

Los Alamos Environmental Restoration  
Records Processing Facility

LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION  
Records Processing Facility  
ER Records Index Form

ER Record I.D.# 0055331

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# Los Alamos

Los Alamos National Laboratory  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

55331  
**memorandum**

TO: File

DATE: December 15, 1991

FROM: P. G. Eller

MAIL STOP/TELEPHONE: J519

SYMBOL: INC-DO-92-44

SUBJECT: W. C. FRANCIS MEMOS ON TA-49 NO FURTHER ACTION UNITS.

The attached memos were prepared by W. C. Francis to summarize his archival investigation of several units in and around TA-49 which have been proposed for no further action in the TA-49 OU RCRA Field Investigation work plan.

FEB 06 1997  
*em*

100-100000-1000



# Los Alamos

Los Alamos National Laboratory  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

## memorandum

TO: Gary Eller

DATE: February 19, 1992

FROM: William C. Francis

MAIL STOP/TELEPHONE: J519

SYMBOL: INC-DO-92-26

SUBJECT: SEARCH FOR PRE AEC LAND OWNERSHIP AND MINING CLAIMS AT TA-48

I sent a "Fijoles" quadrangle map to Ms. Gallegos in Santa Fe Monday. She was on leave last week. I pinpointed the pit location and she thinks that this will be sufficient information. I checked the surveying information of section lines that the Johnson Service surveyor, Charles Thiel, gave to me with Howard Beaty. Howard confirmed what Mr. Thiel said. See sketch below.

*This section lines end at private land boundaries that are inside government land.*

I found Ms. Heady Dunn at the Los Alamos Historical Society. She introduced me to a Ms. Theresa A. Stratman. Mrs. Stratman has lots of records and some maps of the Ramon Vigil Land Grant. Two of the maps looked promising for the Los Alamos Canyon and Three Mile areas as the surveys of homesteads was plotted on them. There were no homesteads shown on the Ramon Vigil Land Grant. These are not topographical maps and the principal canyons would have to be plotted to locate the homesteads in relation to TA-2, TA-41, and TA-15.

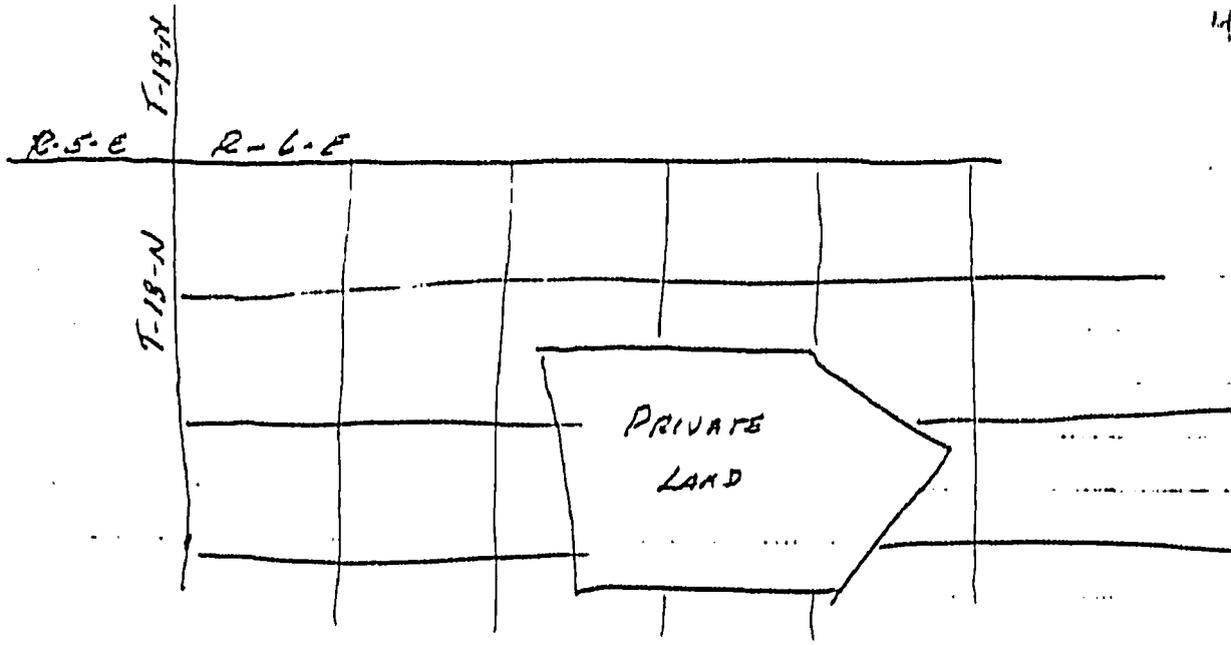
These maps are:

