

Syn1334: April 26, 2018

Today I catalogued all of the communication stations at the old location of Syn1334's base. This involved video recording the excavation of the pods as well as taking screen captures of them *in situ* and when they were activated to reveal their authors and messages. I recorded the location of each pod in relation to the fixed point of the base unit on the nearby mesa, as well as by walking-time, which displays when an icon is viewed at a distance. In *NMS*, walking speed is a constant for all players.

While more than half of the comm stations were sited within a large cave nearby, many units were buried underground courtesy of the realignment of the planet's topography by patch 1.3. To excavate the pods, I used the "terrain modifier" feature on the multi-tool, which allows one to dig through most surfaces (excluding bedrock). After locating a buried pod, I would return to the surface and use the same tool's "creation" feature to create a thin pylon of rock to serve as a flag, not unlike how one flags artifacts as part of a survey.

Elevation is difficult to judge, but most terminals are in a relatively level area approximately 10 m below the base unit. One can read the topography based on comm station placement. In fact, one drop pod remains suspended in the air, accessible only by ship.

Many drop pods contained their dates of placement, and some even indicated features of the base or of the landscape that are no longer visible post-patch. These help establish a date of when the base was abandoned, when players stopped visiting, and what the world was like pre-*Atlas Rises*.

Next steps include organizing the recorded media and data, ordering the communications stations, and drawing a map and/or plan of their placement.