

SITE SURVEY SUMMARY SHEET
FOR
DERP-FUDS SITE NO. J08UT095100
SALT LAKE CITY ARMY AIR BASE GUNNERY RANGE

SITE NAME(S): Salt Lake City Army Air Base Gunnery Range, also known as Salt Lake Aerial Gunnery Range.

LOCATION: Located 10 miles west of Salt Lake City, Salt Lake County, Utah. See attached Figure 1.

SITE HISTORY: Salt Lake City Army Air Base Gunnery Range consisted of 40.0 acres (public land) acquired by transfer from the Department of the Interior, 6,212.57 acres by lease, and 24.24 acres easement by donation totaling 6,276.81 acres acquired between 1943 and 1944. The property was used by the Department of the Air Force as a gunnery range. Improvements included concrete gun placements at three separate gunnery ranges, eight support buildings, and latrines. All of the 6,276.81 acres comprising Salt Lake City Army Air Base Gunnery Range were declared surplus on April 22, 1944 and disposed of in the following manner: the 40.0 acres of public lands were relinquished to the Department of Interior on January 30, 1950; the lease of the 6,212.57 acres was terminated in May 1944; and the 24.24 acres easements were quitclaimed to the original owners on July 26, 1950. The Corps of Engineers determined on January 30, 1950 that no restoration nor decontamination work was necessary.

SITE VISIT: A site visit was conducted on the 10th and 11th of June 1992 by Ms. Margaret Berry and Mr. Jack Sutton of Dynamac Corporation. Before visiting the site, they obtained copies of aerial photographs detailing areas of interest from Intermountain Aerial Surveys.

The visual inspection revealed concrete foundations for approximately fifty to sixty gun mounts in three separate shooting ranges. (See Figures 3 through 5) The size and layout of the gun mounts indicate that a variety of artillery was used at the site. The gun mounts were lined up in a east-west direction extending approximately 1½ miles. The target area was most likely north of the mounts. Building foundations were located near each of the three shooting areas. Some of the foundations were concrete slabs while others consisted of raised concrete blocks. Three of the concrete slab foundations, roughly 8' x 12', had 4' x 8' x 4' deep concrete-lined holes in the center. The bottoms of the holes were covered with debris and dirt. It could not be determined if the bottom of the holes were concrete. Two-inch diameter pipes protruded vertically into either end of the hole and presumably joined via a 90° bend to the pipes projecting horizontally through the concrete at either end of the foundation. These foundations were possibly open-pit latrines.

The aerial photographs, dated 1960, indicate a grid pattern from one-half to one mile north of the gun mounts. The 1960 photograph also included a pattern on Sections 20, 28 and 29 that may indicate detonation impacts. The survey team visually inspected the likely areas of impact. The grid pattern was determined to be a series of canal-like ridges. Each grid line consisted of two ridges approximately three to four feet high and three to four feet apart. The grid lines were approximately thirty feet apart. The area was covered with tall grass and scrub brush, and had evidence of recent livestock grazing. No evidence of ordnance fragments or detonation patterns was found during the actual site inspection of Section 20. The only ordnance evidence consisted of one .50 caliber bullet tip found at the eastern-most artillery range (Section 28), and numerous plastic shotgun shells found throughout the site. The shotgun shells are most likely from recent activity.

Two large triangular-shaped earthen berms are located in Section 29. The berms are 6' -10' high, approximately 900' long on each side. Dirt roads run along the base of the berms, both inside and outside of the triangles. Each triangle has openings on two of the corners for roadways. Debris located within the bermed areas appeared to have been left within the last 5-10 years, including eight empty 55-gallon drums, a car battery, shotgun shells, clay pigeons, and other miscellaneous debris. Broken concrete blocks, 12" x 18", were littered throughout the area. The aerial photograph from 1960 revealed little or no vegetation in or around the berms. The area appears to have been scraped to obtain the dirt to construct the berms.

The Spring 1980 photograph indicated the return of vegetation, with vehicle tracks restricted to the roadways along the berms. Two structures are visible in the southern part of the eastern triangle in the 1980 photograph. These structures are rectangular and appear to be 20 to 50 feet long.

