling Hills (Site Option A and B) |
| MC.R.R82 | 2008 | A Class I And Class III Cultural Resources Inventory Of The Southern Delivery System Project, Chaffee, El Paso, Fremont, And Pueblo Counties, Colorado (Volumes 1-3) | Class I and Class III | Linear and Block | Rolling Hills (Site Option A and B) |

Table 3
File Search Data: Previously Recorded Cultural Resources within One-Half Mile
of the New Southern Colorado Cemetery Project

| Site Number - Name | Site Age | Site Type | NRHP Eligibility* | USGS 7.5' Quadrangle(s) | Township | Range | Section(s) | Study Area | Inside Proposed Site Location |
|--|-------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|----------|-------|------------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| 5EP1815.1 - Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railway Co. Segment | Historic | Railroad | OE | Falcon | 12S | 64W | 22, 27, 28 | 4-Way Ranch | No |
| 5EP3600 | Historic | Bridge | ONE | Falcon | 12S | 64W | 27 | 4-Way Ranch | No |
| 5EP3794 - Hobbs/Phelps House | Historic | Historic Structure | ONE | Falcon | 12S | 64W | 27 | 4-Way Ranch | No |
| 5EP2174.1 - Franceville Spur of Denver and New Orleans Railroad | Historic | Railroad | ONE | Elsmere | 14S | 65W | 2, 3 | Rolling Hills | No |
| 5EP2583 | Prehistoric | Isolated Find | FNE | Elsmere | 15S | 65W | 11 | Rolling Hills | No |
| 5EP2584 | Prehistoric | Isolated Find | FNE | Corral Bluffs | 15S | 65W | 12 | Rolling Hills | No |
| 5EP5099 | Prehistoric | Open Camp | ONE | Corral Bluffs | 15S | 65W | 1 | Rolling Hills | Yes |
| 5EP5100 | Prehistoric | Isolated Find | FNE | Corral Bluffs | 15S | 65W | 1 | Rolling Hills | Yes |
| 5EP5101 | Prehistoric | Isolated Find | FNE | Corral Bluffs | 15S | 65W | 1 | Rolling Hills | Yes |
| 5EP5102 | Prehistoric | Isolated Find | FNE | Corral Bluffs | 15S | 65W | 1 | Rolling Hills | |
| 5EP5103 | Prehistoric | Isolated Find | FNE | Corral Bluffs | 15S | 65W | 2 | Rolling Hills | Yes |
| 5EP5104 | Prehistoric | Isolated Find | FNE | Corral Bluffs | 15S | 65W | 2 | Rolling Hills | Yes |
| 5EP5105 | Prehistoric | Isolated Find | FNE | Corral Bluffs | 15S | 65W | 1 | Rolling Hills | Yes |
| 5EP5106 | Prehistoric | Isolated Find | FNE | Corral Bluffs | 15S | 65W | 1 | Rolling Hills | Yes |
| 5EP5107 | Prehistoric | Open Lithic Scatter | ONE | Elsmere | 15S | 65W | 2 | Rolling Hills | Yes |

| Site Number - Name | Site Age | Site Type | NRHP Eligibility* | USGS 7.5' Quadrangle(s) | Township | Range | Section(s) | Study Area | Inside Proposed Site Location |
|--------------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|----------|-------|------------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| 5EP5108 | Prehistoric | Open Lithic Scatter | ONE | Elsmere | 15S | 65W | 2 | Rolling Hills | Yes |
| 5EP5109 | Prehistoric | Open Lithic Scatter | ONE | Elsmere | 15S | 65W | 2 | Rolling Hills | Yes |
| 5EP5110 | Prehistoric | Open Lithic Scatter | ONE | Corral Bluffs | 15S | 65W | 1 | Rolling Hills | Yes |
| 5EP5111 | Prehistoric | Isolated Find | FNE | Corral Bluffs | 15S | 65W | 1 | Rolling Hills | Yes |
| 5EP5112 | Prehistoric | Isolated Find | FNE | Corral Bluffs | 15S | 65W | 1 | Rolling Hills | No |
| 5EP5113 | Prehistoric | Isolated Find | FNE | Elsmere | 15S | 65W | 11 | Rolling Hills | No |
| 5EP5114 | Historic | Isolated Find | FNE | Corral Bluffs | 15S | 65W | 12 | Rolling Hills | No |
| 5EP5121 | Historic | Farm | ONE | Elsmere | 15S | 65W | 2 | Rolling Hills | Yes |

* OE = Officially Eligible; ONE = Officially Not Eligible; FNE - Field Not Eligible

Table 4
Map Review Data: USGS Features within One-Half Mile
of the New Southern Colorado Cemetery Project

| USGS Map | Feature | Label | Count | Year | Study Area |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|--|--------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Colorado Springs 1:125,000 scale map | Train Station | Franceville Junction | 1 | 1893 | Rolling Hills |
| Colorado Springs 1:125,000 scale map | Structure | None | 2 | 1909 | 4 Way Ranch |
| Colorado Springs 1:125,000 scale map | Structure | None | 2 | 1909 | Rolling Hills |
| Falcon 1:24,000 scale map | Structure | Old Brown Ranch | 1 | 1948 | 4 Way Ranch |
| Falcon 1:24,000 scale map | Structure | None | 1 | 1948 | 4 Way Ranch |
| Fountain 1:24,000 scale map | Structure | None | 2 | 1948 | Bradley Heights |
| Corral Bluffs 1:24,000 scale map | Structure | Hammer Ranch | 1 | 1949 | Rolling Hills |
| Corral Bluffs 1:24,000 scale map | Windmill | Windmill | 1 | 1949 | Rolling Hills |
| Elsemere 1:24,000 scale map | Structure | None | 10 | 1950 | Bradley Heights |
| Elsemere 1:24,000 scale map | Structure | None | 4 | 1950 | Rolling Hills |
| Corral Bluffs 1:24,000 scale map | Structure | None | 12 | 1961 | Rolling Hills |
| Corral Bluffs 1:24,000 scale map | Structure | Hammer Ranch | 4 | 1961 | Rolling Hills |
| Elsemere 1:24,000 scale map | Structure | None | 3 | 1961 | Bradley Heights |
| Elsemere 1:24,000 scale map | Structure | US Olympic Committee | 2 | 1961 | Bradley Heights |
| Elsemere 1:24,000 scale map | Well | Well | 2 | 1961 | Bradley Heights |
| Falcon 1:24,000 scale map | Structure | None | 4 | 1961 | 4 Way Ranch |
| Falcon 1:24,000 scale map | Structure | Old Brown Ranch | 3 | 1961 | 4 Way Ranch |
| Fountain 1:24,000 scale map | Well | Well | 1 | 1961 | Bradley Heights |
| Fountain 1:24,000 scale map | Windmill | Windmill | 2 | 1961 | Bradley Heights |
| Colorado Springs 1:125,000 scale map | Railroad | Chicago Rock Island and Pacific Railroad | 1 | 1893 | 4 Way Ranch |
| Colorado Springs 1:125,000 scale map | Railroad | Denver Texas and Fort Worth Railroad | 1 | 1893 | Bradley Heights |
| Colorado Springs 1:125,000 scale map | Road | None | 1 | 1893 | Bradley Heights |

