

# VALMONT, AN EARLY 1900s RAILROAD AND RANCHING COMMUNITY NEAR ALAMOGORDO: ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATA RECOVERY AT LA 115,252, OTERO COUNTY, NEW MEXICO

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This document presents the results of data recovery excavations at a turn-of-the-century railroad and ranching community (Site LA 115,252) known as Valmont. The community is located on U.S. Highway 54, 1.6 km (8 mi) south of Alamogordo, Otero County, New Mexico, and .4 km (.25 mi) north of the turnoff to Dog Canyon. An architectural feature, artifact concentrations, and potential activity areas around the architectural feature and in front of two adobe mounds were the focus of the excavations. A total of 6,499 artifacts (includes 692 artifacts from testing portion of the project) was collected. Research themes addressed through excavation and laboratory analysis, archival research, and oral-histories include Community Structure, Community Composition and Census, and Lifeways of Valmont's residents. Information obtained through the data recovery address the research themes regarding tum-of-the-century railroad and ranching communities.