Ms. Megan Anderson of Bothwell and Swaner, owners of the west quarter of Section 29, was contacted via telephone on 2 July 1992. She was familiar with the triangular berms and reported that they were built by the Army in the 1940's. It was her understanding that the "bunkers" were used as a target area for artillery mounted on vehicles. She said that many spent copper shells have been found inside the bunkers.

Ms. Anderson also mentioned cleanup actions undertaken by Atlas Powder Company in 1989. She was not sure of the exact location, but thought it might have been north of the western bunker. She referred to this site as an "ammo dump".

Mr. Gary Fry and Mr. Don Lien of Western States Energy, a subsidiary of Atlas Powder, were contacted on 6 July 1992, regarding the site. Mr. Fry stated that a company named Wycoff utilized the site in the 1940's for dynamite and blasting cap storage. Wycoff changed names to Western States Energy, which was then taken over by a Canadian company and then by Atlas Powder (ICI). In the 1970's, two permanent storage buildings were built in the western bunker. When the Canadian company took over the site, they leased the western bunker to Buckley Powder, who was acquired by IRERCO Chemicals (SLC). Western States used the eastern bunker until the 1980's. All of the buildings were

reportedly burned down in 1985 by the current owner. Neither Mr. Fry or Mr. Lien reported any evidence of underground storage tanks or other hazards left behind by the DOD. They stated that .30 caliber bullets have been found in the bunkers, but no live ammunition was ever found. Mr. Lien has been with the company since the 1950's and Mr. Fry, since 1983.

Mr. David Hinkley, a local rancher, was contacted on 6 July 1992. Mr. Hinkley has lived in the immediate vicinity since 1939 and has leased portions of the project site since 1972 for annual spring livestock grazing. Mr. Hinkley stated that the bunkers were used to protect vehicles pulling machine gun practice targets on top of the berms. He thought that the largest firearms used on the site were .50 caliber machine guns. He has never found live ammunition or casings, just spent bullets. He said that his family hauled garbage from the site during DOD use, to feed pigs. No disposal sites were located onsite to his knowledge. He stated that the grid patterns seen on the aerial photographs were most likely from tile drains installed in the 1920's and 1930's to drain low areas for agriculture. He thought that Dupont had leased the bunkers for explosive storage for mining operations, and that they had removed the buildings and explosives when they left.

Two additional areas of interest were found: a concrete building foundation in the southeast corner of the site (Figure 6), and a series of concrete slabs in the southwest corner of the site (Figure 2). An aerial photograph examined at the County Records office, dated Spring 1980, showed a cleared area with possible building foundations in the southeastern corner of the site. The cleared area is bisected by a recently constructed farm road, running NW-SE. One building foundation was found at this location during the site visit. There was no evidence of underground storage tanks associated with this foundation, or with any of the foundations at the site.

In the southwestern corner of the site, a series of small (roughly 5' x 5') concrete slabs were found (see Figure 2). The slabs were arranged to form a series of three semicircular patterns. The semicircles are defined by weathered dirt berms, approximately four feet wide by three feet high. Concrete blocks with tie-downs are located along the semicircles. Wood debris is strewn around the area. The exact use of this area could not be determined.

Thirteen water wells are located on the site, according to records obtained from the Utah Department of Water Resources on 12 June 1992. All of the wells are listed as irrigation, domestic, or stockwatering. One abandoned well is located in Section 29. The well records indicate that all of the wells are flowing wells. No record of contamination was found during a search of the County's computerized well tracking system.

Mr. Garth Marner of the Salt Lake City County Health Department was contacted on 10 June 1992 regarding underground storage tanks or hazardous waste problems at the site. He was not aware of any problems in the vicinity of the site.

Mr. Ray Dallings of the Utah State Police was contacted on 6 July 1992, regarding ordnance on the site. He did not have any record of complaints concerning munitions or explosives at the site.

CATEGORY OF HAZARD: OEW

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: OEW. Refer to CEHND for evaluation and determination of further action.

AVAILABLE STUDIES AND REPORTS: None

PA POC: Larry Bergmooser, CESPK-ED-E, US Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District, 916-557-7671.

DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM
FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES
FINDINGS AND DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY
SALT LAKE CITY ARMY AIR BASE GUNNERY RANGE
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
SITE NO. J08UT095100

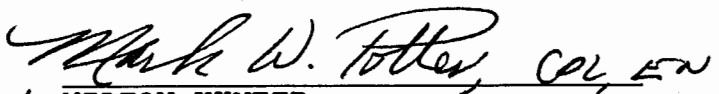
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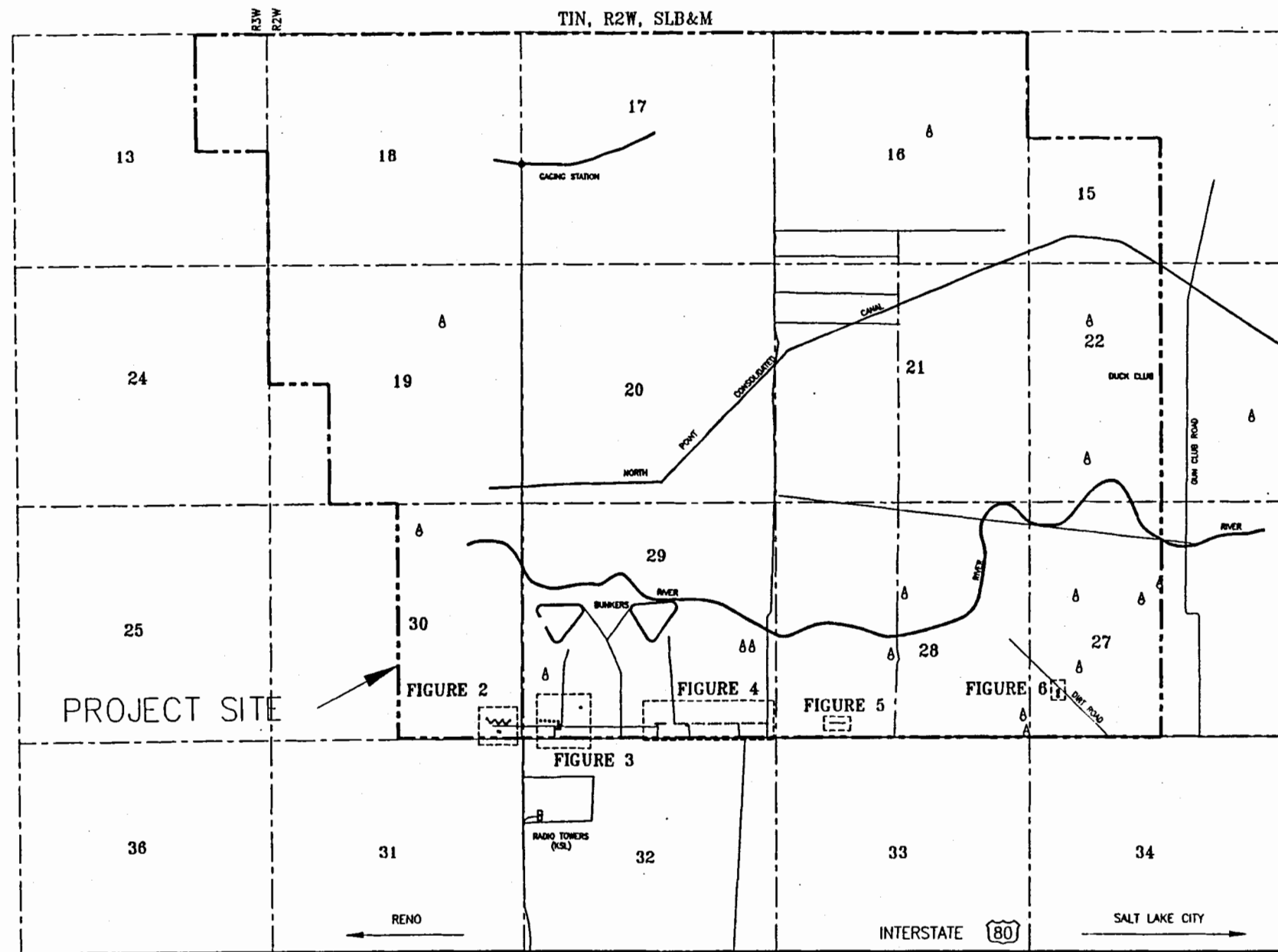
1. Salt Lake City Army Air Base Gunnery Range consisted of 40.0 acres (public land) acquired by transfer from the Department of the Interior, 6,212.57 acres by lease, and 24.24 acres easement by donation totaling 6,276.81 acres acquired between 1943 and 1944.
2. Salt Lake City Army Air Base Gunnery Range, also known as Salt Lake Aerial Gunnery Range. Improvements included concrete gun placements at three artillery ranges, supporting buildings, and latrines. The property was used by the Department of the Air Force as a gunnery range.
3. All of the 6,276.81 acres comprising Salt Lake City Army Air Base Gunnery Range were declared surplus on April 22, 1944 and disposed of in the following manner: The 40.0 acres of public lands were relinquished to the Department of Interior on January 30, 1950, the 6,212.57 acres of leases were terminated in May 1944, and the 24.24 acres easements were quitclaimed to the original owners on July 26, 1950. The Corps of Engineers determined on January 30, 1950 that no restoration nor decontamination work was necessary.

