

0036

July 9, 1980

Craig J. Benson
Bureau of Land Management
PO Drawer AB
Price, UT 84501

Dear Craig:

Please find enclosed a copy of a memo from Kay Sargent explaining the Crandall Canyon survey for the Price River Coal Company. Evidently, a very minute portion is on BLM land. You will also find enclosed a summary report of inspection for cultural resources and a copy of the U.S.G.S. topographic map. No known archeological sites were located anywhere during the survey. The rock shelter (page 2) is intriguing, but it certainly can't qualify as a bonafide archeological site without evidence of artifacts.

A copy of this report has been forwarded to the Price River Coal Company. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

La Mar W. Lindsay
La Mar W. Lindsay
Assistant State Archeologist

LWL:ro

Enclosures

cc: Bruce Louthan
Price River Coal Company



SCOTT M. MATHESON
GOVERNOR

File ACT/007/004
Copy to
Mary Ann
& Tam T.
Jim

STATE OF UTAH
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Division of
State History
(UTAH STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY)

MELVIN T. SMITH, DIRECTOR
307 WEST 2ND SOUTH
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JUN 25 1980

DIVISION OF
OIL, GAS & MINING

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: LaMar Lindsay
Assistant State Archeologist

DATE: July 3, 1980

FROM: Kay Sargent
Staff Archeologist

RE: Crandall Canyon Survey, Price River Coal Co.

I spent Monday, June 30, and Tuesday, July 1, surveying the bottom of Crandall Canyon and a transect from the upper part of that canyon into upper Hardscrabble Canyon, per the request of Don Stephens, geologist for the Price River Coal Co. (see attached maps). The survey in Crandall Canyon was for the access road and mining facilities; the transect into Hardscrabble Canyon was for a power line, to affect a ca. 50-60 foot corridor. As part of the power line crosses federal lands, I checked with Craig Benson (BLM-Price Office) prior to the survey. It turns out that only a small part of the access road is on federal land (SE 1/4, NW 1/4, NW 1/4, Sec. 27, T12S, R9E) and less than a mile of the power line will cross federal land (Craig Benson personal communication).

There is presently an access road into Crandall Canyon. I first examined the southeast side of the drainage and then the northwest. I proceeded on a zig-zagging and weaving course to cover the area. Special care was taken to examine any rockshelters or knolls in or very near the survey area. Flagged and staked points were followed in surveying the power line route, starting from the north. The terrain was extremely rugged and steep. Much of the power line route was under heavy forest cover (pinyon-juniper, longer needled pine, wild flowers such as columbine, lupine, Indian paint brush, etc., and sagebrush). Approximately half a mile of the northern end (dashed on map) was not thoroughly checked due to the ruggedness of the terrain. Most of this is on the side of a very steep, rocky ridge and is private land. The rest of the route was very difficult, but more than an adequate width was examined as I often had to go out of the way to find access along the route.

A literature search had been conducted and the State and National Register of Historic consulted (Division of State History files) prior to the survey. There are no known archeological sites immediately near the survey area. There are several petroglyph sites (C6149-160) in Gordon Canyon to the south, in Township 14 South, Range 9 East. A recent survey of a couple of ranges to the east by our office (Hawkins & Seward, 1980) located several historic sites but no prehistoric ones.

No archeological sites per se were present in the area surveyed. One rockshelter near the mouth of Crandall contains much bone. Some of it appeared recent, some weathered and old. There was also some charred and fragmented bone. No artifacts were found in association. No prehistoric remains were found elsewhere on the survey in contrast to abundant historic remains. No Smithsonian site number was assigned. It is on the opposite side of the drainage from the access road and should not be affected.

Several historic structures were located in the canyon. These were for the most part "crude" - most of the stones were unshaped, loosely laid without mortar (the exception is the one lowest in the canyon). All were unusual in incorporating large boulders. According to Gene Haub and Frank Pero, these were all built by an old shepherd who had lived in Crandall Canyon. The northernmost structures were a cluster of contiguous "rooms" built against the northern cliff wall. Several courses of stones were loosely stacked. This appears to have been a "junk" area as there was quite a bit of debris such as corrugated metal sheets, metal barrels, etc. There is the remnant of a fence to the west. One strange construction was the partial body of an old car upon, and around which, stones were piled. Supposedly a fire was built in this by the old shepherd to provide heating in the winter for young lambs. The dimensions of this area is approximately 200 meters east-west by 75 meters north-south.

A couple of hundred meters down the canyon, across the stream bed, there is another, better constructed building. This is built onto the canyon wall on the south and onto a large boulder on the east. Two sawed logs form the lintel for each of the two windows and the doorway in the west wall.

Half-way down the canyon, and adjacent to the road on the northwest side, is a better constructed building. The southeast wall is a large boulder. The other stones appear shaped and are mortared. Nailed wood planks form the frames for the windows and door. A long, low retaining wall is formed by several courses of rock.

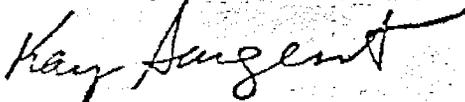
None of the structures identified have roofs. No early glass (purple) or soldered cans were found, so the time of occupation is unknown. The two building sites further up the canyon are within the area where the mining facilities are to be built.