| USGS Map | Feature | Label | Count | Year | Study Area |
|---|----------------|--|--------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Colorado Springs 1:125,000 scale map | Railroad | Denver Texas and Fort Worth Railroad | 1 | 1893 | Rolling Hills |
| Colorado Springs 1:125,000 scale map | Road | None | 2 | 1893 | Rolling Hills |
| Colorado Springs 1:125,000 scale map | Road | None | 1 | 1909 | 4 Way Ranch |
| Colorado Springs 1:125,000 scale map | Railroad | Denver Texas and Fort Worth Railroad | 1 | 1909 | Bradley Heights |
| Colorado Springs 1:125,000 scale map | Road | None | 2 | 1909 | Bradley Heights |
| Colorado Springs 1:125,000 scale map | Railroad | Chicago Rock Island and Pacific Railroad | 1 | 1909 | Rolling Hills |
| Colorado Springs 1:125,000 scale map | Railroad | Denver Texas and Fort Worth Railroad | 1 | 1909 | Rolling Hills |
| Colorado Springs 1:125,000 scale map | Road | None | 8 | 1909 | Rolling Hills |
| Fountain 1:24,000 scale map | Road | None | 2 | 1948 | Bradley Heights |
| Corral Bluffs 1:24,000 scale map | Road | Drennan Road | 3 | 1949 | Rolling Hills |
| Corral Bluffs 1:24,000 scale map | Road | None | 3 | 1949 | Rolling Hills |
| Elsemere 1:24,000 scale map | Railroad | Denver Texas and Fort Worth Railroad | 1 | 1950 | Bradley Heights |
| Elsemere 1:24,000 scale map | Road | None | 3 | 1950 | Bradley Heights |
| Elsemere 1:24,000 scale map | Road | Drennan Road | 1 | 1950 | Rolling Hills |
| Elsemere 1:24,000 scale map | Road | None | 1 | 1950 | Rolling Hills |
| Corral Bluffs 1:24,000 scale map | Road | Drennan Road | 3 | 1961 | Rolling Hills |
| Corral Bluffs 1:24,000 scale map | Road | None | 5 | 1961 | Rolling Hills |
| Elsemere 1:24,000 scale map | Road | Bradley Road | 1 | 1961 | Bradley Heights |
| Elsemere 1:24,000 scale map | Road | Marksheffel Road | 1 | 1961 | Bradley Heights |
| Elsemere 1:24,000 scale map | Road | None | 2 | 1961 | Bradley Heights |
| Falcon 1:24,000 scale map | Road | None | 2 | 1961 | 4 Way Ranch |
| Historic Trail Map of the Pueblo 1 x 2 Quadrangle | Trail | Jimmy Camp Trail | 1 | 1975 | Bradley Heights |
| Historic Trail Map of the Pueblo 1 x 2 Quadrangle | Trail | None | 2 | 1975 | Bradley Heights |
| Historic Trail Map of the Pueblo 1 x 2 Quadrangle | Trail | None | 4 | 1975 | Rolling Hills |

five prehistoric sites, 12 prehistoric isolated finds, five historic sites, and one historic isolated find. Detailed results for each alternative study area are presented below.

4 Way Ranch

The 4 Way Ranch site is a 200-acre parcel that borders U.S. Highway 24 between Falcon and Peyton, Colorado. It is located approximately four miles southeast of the Black Forest on the southern flank of the Palmer Divide in east-central Colorado, within the Colorado Piedmont section of the Great Plains Physiographic Province (Osterkamp and Gustavson 1987). The study area encompasses approximately 1,538 acres and includes the 200-acre proposed alternative and a one-half mile buffer. The elevation of the area ranges from 6800 ft to 6930 ft above sea level. The topography is characterized by gently rolling plains and hills, and is punctuated by intermittent drainages that trend to the southeast, along a gradual slope (Figures 2 and 3). Soils across the study area consist mostly of sandy loams (U.S. Department of Agriculture 2011) that cover a base of Quaternary alluvium and sandstone (U.S. Geological Survey 2005).

Vegetation observed during the field inspection includes blue grama, rabbitbrush, barrel cactus, and prickly pear cactus. The area is dominated, however, by short grasses, bunch grasses, and forbs. Miner's candle, cottonwood, and an unidentified species of pine were also observed near the unnamed drainage along the southwestern edge of the proposed cemetery site.

Very little of the proposed 4 Way Ranch site has been surveyed for cultural resources. In fact, only a 4.5-acre strip of the proposed site that borders the road has been surveyed, as part of an intensive archaeological resource inventory along U.S. 24 (EP.CH.R29). Within the study area, 165 acres have been inventoried as a result of three additional cultural surveys. All three took place along U.S. 24, as well (Table 2). Of the three previously recorded cultural resources in the 4 Way Ranch study area, none are located in the proposed 200-acre cemetery site itself, and only one has been assessed as eligible for the NRHP (Table 3). This site is the historic alignment of the Chicago, Rock Island, and Pacific Railway (5EP1815.1). It runs parallel to U.S. 24 on the north side of the road, and was converted into a gravel recreational trail by the El Paso County Recreation Department sometime in the 1990s (Litvak 1999). The remaining two sites are also historic. Site 5PE3600 is a bridge on U.S. 24 near the northeastern extent of the proposed cemetery site, and 5EP3794 is the historic Hobbs/Phelps house site, which is located on the south side of U.S. 24, across from the proposed site location. Both of these sites have been assessed as officially not eligible for the NRHP (Figure 8).

A map review of historic GLO and USGS maps revealed that the 1909 USGS Colorado Springs 1:125,000 scale map features a road network that passed through the western portion of the proposed cemetery site and the northern portion of the study area, as well as unnamed structures in the western and eastern portions of the study area. The unnamed structure on the east side of U.S. 24 is labeled "Old Brown Ranch" on later USGS maps. This ranch appears to be standing, although a close inspection of the structures was not made. No vestiges of the 1909 roads or the western unnamed structure were observed during the field inspection. Also, the 1961 USGS Falcon Quadrangle 1:24,000 scale map depicts an unnamed road that traversed the proposed cemetery site, beginning in the southwestern corner and continuing along U.S. 24 to Elbert Road at the northeastern extent of the study area. This road was still partially extant



Figure 3. View of 4 Way Ranch Study Area looking west.

at the time of the field inspection, in the form of a faint linear depression that followed the alignment on the 1961 map. No cultural features appear on the 1868 GLO map for the corresponding township and range (Figure 9)

During the course of the field inspection, three small, possibly historic depressions were noted in the southwestern portion of the proposed site area. One piece of crockery was observed 400 ft northeast of the depressions in a deflated area, one brownish orange chert secondary flake was noted along an intermittent drainage in the center of the proposed cemetery site, and a single piece of fire-altered rock was seen along the large, permanent drainage just northeast of the proposed site location. An earthen berm that formed a stock pond along the central intermittent drainage in the northwest portion of the study area was also observed, although its date of origin is unknown.