1. Title-Real Estate Los Alamos Demolition Range  
Date-9/7/47  
Zia Company No.-Z-193
2. Title-Project Real Estate Control Map  
Date-5/12/48  
Zia Company No.-None

I went to the Johnson Service Print Vault at Pueblo School for copies of the maps. I found the first map entered in a log book and indexed to a file and drawer number. It wasn't in the drawer. I could find no record of the second map in log books. They must have been thrown out.

I spent a little time checking through the records furnished by Ms. Stratman. A thorough search may turn up what we are looking for but it will take several days. As I didn't know how much time you want to spend on this I just briefly went through part of one file. Please advise.

If you are interested, the two above maps can be photocopied. I am sure Ms. Stratman would loan them to us long enough to get this done.



# Los Alamos

Los Alamos National Laboratory  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

## memorandum

TO: Gary Eller

DATE: January, 30, 1992

FROM: William C. Francis *W.C.F.*

MAIL J519

SYMBOL:

SUBJECT: STATE HIGHWAY DEPT./LEROY SANCHEZ

Leroy Sanchez was on travel last week but I contacted him Monday. He had contacted the State Highway Department Monday morning. They don't keep their files by route number. Instead they keep them by project number. The highway department was going to search their files and see if they could cross reference it. If they were successful, they will send him some road prints.

I managed to see Eloy Nunez Monday afternoon and he gave me the attached transfer papers. He also showed me a large map that he has, but he wouldn't let me have it. It is titled Land Acquisition and has a number ENG-R1656. He said if you couldn't find one you could copy his. It has a legend that list all of the various property transfers telling from whom and to whom. He also has a color photograph of the different parcels of land that you may be interested in obtaining. It is called Los Alamos County and Vicinity Land Ownership. The photograph number is CN 80-3592.

I met with Bob Charles last Thursday. He wants me to help him find some impact areas and a gun emplacement on North Mesa. I have been able to come up with a pretty good list of people who were in the army here in Los Alamos, in the early pro force, or on site in the 1945-1948 era. I am in the process of contacting these people.

# Los Alamos

Los Alamos National Laboratory  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

## memorandum

TO: Gary Eller

DATE: January, 30, 1992

FROM: William C. Francis *W.C.F.*

MAIL STOP/TELEPHONE: J519

SYMBOL: INC-DO-92-24

SUBJECT: State HIGHWAY DEPT.

I contacted Leroy Sanchez. He has had no luck with the State Highway Department. He will call them again this afternoon. He thinks that someone will have to go to Santa Fe and check the records.

I stopped by to see Eloy Nunez. He was out. I will catch him Monday.

Bill Francis

Since tomorrow is the end of the two week time slot and Ms. Anderson doesn't have the new attendance forms where the Lab will pay the state gross receipts tax, do you want to start my time next week?