Since the time of construction is unknown, it is unclear whether these structures qualify for the 50 years age minimum for historic sites. Upon discussion with Phil Notarianni (Historian, Utah State Historical Society) who has done much research in Carbon County, these may be significant in documenting sheep herding in the area which was not common. He had scheduled to go to Price next week (July 9th) and is willing to stop in Crandall Canyon to examine them. If they are of interest, they can be studied and photographed, yet need not interrupt construction plans. No Smithsonian site numbers were assigned to the buildings.

I recommend clearance for the project, with the allowance that the historic buildings can be studied if it is warranted in Phil Notarianni's opinion, after his visit on July 9.

Approximately two field days, including travel time, and one office day were spent on this project. Price River Coal Company should be billed accordingly.

Sincerely,

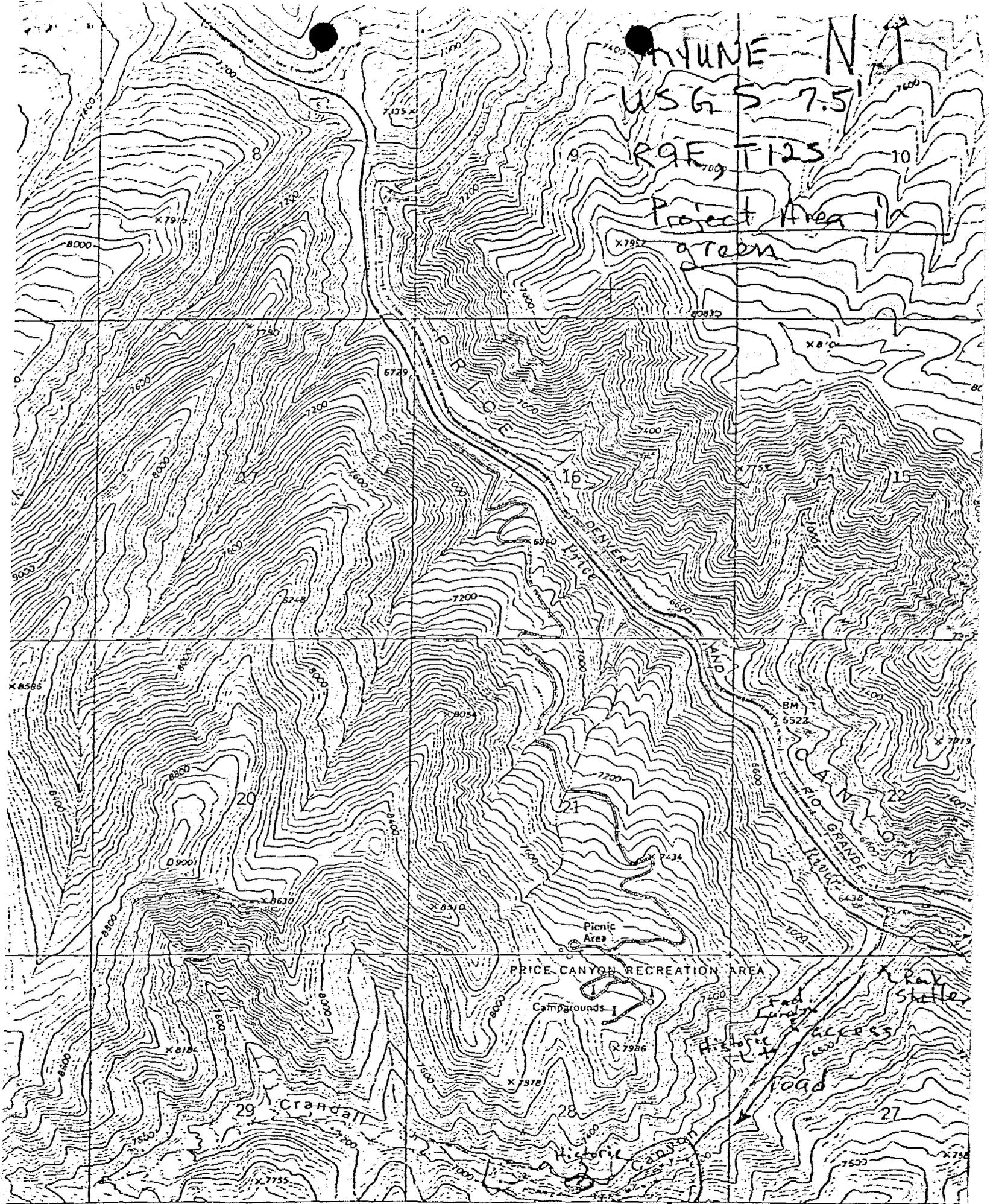


Kay Sargent
Archeologist

KS:dh

cc: Craig Benson,
BLM Archeologist, Price Office
Phil Notarianni,
Historian, Utah State Historical Society
Bruce Hawkins,
Historic Archeologist, State Antiquities Section

MINE N
USGS 7.5
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Project Area 1a
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