Rolling Hills Ranch

The Rolling Hills Ranch study area ranges in elevation from 5800 ft to nearly 6000 ft at its highest point, and is located approximately 12 miles east-southeast of Colorado Springs within the Colorado Piedmont portion of the Great Plains (Osterkamp and Gustavson 1987). The study area is comprised of two proposed cemetery site locations (Site Options A and B). Due to the proximity of these site options, the overlapping one-half mile buffer for each proposed site option has been combined to form a single Rolling Hills Ranch study area. Site Option A is a

480-acre parcel bounded by Drennan Road to the north and an unnamed tributary of Jimmy Camp Creek to the west. Site Option B is located 225 feet east of Site Option A and is bounded by Drennan Road to the north, South Meridian Road to the east, and Bradley Road to the south. The total acreage of the study area is 3,068. The area is characterized by low, gently rolling broad ridges and plains (Figure 4) with sandy soils overlying a base of Cretaceous shale and Quaternary alluvium (U.S. Geological Survey 2005). The study area is dominated by short grasses and yucca, although prickly pear cactus and some cholla cactus are present also. Near the Jimmy Camp Creek tributary on the west side of Site Option A are many cottonwoods, as well. At the time of the field inspection, cattle were present in the proposed site location, and grazing appeared to be the dominant form of land use. A large transmission line corridor runs north/south through Site Option A and angles southeast along the edge of Site Option B.

The Rolling Hills Ranch property was surveyed completely in 2006 by RMC Consultants, Inc. for the Rolling Hills Ranch land developer. Four additional surveys covered parts of the study area as well, resulting in a total of 1,623 surveyed acres. The four additional cultural surveys included an access road survey, a block survey of private land along Jimmy Camp Creek, an oil and gas pipeline survey, and a water pipeline survey (Table 2). Twenty sites were recorded as a result of these cultural inventories (Table 3). Among these were a historic farm (5EP5121) and the Franceville Spur of the Denver and New Orleans Railroad (5EP2174.1), which are both assessed as officially not eligible for the NRHP. One historic (5EP5114) and 12 prehistoric isolated finds (5EP2583, 5EP2584, 5EP5100 – 5EP5106, and 5EP5111 – 5EP5113) were also recorded, and all are assessed as field not eligible. Site 5EP5099, a prehistoric open camp, and four prehistoric open lithic scatters (5PE5107 – 5PE5110) were recorded and assessed as officially not eligible (Figure 8).

Maps consulted for this area include GLO maps from 1866 and 1867, USGS topographic maps from 1893, 1909, 1948, 1950, and 1961, and the USGS Historic Trails map. No historic features were observed within the study area on the GLO maps. Several roads and structures are depicted on the USGS maps, however, as are the Franceville Spur of the Denver and New Orleans Railroad (labeled Denver Texas and Fort Worth Railroad on the 1893 and 1909 topographic maps) and four historic trails. Roads on the historic maps that coincide with the modern alignments of Drennan Road, Meridian Road, and Bradley Road were discounted as probably no longer extant because the modern roads are paved, established routes with little chance of surviving historic components. There are no fewer than 11 historic road alignments in the study area that would require a cultural inventory recording, should they still exist. There are only four historic road alignments in the actual site option areas (two in each proposed site location), and of those only parts of one appeared to be extant at the time of the field inspection. A total of 23 structures appear on the USGS maps within the study area, including an existing windmill in the eastern portion of Site Option B (Figure 5), five structures in the eastern portion of the study area that are labeled “Hammer Ranch” on the 1949 maps and on, and four structures that are part of a historic farm in the western portion of Site Option A. This farm has been recorded as 5EP5121. The remaining unnamed structures are located mostly along the periphery of Site Option B on the east side of the study area, although a lone structure does appear on the 1909 map on the far southwestern portion of the study area (Figure 9). Four unnamed historic trails are shown to be in the study area, three of which pass through Site Option A, and appear to lead to site 5EP5121.



Figure 4. View of Rolling Hills Ranch Study Area looking southeast.



Figure 5. Windmill in eastern portion of Rolling Hills Ranch proposed site location.

The remaining unnamed historic trail passes through the northeastern portion of the study area, some 300 feet from the northeastern corner of Site Option B. No trace of these historic trails was observed during the field inspection.

The field inspection confirmed the existence of the unrecorded windmill that appears on the 1949 USGS Corral Bluffs topographic map, and is located in the eastern part of Site Option B. None of the previously recorded sites in Site Option B were relocated during a quick sweep of the area. Four previously recorded sites (5EP5107 – 5EP5109 and 5EP5121) were relocated to some extent in Site Option A. Sites 5EP5107 – 5EP5109 are open lithic scatters, and two to four flakes were observed in each of the areas where the sites were plotted. Site 5EP5121 is the historic farm, and the foundations of at least three structures are still clearly visible.

Bradley Heights

The Bradley Heights study area is located a little more than 1000 ft southwest of the Rolling Hills Ranch study area, along the corner of Bradley Road and Marksheffel Road, and approximately 10 miles southeast of the center of Colorado Springs. The proposed site encompasses 495 acres, and the study area, 2545 acres. The Bradley Heights study area shares many similarities with the Rolling Hills Ranch study area. It is also located in the Colorado Piedmont portion of the Great Plains, and is characterized by gently rolling broad ridges and plains (Figure 6). The soils consist mostly of sandy loams and clay loams (U.S. Department of Agriculture 2011) that overlie Cretaceous shale and Quaternary alluvium (U.S. Geological Survey 2005). Elevation in the study area ranges from 5700 ft to 5960 ft. Vegetation includes yucca, prickly pear cactus, barrel cactus, short grasses, and rabbitbrush. There are several ephemeral drainages in the southern portion of the study area that drain into Jimmy Camp Creek to the south. Jimmy Camp Creek runs along the east side of the proposed site location within the study area. The study area appears to be used only for grazing. Several water tanks for livestock were observed during the field inspection, and hydrants were found in the southern portion of the proposed site location for convenient water delivery. Both a transmission line corridor and a pipeline corridor run through the study area and the proposed site location, and the Fountain Ditch can be found at the southwestern portion of the study area.

Cultural resource surveys within the Bradley Heights study area have been few in number. A total of six Class III surveys have been conducted on 145 acres within the 2,545-acre study area (Table 2). These include two surveys along Powers Boulevard, one survey along Bradley Road, one bridge survey, a block survey, and a pipeline survey. The pipeline survey crosses the proposed site location and covers eight acres of the 495-acre proposed site. No previously recorded sites are located within the survey area (Table 3 and Figure 8)

A map review of the study area resulted in the delineation of several historic roads, the alignment of the Denver, Texas, and Fort Worth Railroad, three historic trails, the Fountain Ditch, and several historic structures (Figure 9). Nine separate roads that diverge from modern paved road alignments are shown within the study area on USGS maps from 1909 to 1961. Only two of these roads pass through the proposed site area, and one follows the pipeline through the



Figure 6. View of Bradley Heights Study Area looking northeast.