Bill Francis

100-100000-1000

TO: Gary Eller  
FROM: William C. Frands *W.C.F.*  
SUBJECT: SEARCH FOR STATE ROUTE-4 CONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS FOR  
LOS ALAMOS. (relevant to TA-49)  
DATE: 4/27/91

The State Route 4 construction drawings that I got through Lon Alexander are of no use to us. They were made in 1943, they have no borrow area information and they stop West of TA-49.

I saw Don McCoy, head of Johnson Controls Engineering Section. He sent me to Pueblo school and told me to see Leroy Vigil. Mr. Vigil was very helpful and we looked in several print file drawers where things pertaining to State Route-4 were kept. There were no AEC construction drawings for the stretch of S.R.-4 from Ancho Canyon to West Jemez Road. We then spent several hours looking through a large volume of drawings that were stacked loose in the vault and not cataloged or filed. We did not find the construction drawings. Mr. Vigil thinks that they have been destroyed as Pan Am destroyed a lot of old records and drawings.

The next day I saw David Padilla, DOE-FP. Mr. Padilla took me to a room on the first floor of the DOE headquarters where they have some drawings filed and also to the basement where older drawings and documents are filed in three filing cabinets. I searched through every filing cabinet drawer in both the basement and the first floor room and checked all of the drawings in the print rack. There were no State Route-4 construction drawings.

The Zia Company kept all of the drawings and specifications in their print vault for the AEC/ERDA/DOE. This function was passed to Pan Am and now Johnson Control's Mr. Padilla also told me that Pan Am had destroyed or thrown out many old drawings and documents. I am convinced that the State Route-4 construction drawings that we need to identify borrow pit areas do not now exist.

I can tell you that during the construction of TA-49 the Zia Company did not do any work on the Bandelier National Monument land on the South side of State Route-4 in the areas that appear to be borrow pits on the aerial photographs.

TO: Gary Eller  
FROM: William C. Francis, *W.C.F.*  
SUBJECT: Pre AEC Land Ownership at Los Alamos and the unidentified trenches  
at TA-49.

I obtained the following information by means of a telephone conversation with Willie Martinez.

Willie Martinez moved to Los Alamos with his family in 1943. They moved here from Santa Fe. Willie's uncle had a cabin about where the Sandia Federal Savings building is located today. Willie has ridden horseback through most areas of Los Alamos county and remembers many of the families who lived here in the early 1940 period.

The Lopez Family lived in the cabin that was moved from Pajarito Road near TA-55 to its present location, N.E. of the Lodge. He recalls that Mr. Lopez used to farm the Frijoles Mesa area, but isn't sure that he owned the land. Willie does not know the present location of the Lopez Family.

The Esquilbel Family lived in the area that is now R-site. They moved to Alamosa, Colorado.

The Medina Family lived near the Lopez Family and Willie thought that they may have owned the Los Alamos Canyon Area where TA-41 and TA-2 are now located. The Medina Family moved to Velarde.

Willie remembers the three pits (or trenches) at TA-49. He remembers seeing them as he rode horseback through the TA-49 area in 1944. He suggested that the park rangers may have dug them.

1943-1944-1945-1946-1947-1948-1949-1950-1951-1952-1953-1954-1955-1956-1957-1958-1959-1960-1961-1962-1963-1964-1965-1966-1967-1968-1969-1970-1971-1972-1973-1974-1975-1976-1977-1978-1979-1980-1981-1982-1983-1984-1985-1986-1987-1988-1989-1990-1991-1992-1993-1994-1995-1996-1997-1998-1999-2000-2001-2002-2003-2004-2005-2006-2007-2008-2009-2010-2011-2012-2013-2014-2015-2016-2017-2018-2019-2020-2021-2022-2023-2024-2025

TO: Gary Eller  
FROM: William C. Francis *W.C.F.*  
SUBJECT: Check On Survey Work Mentioned In Work Order 6-5550-37  
Supplement A (Re TA49 Landfill)  
DATE: 4/27/91

I talked with Joe Bustos who wrote the subject work order in 1984. Mr. Bustos does not recall a survey crew doing any work at the burial pit. I asked him how the iron pipes that are supposed to mark the corners of the pit got there. As best as he can remember, the Zia construction crew that was backfilling the pit put them there and called him over and showed them to him.