DETERMINATION

Based on the foregoing findings of fact, the Salt Lake City Army Air Base Gunnery Range has been determined to be formerly used by the Department of Defense (DOD). Therefore, it is eligible for funding under the Defense Environmental Restoration Program for Formerly Used Defense Sites established under 10 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.

11 March 1993
DATE


MILTON HUNTER
Brigadier General, U.S. Army
Commanding



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Environmental Services

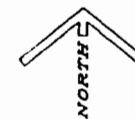
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FIGURE 1
SITE MAP
SALT LAKE CITY ARMY AIR BASE
GUNNERY RANGE
Site No. JO8UT095100

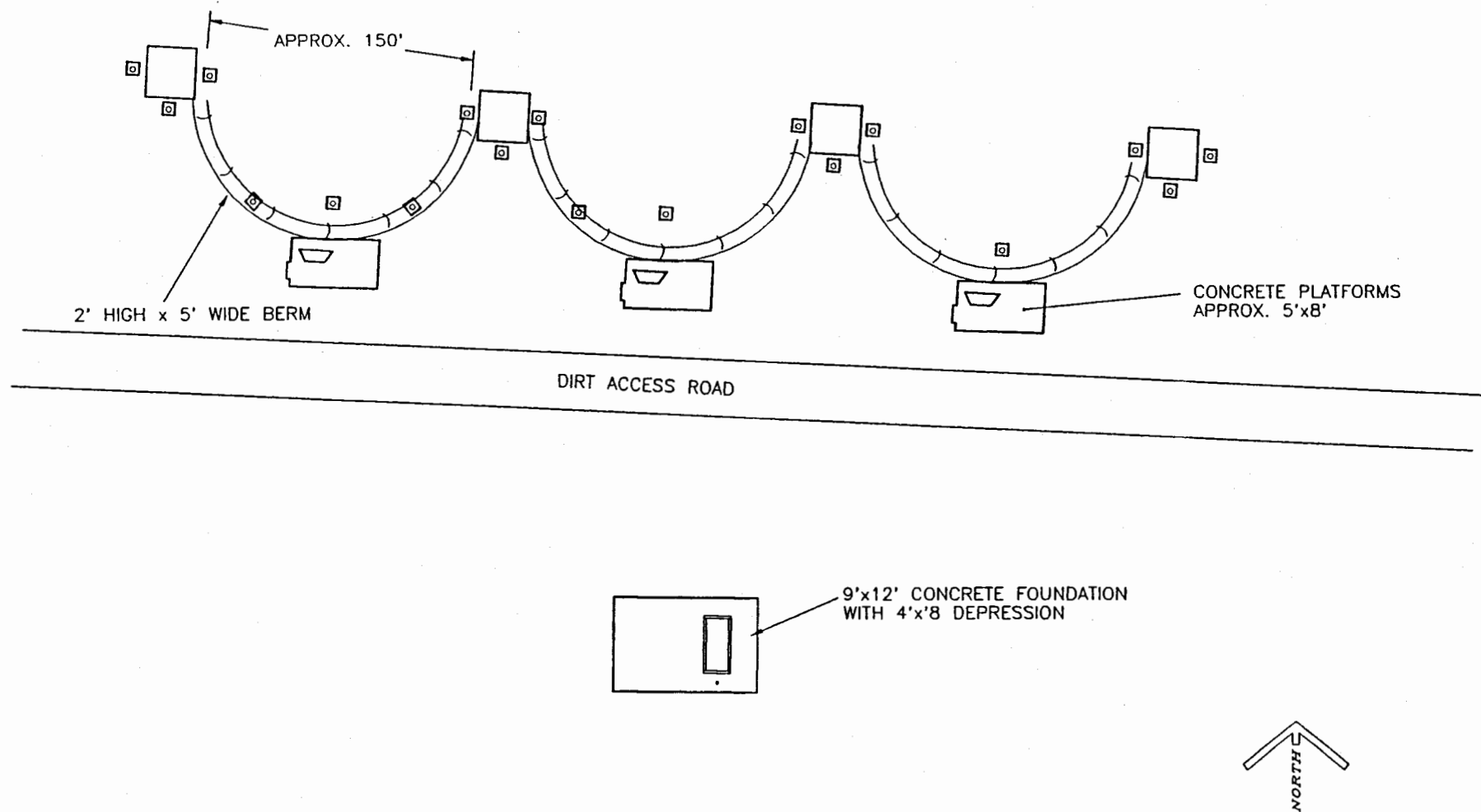
LEGEND

△ WATER WELL



PROJECT SITE

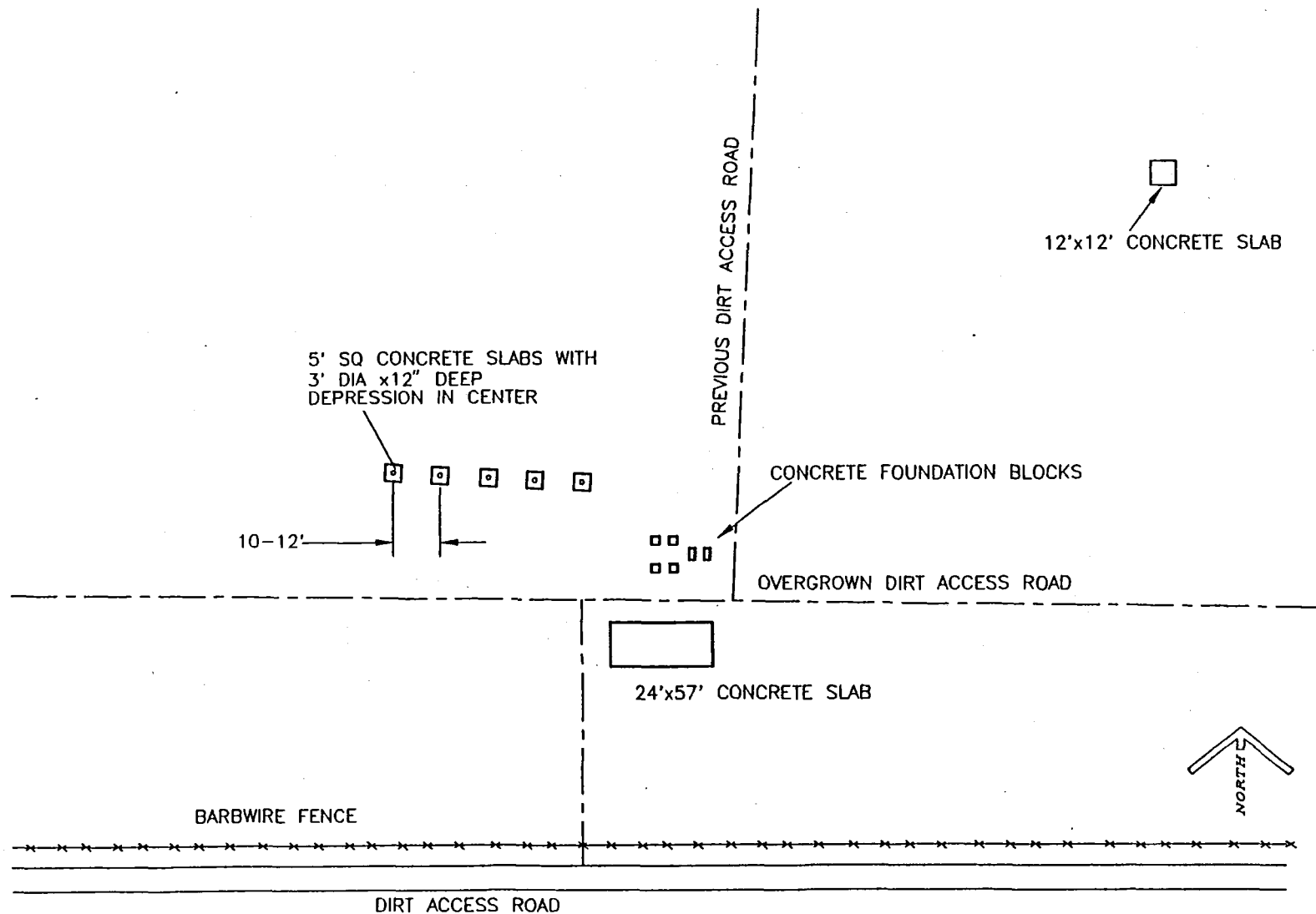




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FIGURE 2
SITE DETAIL
SALT LAKE CITY ARMY AIR BASE
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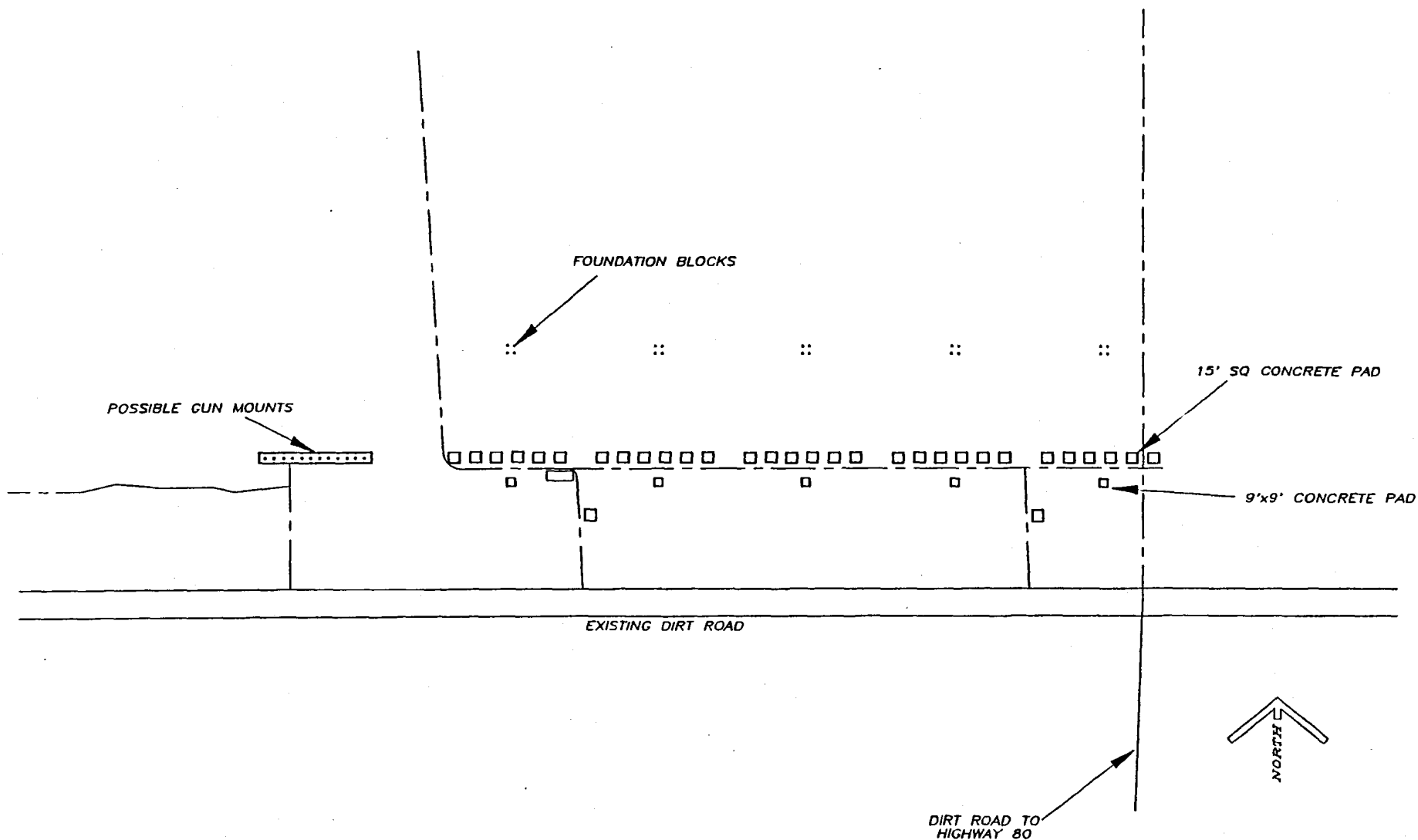