Figure 7. Modern building in southeastern corner of Bradley Heights proposed site location.

northwestern portion. The other road passes through the center of the proposed site in a north/south direction and could not be located during the field inspection. The 1909 USGS Colorado Springs 1:125,000 scale topographic map depicts the Denver, Texas, and Fort Worth Railroad on the east side of the study area along the Jimmy Camp Creek. The railroad alignment loosely parallels the modern Marksheffel Road and does not cross the proposed site area. The USGS Historic Trails map revealed three historic trails in the study area, including the Jimmy Camp Trail (also known as the Cherokee Trail), which runs through the center of the proposed site location, and two unnamed trails that cross the westernmost edge of the study area. No vestiges of any historic trails could be located during the field inspection. Eighteen structures, three wells, and two windmills are demarcated on the historic USGS maps. The U.S. Olympic Committee complex across Bradley Road from the proposed site area accounts for four of the structures. The remaining structures are unnamed and are located in the northeastern and southeastern portions of the study area, in what are now modern residential subdivisions. The windmills are no longer in existence, and it is unknown whether the wells, which were plotted along Jimmy Camp Creek, exist in any form today (Figure 9).

It was determined through the field inspection at the Bradley Heights study area that the only standing structure within the proposed site location is an apparent modern pump house or monitoring station for a pipeline in the far southeastern corner of the proposed site, immediately adjacent to Marksheffel Road (Figure 7). No prehistoric artifacts or features were observed, although there was a sparse scatter of trash, some of which may have been historic, along a faint two-track road on the prominent broad ridge that traverses the proposed site location in a northwest to southeast direction. The Fountain Ditch held water at the time of the field inspection. Research at the Colorado Decision Support Systems (CDSS) website showed that the Fountain Ditch was first adjudicated in 1866, although the portion of the ditch in the study area does not appear on a USGS topographic map until 1948.

Although no trace of the Jimmy Camp Trail was found during the field inspections, the trail was a well-traveled thoroughfare during the mid-to-late 1800s and was purported to be up to 100 feet wide in places with deep wagon ruts (Mathews 1946). The 1866 GLO map does show an unnamed trail one-quarter mile west of the Bradley Heights study area, which could represent the Jimmy Camp Trail.

Conclusions

Summary

Centennial Archaeology, Inc. conducted a thorough cultural resource overview investigation of the three study areas identified for the New Southern Colorado National Cemetery Project. A file search through the OAHCP Compass database was performed and a list of previous cultural resource investigations and recorded archaeological and historical sites was compiled. Historic GLO survey plats and USGS topographic maps were closely reviewed to identify historic features that may remain in the study areas. In addition, historic trail maps produced by the USGS were inspected to delineate past travel routes. Local professional and avocational archaeologists and archaeological organizations were contacted to gain additional information about the study areas. Finally, an on-site inspection of each study area was

performed to achieve a greater understanding of the general topography, hydrography, and vegetation, as well as to examine areas that appeared most likely to harbor historic and prehistoric sites.

Recommendations for Additional Work

General Recommendations: The New Southern Colorado National Cemetery Project is a Federal undertaking as defined by Federal historic preservation law and the National Environmental Policy Act. The U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs may opt to conduct intensive cultural resource inventories of all three alternatives as part of its site selection process. However, Section 106 of NHPA mandates only that such an inventory be undertaken in cases where impacts to cultural resources are likely to occur. Therefore VA is obligated to conduct an investigation only at the site that is ultimately selected as the cemetery location. The Section 106 compliance process would involve the VA as lead Federal agency and the Colorado State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), which resides within the Colorado OAHP. The VA would initiate the process by contacting the Colorado State Archaeologist/Deputy SHPO (Dr. Richard Wilshusen; 303-866-2736; richard.wilshusen@state.co.us) to notify that office about the project, to reach agreement on the area of potential effect (APE) requiring intensive study, and to define clearly the steps required to satisfy the terms of NHPA.

The basic elements of the compliance process would be as follows:

1. Class I file search of the APE. (Note: this requirement will have been met by the study report in the current document, although an update may be needed depending on the project schedule.)
2. Class III intensive field inventory.
3. Assessment of all recorded cultural resources (prehistoric and historic sites and isolates) according to the significance criteria of the NRHP.
4. Production of a technical report describing inventory methods and results, and significance assessments.
5. SHPO-VA consultation on site significance and assessment of project effects on significance cultural resources.
6. Implementation of mitigation measures for significant cultural resources, including production of a technical report for any data-retrieval mitigation activities.

The VA may be represented by a private cultural resource consultant for purposes of implementing Class I and Class III inventories, conducting cultural resource assessments, preparing a technical report, and conducting mitigative activities including report production.

Consultation with Native American tribes will be required. In the context of a Federal undertaking this consultation is regarded as a government-to-government process, meaning that it is the responsibility of the lead Federal agency to consult directly with tribal groups. However, this responsibility may be delegated by the agency to a private consultant which acts in its stead. The VA would initiate the process by contacting the NAGPRA Liaison at the Colorado OAHP (Ms. Sheila Goff; 303-866-4531; sheila.goff@state.co.us) to obtain names and addresses of representatives of tribes having cultural or historical ties to the project area.

If a NEPA document, such as an Environmental Impact Assessment or Environmental Assessment, is prepared by the VA, the information generated by the Section 106 compliance process described above would be compatible with the requirements of that document. No additional cultural resource investigations would be needed.

Specific Recommendations: Depending on the results of the final site selection process, specific recommendations for the three proposed sites are as follows.

4 Way Ranch

The map review for the 4 Way Ranch parcel revealed no historic structures within the proposed 200-acre cemetery site. The land owner confirmed that no structures have existed within the proposed site area, and that it has been used only for grazing (Peter Martz, personal communication to Travis R. Bugg, April 18, 2012). The likelihood of finding traces of a homestead or domicile is therefore diminished, although the presence of crockery noted in a deflated area in the southern portion of the proposed site, and the proximity of railroads and historic trails, suggest that historic artifacts may yet be discovered in this area. A road alignment shown on the 1961 USGS topographic map does exist and warrants a field recording, given its age. Also, site EP1815.1 (the Chicago, Rock Island, and Pacific Railroad) is eligible for the NRHP. Consequently, impacts to this resource need to be assessed.

The presence of at least one prehistoric component in the study area was established during the field inspection by the observation of a chert flake and a piece of fire-altered rock. Prehistoric sites have been discovered in the surrounding areas (Compass 2012), and it is likely that some evidence of prehistoric activity exists in the study area. However, further survey would be necessary to discover the extent and distribution of such activity.

The overall potential for cultural resources in the 4 Way Ranch parcel is low to moderate, although the area remains largely unknown due to the limited amount of prior inventory. A Class III intensive cultural inventory of the area of potential effect is recommended to determine the presence of prehistoric and historic cultural resources.

Rolling Hills Ranch

The Rolling Hills Ranch study area has been largely surveyed in recent years; the two proposed site options were surveyed entirely in 2006. For this reason, a Class III intensive inventory of the area is not recommended. However, it is recommended that the previously recorded sites be revisited and evaluated for changes in condition. In addition, the windmill in the eastern portion of Site Option B dates to 1949 or earlier, as evidenced by the 1949 USGS topographic map on which it is plotted. It therefore qualifies as a historic resource, and would require a site recording should fieldwork be conducted.