I then went to Pajarito school and talked to Ralph Alard, ENG-3. Mr. Alard is in charge of the survey section. Mr. Alard remembered staking out a pit in the burning pit area at TA-49 but his records show that it was done in 1988. The attached copies of pages 37, 38, and 39 of his field book bracket the time period as between 5/19/88 and 9/16/88. Page 38 showing the pit layout isn't dated but Mr. Alard thinks that it was just an extension of the work on page 37. The survey work was done for HSE-8. Mr. Alard's field books show that survey work was done in 1961 and prior to 1961. From the end of the work in 1961 there are no survey notes until 1981. After the work in 1981 there are no records until 1988.

# Los Alamos

Los Alamos National Laboratory  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

## memorandum

TO: Gary Eller

DATE: January, 29, 1992

FROM: William C. Francis *W.C.F.*

MAIL STOP/TELEPHONE: J519

SYMBOL: INC-DO-92-22

SUBJECT: DUST CONTROL ON THE ROADS AT TA-48

The road from State Road 4 to the C.P. (Area 5) and the perimeter road to the test areas 1-4 were constructed of locally obtained tuff compacted to sub-grade and then plated with six to eight inches of base course. Once the base course was in place the dust problem was greatly diminished. Water from tankers was extensively used to control the dust. I do not recall using oil to control the dust and if it was used it would have been "out back" asphalt applied with distributors to the road surface.

# Los Alamos

Los Alamos National Laboratory  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

## memorandum

TO: Gary Eller

DATE: January, 30, 1992

FROM: William C. Francis

MAIL STOP/TELEPHONE: J519

SYMBOL: INC-DO-92-23

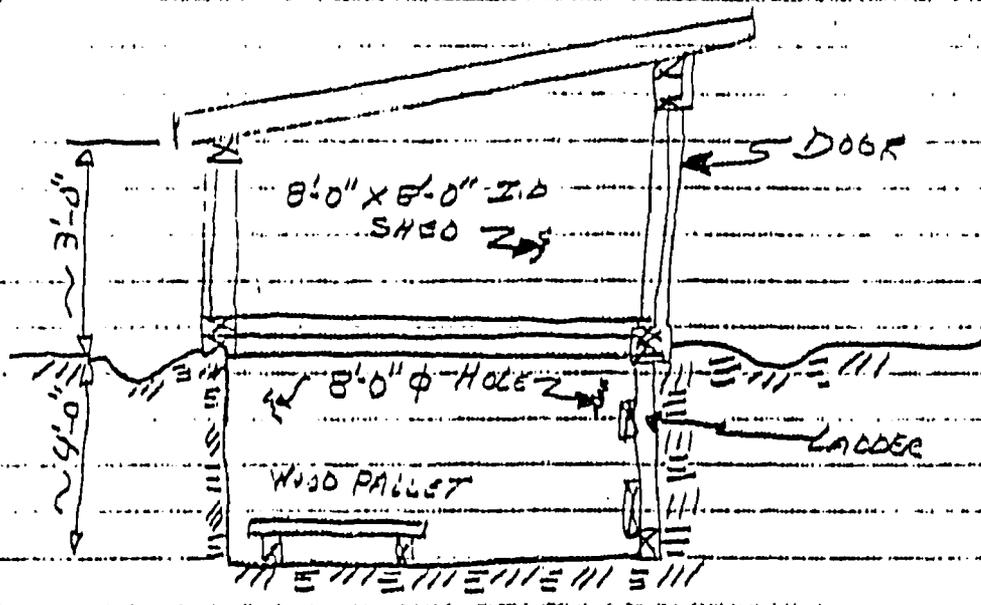
SUBJECT: DYNAMITE AND CAP STORAGE SHEDS AT TA-49.