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FIGURE 3
SITE DETAIL
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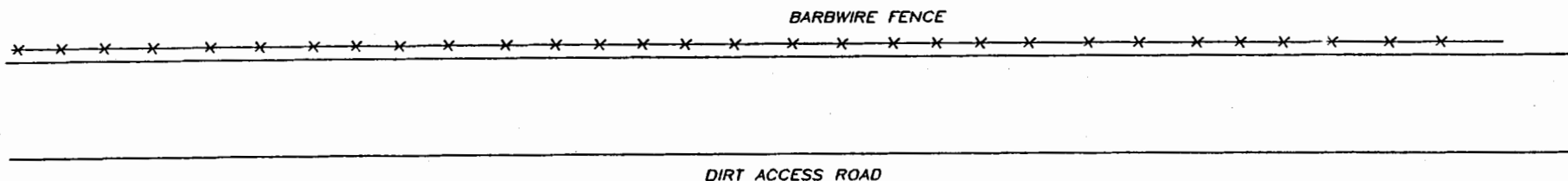
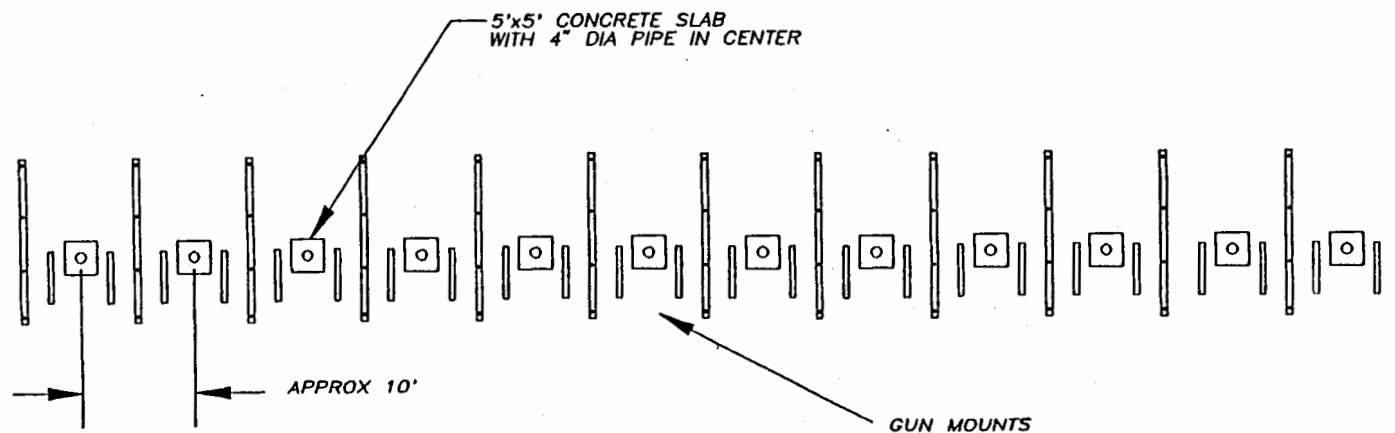