Bradley Heights

A file search revealed that very little of the Bradley Heights study area has been surveyed previously. Both prehistoric and historic cultural resources are likely to occur within the area,

and the site potential is considered to be moderate to high. Jimmy Camp Creek runs alongside the proposed site location within the study area and marks an important travel corridor for both prehistoric and historic peoples (Chambellan et al. 2004:21). Although it was not located during the field inspection, the Jimmy Camp Trail is shown to cross the study area on the USGS Historic Trails map. Additionally, the historic USGS topographic maps show that a network of roads has crossed the study area through time, thereby increasing the likelihood of the presence of historic artifacts. Numerous prehistoric sites have been discovered along Jimmy Camp Creek (Lindsey et al. 2008) as well as in the Rolling Hills Ranch study area nearby (Slaughter and Wunderlich 2006), and are no less likely to occur in the Bradley Heights study area.

A Class III intensive cultural inventory of the area of potential effect is recommended to determine the presence of prehistoric and historic cultural resources.

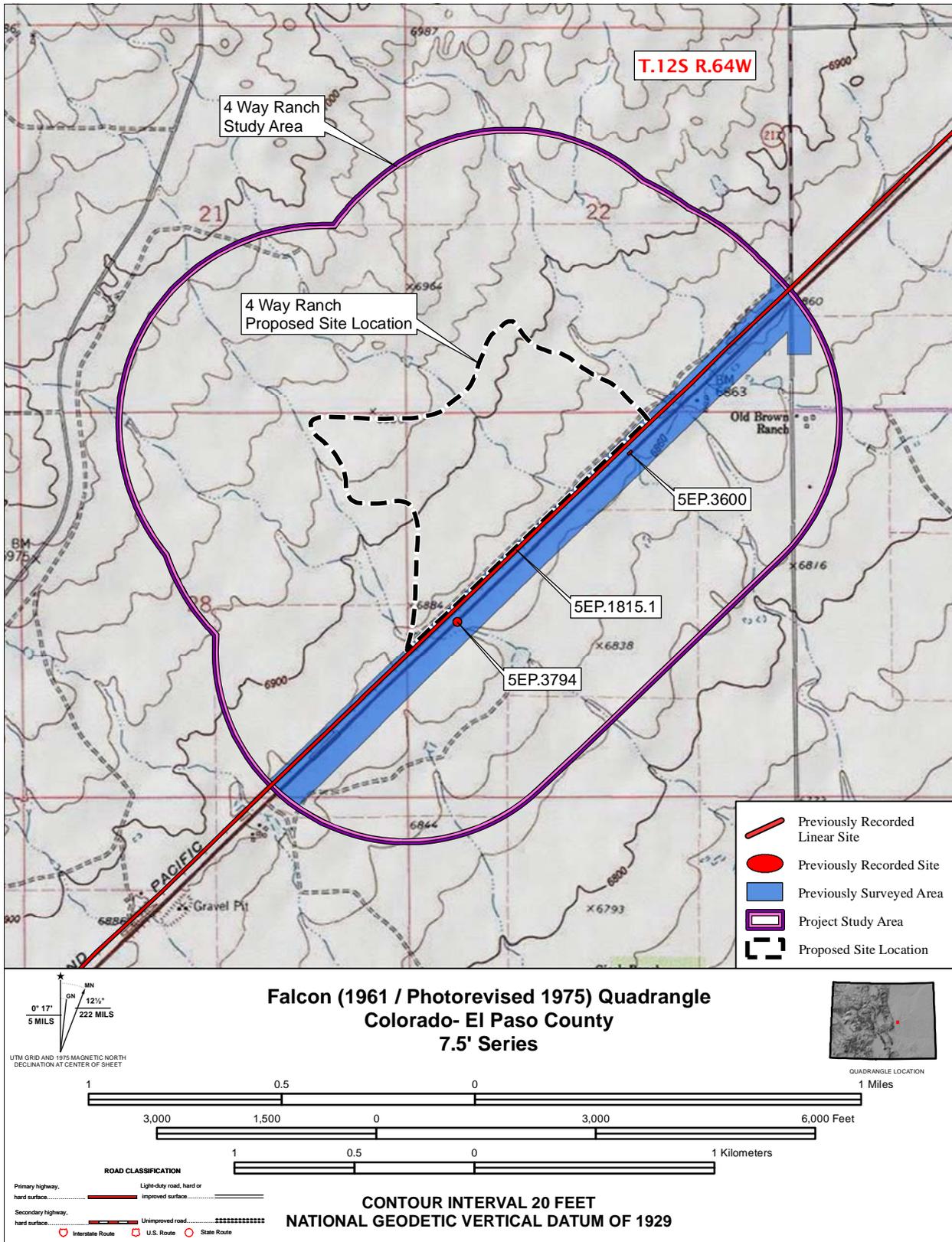


Figure 8, Sheet 1 of 4. USGS 1:24,000 scale map showing project study areas, previously cultural surveys, and previously recorded sites.