In late 1959 two storage sheds were constructed to store explosives. One was for storing dynamite and the other was for storing electric caps and fuses. The sheds were located a couple of yards north of the road leading to test well number CDT-9 and about 1100 feet east of the road connecting Area 2 and Area 4.

Dynamite was delivered on call by the Zia Company Warehouse. It was ordered a case at a time and there was never more than a case and a partial case on hand in the shed. Blasting caps and fuse were also delivered on call.

During the demolition phases, these sheds were torn down and the hole was backfilled. The dynamite and caps were removed when the testing areas became inoperative.

See Att.:  
Sketch of Shed



TYPICAL SECTION (N.T.S.)

1. EARL GAP STORAGE SHED & DYNAMITE STORAGE SHED

# Los Alamos

Los Alamos National Laboratory  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

## memorandum

TO: Gary Eller

DATE: January, 30, 1992

FROM: William C. Francis *W.C.F.*

MAIL STOP/TELEPHONE: J519

SYMBOL: INC-DO-92-33

SUBJECT: UNKNOWN TRENCHES LOCATED WEST OF THE BURIAL AND BURNING PITS AT TA-40.

I have talked to Bob Campbell and Jerry Tatom about these unknown trenches. Neither of them have any knowledge of these trenches. They didn't know that they existed. I must add that I didn't know that they existed.

# Los Alamos

Los Alamos National Laboratory  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

## memorandum

TO: Gary Eller

DATE: January, 30, 1992

FROM: William C. Francis *W.C.F.*

MAIL STOP/TELEPHONE: J519

SYMBOL: INC-DO-92-32

SUBJECT: **SEARCHING FOR MINING CLAIMS ON THE RAMON VIGIL LAND GRANT.**

Attached are two letters responding to my inquiring to the state Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department. I asked them for claim information prior to 1943. I hope that they understood that. After reading the two letters I am not sure what period of time was researched.

See Att.:

State of New Mexico  
ENERGY, MINERALS and NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT  
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505



May 2, 1991

BRUCE KING  
GOVERNOR

ANITA LOCKWOOD  
CABINET SECRETARY

Re TA-44 open trenches

William C. Francis  
548 Todd Loop  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87544

Dear Mr. Francis:

In reference to your letter of April 29, 1991 wanting information on Mining Claims on Ramon Vigil Land Grant in the Frijoles Quad.

First I would like to say that 95% of Land Grants in the State of New Mexico do not contain mining claims. Second of all is that 5% of mine claims filed were in the late 1900's and might not be valid today.

I have reviewed microfilm geographic index file, claimant index file and found no information on claims as of 1991. Although in finding data in mining claims filed in the 1940's it would only be found at the BLM office, therefore I have mailed your information to Public Room Dept., BLM, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504.

In sending your information as a special attention letter, I have been told by BLM representatives that a complete search will be done and your response should not take more than a couple of weeks.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Raymond Rodarte".

Raymond Rodarte  
Reclamation Specialist  
Abandoned Mine Land Bureau  
State of New Mexico

RR:gs

VILLAGRA BUILDING - 408 Galileo  
Forestry and Resources Conservation Division  
P.O. Box 1048 87504-1048  
827-5830

Park and Recreation Division  
P.O. Box 1147 87504-1147  
827-7465

2040 South Pacheco  
Office of the Secretary  
827-5950

Administrative Services  
827-5925

Energy Conservation & Management  
827-5900

Mining and Minerals  
827-4070

LAND OFFICE BUILDING - 310 Old Santa Fe Trail  
Oil Conservation Division  
P.O. Box 2088 87504-2088  
827-5800

May 6, 1991

William V. Francis  
548 Todd Loop  
LOS ALAMOS, NEW MEXICO

Dear William Francis,

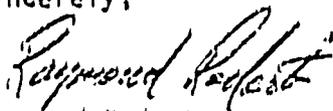
Enclosed you will find the information that was sent to our Bureau a couple of weeks ago. During that time I was able to get the legal description of the property that you mention on the map. I reviewed the micro-film that we hold that describe updated lode mining claims of Bureau of Land Management and the micro-film has no claimant in this property.