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FIGURE 4
SITE DETAIL
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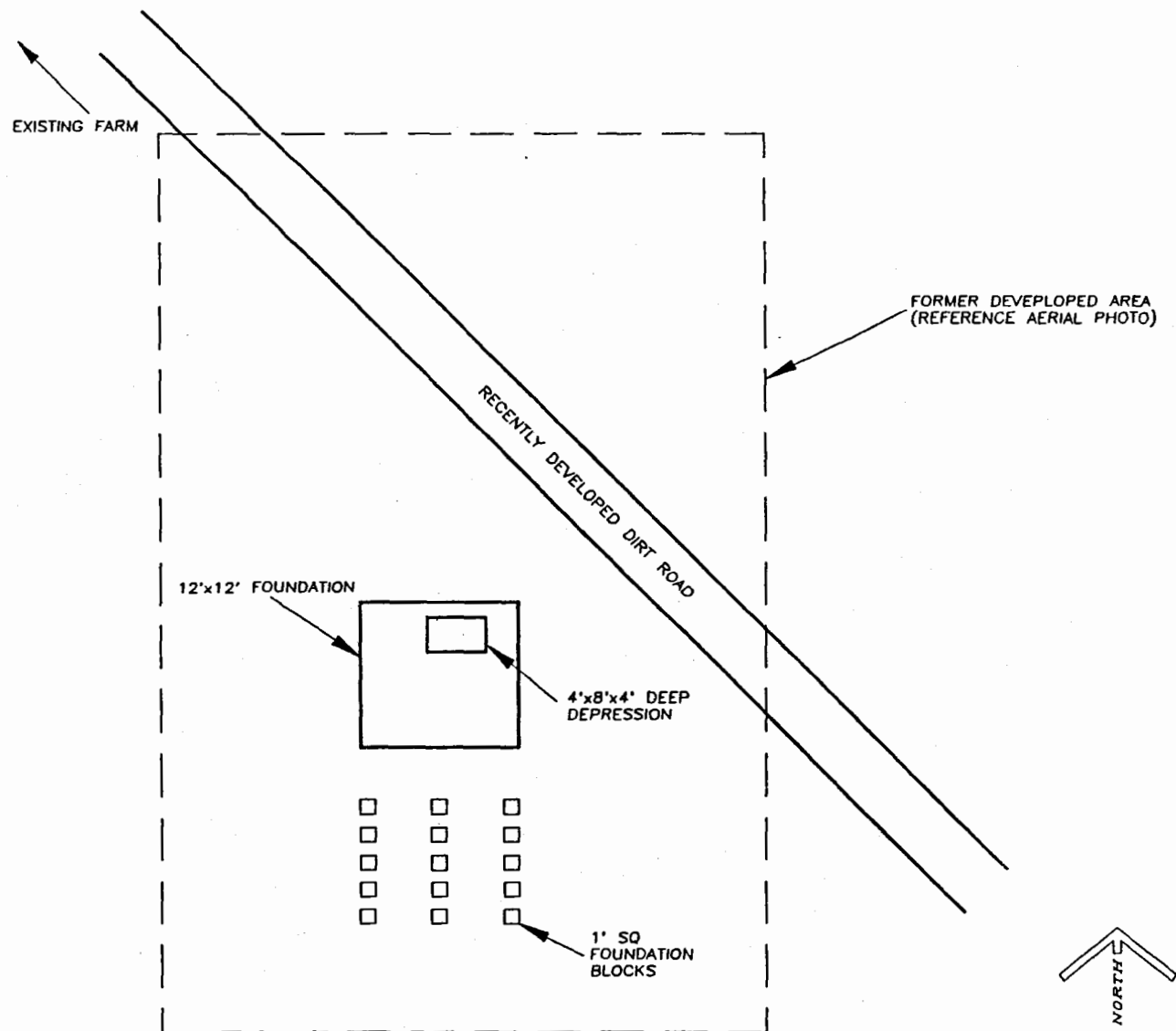


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FIGURE 5
SITE DETAIL
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FIGURE 6
SITE DETAIL
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