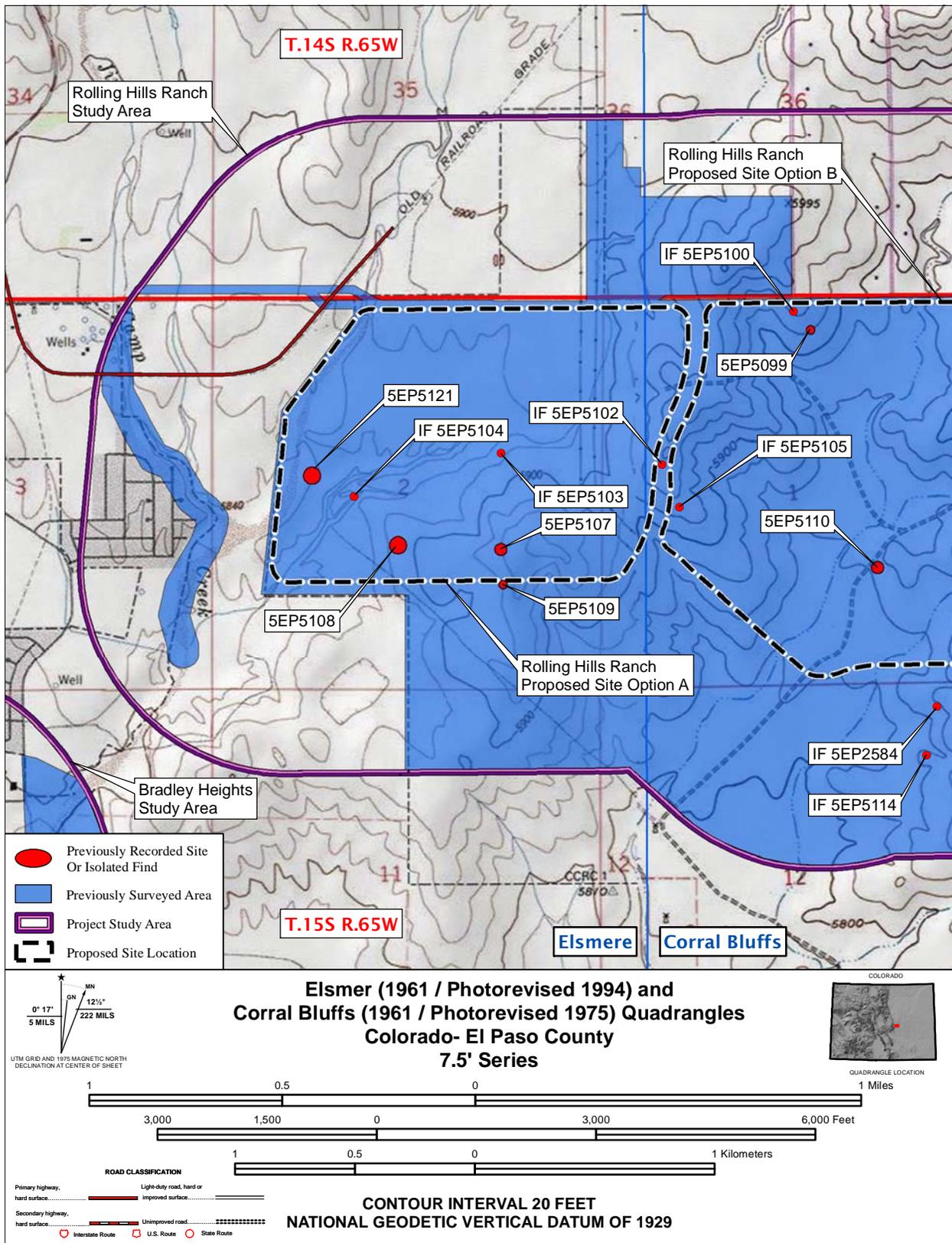


Figure 8, Sheet 2 of 4. USGS 1:24,000 scale map showing project study areas, previously cultural surveys, and previously recorded sites.

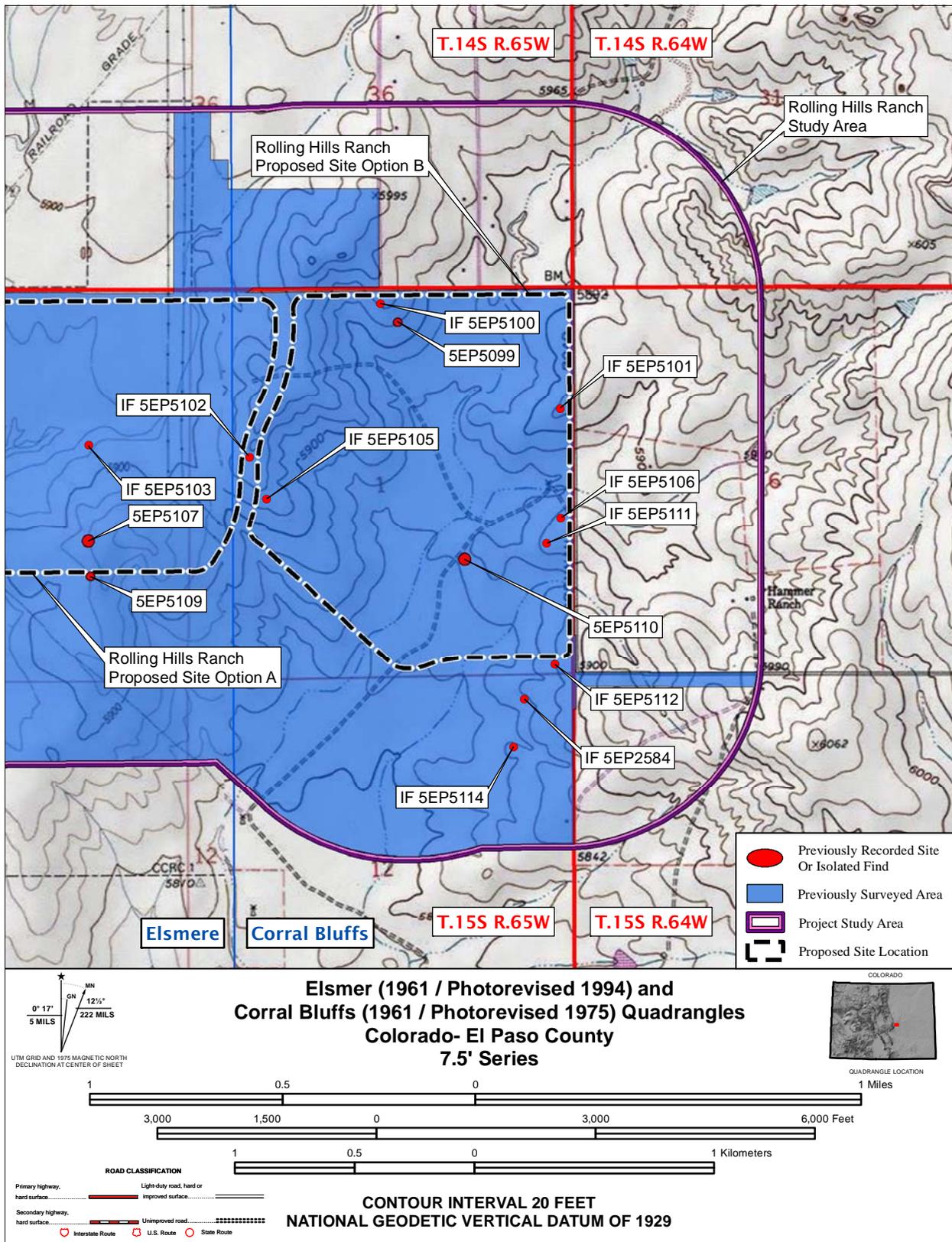


Figure 8, Sheet 3 of 4. USGS 1:24,000 scale map showing project study areas, previously cultural surveys, and previously recorded sites.