It seems that the Public Rooms Office was not able to find any information concerning lode claims during the 1944 or 1945 year, so they have returned your information to our office with no comment.

I suggest that in order for you to continue with the search on mining claims in the area you are interested in, that you proceed to search at the County Clerk's Office in this County.

If we can be of any other help to you, please call me at 827-5979.

Sincerely,

  
Raymond Rodarte  
Reclamation Spec  
A.M.L. Bureau



William C. Francis

1. The name of the quadrangle map.
2. The township and Range Numbers.
3. The section and quarter section in which the pits are located.

There is no charge for this record research.

# Los Alamos

Los Alamos National Laboratory  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

## memorandum

TO: Gary Eller

DATE: February 20, 1992

FROM: William C. Francis *W.C.F.*

MAIL STOP/TELEPHONE: J519

SYMBOL: INC-DO-92-39

SUBJECT: SEARCH FOR STATE ROUTE-4 CONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS FOR LOS ALAMOS.  
(RELEVANT TO TA-49).

The State Route 4 construction drawings that I got through Lon Alexander are of no use to us. They were made in 1943, they have no borrow area information and they stop West of TA-49.

I saw Don McCoy, head of Johnson Controls Engineering Section. He sent me to Pueblo school and told me to see Leroy Vigil. Mr. Vigil was very helpful and we looked in several print file drawers where things pertaining to State Route-4 were kept. There were no AEC construction drawings for the stretch of S.R.-4 from Ancho Canyon to West Jemez Road. We then spent several hours looking through a large volume of drawings that were stacked loose in the vault and not cataloged or filed. We did not find the construction drawings. Mr. Vigil thinks that they have been destroyed as Pan Am destroyed a lot of old records and drawings.

The next day I saw David Padilla, DOE-FP. Mr. Padilla took me to a room on the first floor of the DOE headquarters where they have some drawings filed and also to the basement where older drawings and documents are filed in three filing cabinets. I searched through every filing cabinet drawer in both the basement and the first floor room and checked all of the drawings in the print rack. There were no State Route-4 construction drawings.

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I can tell you that during the construction of TA-49 the Zia Company did not do any work on the Bandelier National Monument land on the South side of State Route-4 in the areas that appear to be borrow pits on the aerial photographs.

# Los Alamos

Los Alamos National Laboratory  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

## memorandum

TO: Gary Eller

DATE: February 20, 1992

FROM: William C. Francis *W.C.F.*

MAIL STOP/TELEPHONE: J519

SYMBOL: INC-DO-92-40

SUBJECT: **PRE AEC LAND OWNERSHIP AT LOS ALAMOS AND THE UNIDENTIFIED TRENCHES AT TA-49.**

I obtained the following information by means of a telephone conversation with Willie Martinez.

Willie Martinez moved to Los Alamos with his family in 1943. They moved here from Santa Fe. Willie's uncle had a cabin about where the Sandia Federal Savings building is located today. Willie has ridden horseback through most areas of Los Alamos county and remembers many of the families who lived here in the early 1940 period.

The Lopez Family lived in the cabin that was moved from Pajarito Road near TA-55 to its present location, N.E. of the Lodge. He recalls that Mr. Lopez used to farm the Frijoles Mesa area, but isn't sure that he owned the land. Willie does not know the present location of the Lopez Family.

The Esquibel Family lived in the area that is now R-site. They moved to Alamosa, Colorado.