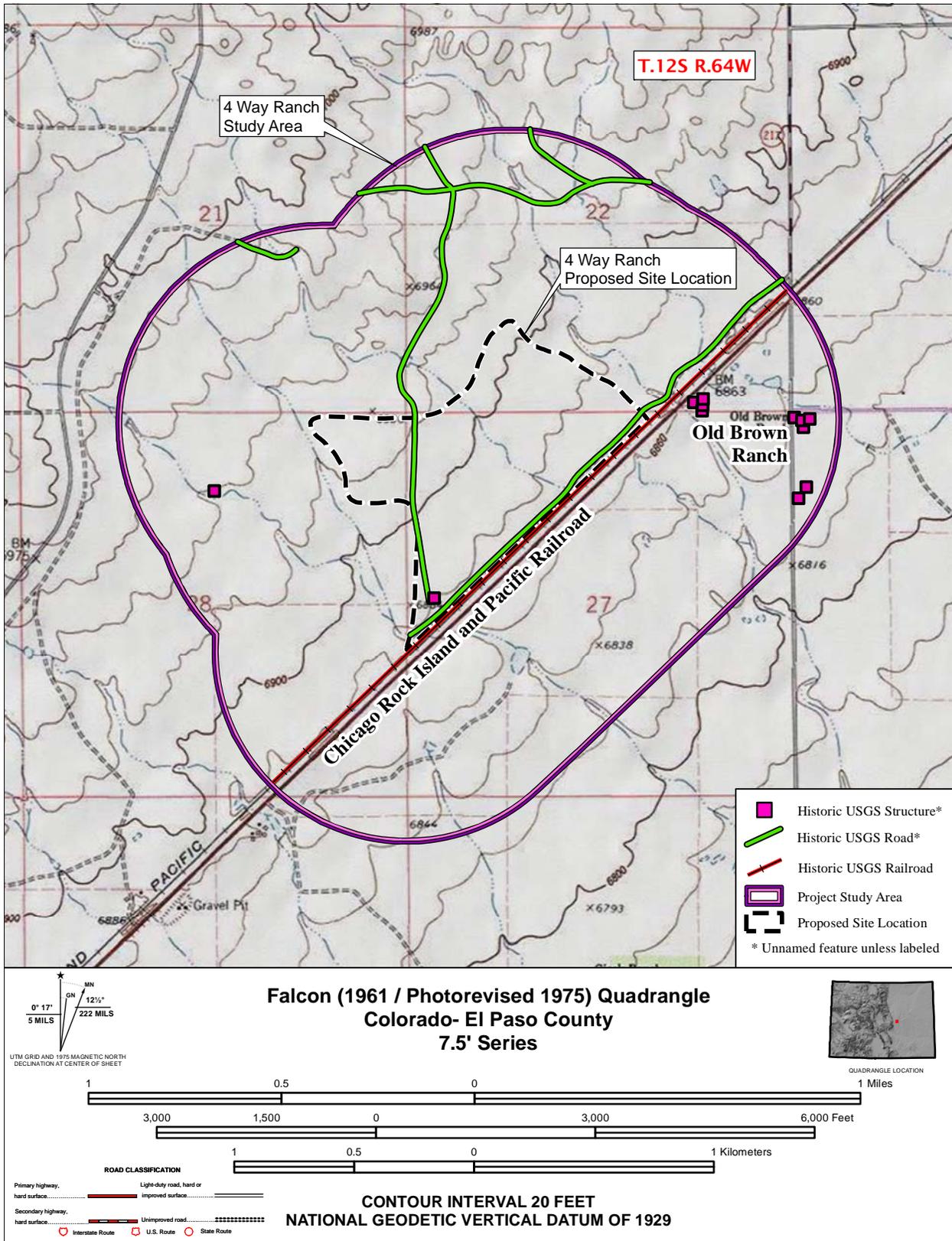


Figure 9, Sheet 1 of 4. USGS 1:24,000 scale map showing project study areas and historic USGS map feature locations.

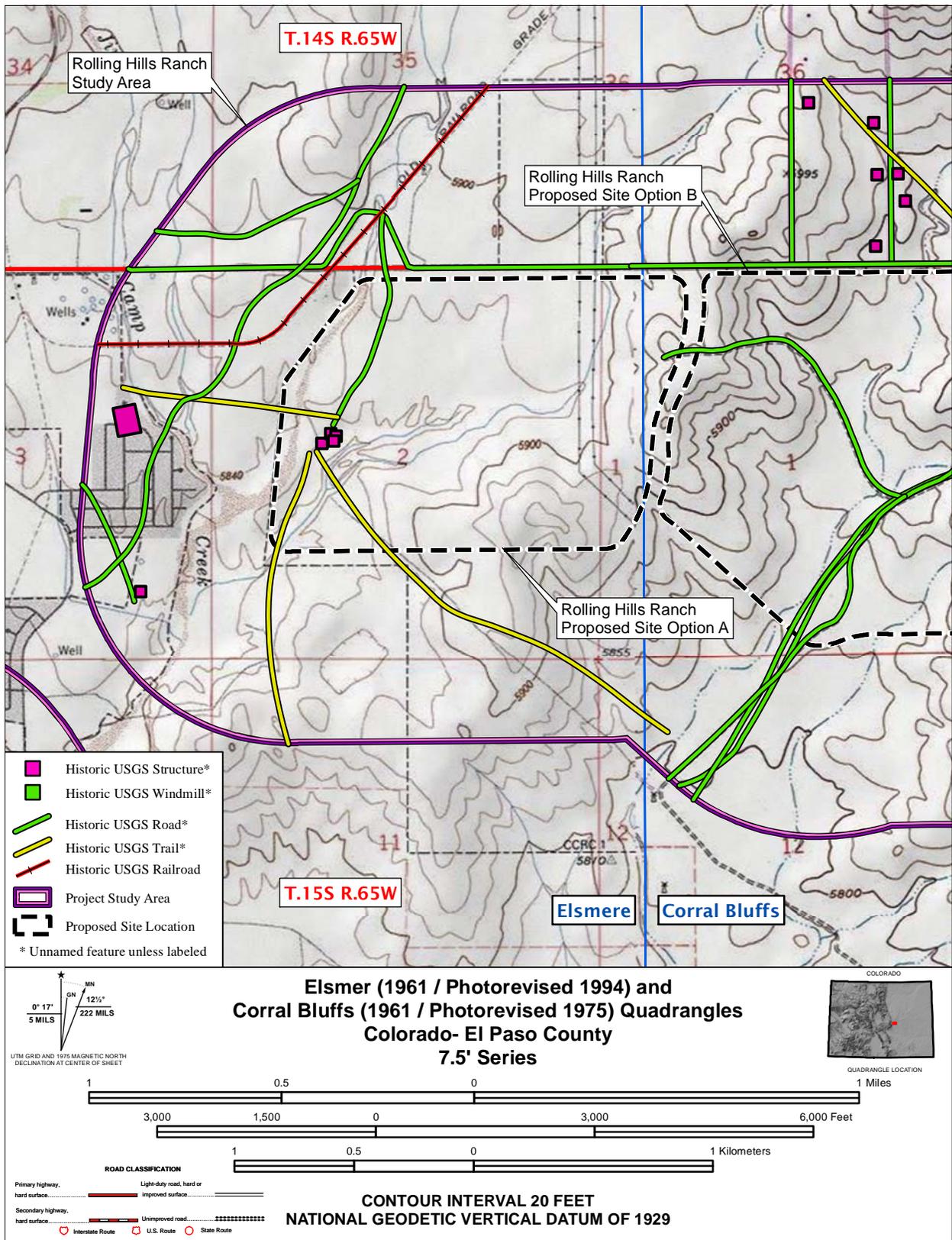


Figure 9, Sheet 2 of 4. USGS 1:24,000 scale map showing project study areas and historic USGS map feature locations.

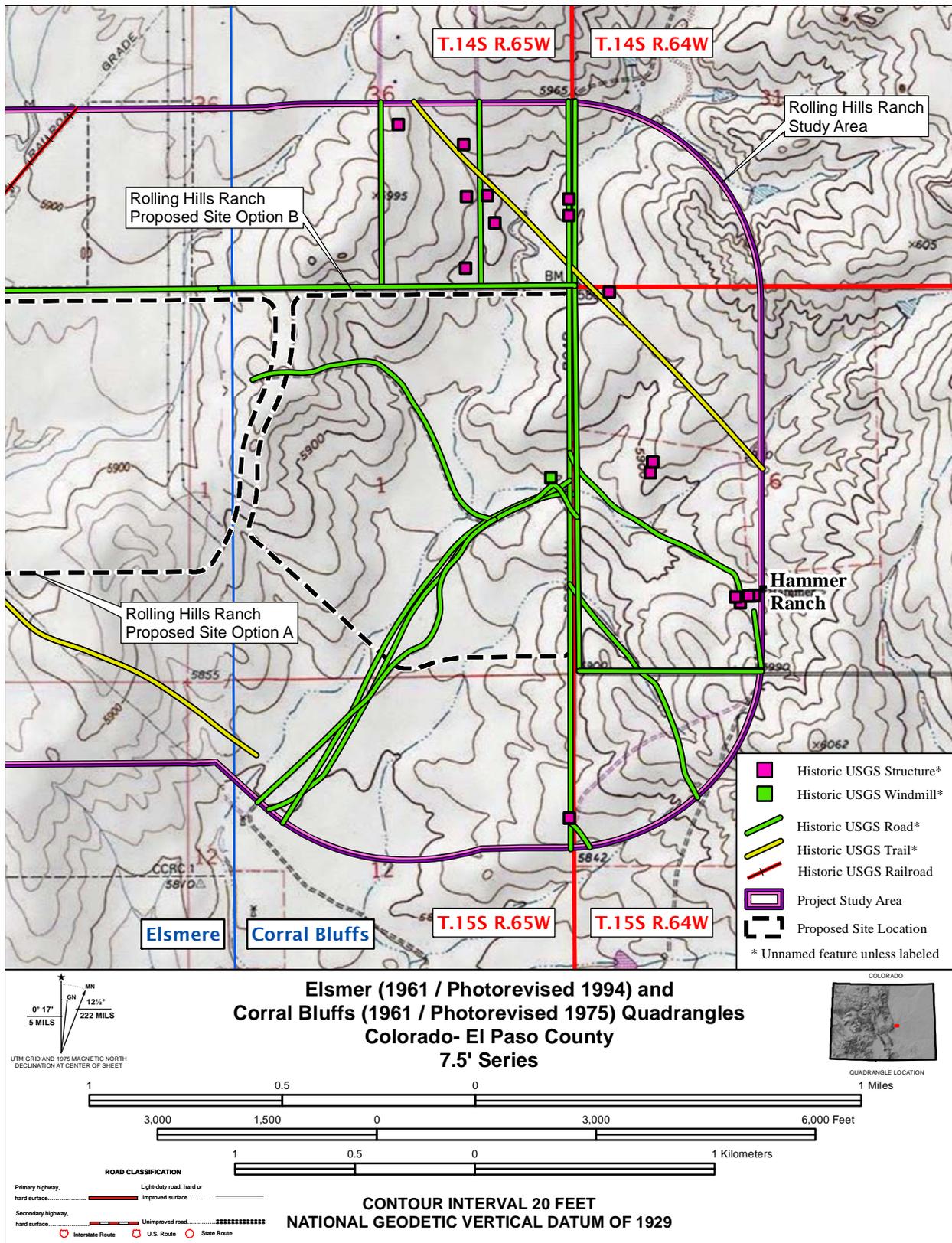


Figure 9, Sheet 3 of 4. USGS 1:24,000 scale map showing project study areas and historic USGS map feature locations.

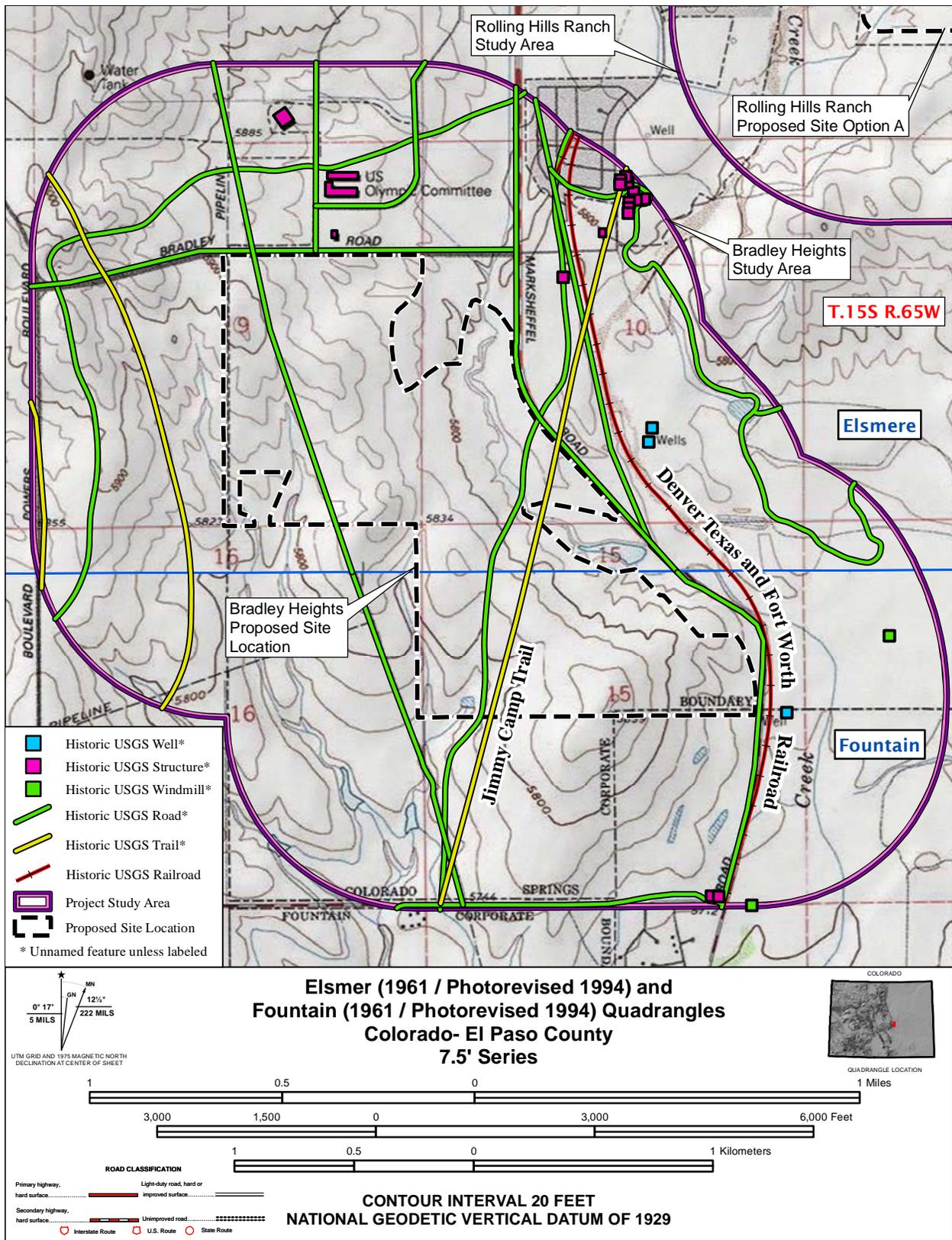


Figure 9, Sheet 4 of 4. USGS 1:24,000 scale map showing project study areas and historic USGS map feature locations.

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