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# Los Alamos

Los Alamos National Laboratory  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

## memorandum

TO: Gary Eller

DATE: January, 30, 1992

FROM: W. C. Francis *W.C.F.*

MAIL STOP/TELEPHONE: J519

SYMBOL: INC-DO-92-19

SUBJECT: TRANSFER OF LAND FROM AEC TO BANDELIER NATIONAL MONUMENT.

Eloy has sent to Albuquerque for a copy of the document of transfer of the land from the AEC to Bandelier National Monument. Attached is a copy of the 1959 Presidential Proclamation but for some reason, Eloy doesn't trust the date and wants the other document.

Eloy said that it wasn't a land swap situation and that he could get the separate document on the deed of the land to the County in Pueblo Canyon if you wanted it. I told him that I would ask you.

Eloy doesn't remember a thing about getting your land ownership maps of the TA-49 area. He wanted to know which ones you wanted. I told him that I assumed you wanted the ones prior to AEC or Manhattan Project ownership. Again I told him that I would ask you and get back with him.

# Los Alamos

Los Alamos National Laboratory  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

## memorandum

TO: Gary Eller

DATE: January, 29, 1992

FROM: William C. Francis *W.C.F.*

MAIL STOP/TELEPHONE: J519

SYMBOL: INC-DO-92-25

SUBJECT: PROPOSED WATER SYSTEM, RESTROOMS AND SEPTIC TANK FOR AREA 5, TA-49.

The attached drawing describes building a head house for test well No.5, setting a 30,000 gallon storage tank, installing a jet pump at the well, building a mens restroom and a womens restroom with propane hot water heaters, setting a propane tank and installing a septic tank with two 6' 0" diameter by 25' 0" deep seepage pits. The general notes in the lower right hand corner of the print are not entirely legible. As near as I can make out these notes are the specifications for a water supply system, a hot water system, a septic system and a propane gas system.

I have never seen this print before. It isn't signed and I can't make out a date on it.

I am quite certain that this work was never accomplished.

# Los Alamos

Los Alamos National Laboratory  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

## memorandum

TO: Gary Eller

DATE: February 20, 1982

FROM: William C. Francis *W.C.F.*

MAIL STOP/TELEPHONE: J519

SYMBOL: INC-DO-92-34

SUBJECT: "SEPTIC TANK REPORT", LOS ALAMOS  
FEBRUARY 26, 1986

Attached is a copy of the subject report. A letter from Thomas Gunderson to Don Isbell requesting that a septic tank survey be made is also attached. This letter caused the report to be originated.

This septic tank report has been continued by the Zia Company, Pan Am World Services, Inc. and now by Johnson Control, Inc.

Also attached is the latest septic tank report and the HSE-8 list. These two lists have been cross checked.

# Los Alamos

Los Alamos National Laboratory  
Los Alamos, New Mexico 87545

## memorandum

TO: Gary Eller

DATE: January, 30, 1992

FROM: W. C. Francis *W.C.F.*

MAIL STOP/TELEPHONE: J519

SYMBOL: INC-DO-92-18

SUBJECT: FOLLOW UP ON UNDERGROUND FUEL TANK AT TA-49 AND PITS ALONG S.R. 4 AND N.W. CORNER OF TA-49.

I talked to Betty Perkins. She has no knowledge of an underground fuel tank. The tank that she knows of is the above ground propane tank outside of the fence at Area 5 at the N.W. corner. This tank was cut up and taken to salvage in 1984. It is my opinion that the tank was moved from R-site in late 1959 or 1960 and set up at TA-49. Its structure number at R-Site was TA-15-192 and its structure number at TA-49 was TA-49-65. I know of no underground fuel tank at TA-49. There was no need for one as the Zia Company had gasoline and diesel fuel tankers come to the site on a daily basis and fuel all the vehicles and heavy equipment when they were parked. For heating purposes all of the Zia offices and craft shops used kerosene from 55 gallon barrels and Area 5 used propane. Maybe we should take another look at drawing EN6-R5126.