

A
PHASE I CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY
OLD WALKER PASS,
APN 386-05-38,
CITY OF BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA

Submitted to:
McIntosh and Associates
2001 Wheelan Court
Bakersfield, California 93309

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Management Summary

At the request of the McIntosh and Associates, a Phase I Cultural Resource Survey was conducted on a 36.08-acre parcel, APN 386-05-38, Alfred Harrell Highway and Old Walker Pass Road, in the City of Bakersfield, California. The Phase I Cultural Resource Survey consisted of an archaeological survey and a cultural resource record search.

One cultural resource was identified, M-1. M-1 is a large prehistoric scraper. This prehistoric tool is not individually eligible for nomination to the California Register of Historic Resources under Criteria 1-4. This isolate is not associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of local or regional history or the cultural heritage of California or the United States (Criterion 1). This isolate is not associated with the lives of persons important to local, California or national history (Criterion 2). This isolate does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region or method of construction or represents the work of a master or possesses high artistic values (Criterion 3). Lastly, this isolate will not yield, or have the potential to yield, information important to the prehistory or history of the local area, California or the nation (Criterion 4).

No further work is required. If archaeological resources are encountered during the course of construction, a qualified archaeologist should be consulted for further evaluation.

If human remains or potential human remains are observed during construction, work in the vicinity of the remains will cease, and they will be treated in accordance with the provisions of State Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5. The protection of human remains follows California Public Resources Codes, Sections 5097.94, 5097.98, and 5097.99.

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1.0 Introduction

At the request of McIntosh and Associates, *Hudlow Cultural Resource Associates* conducted a Phase I Cultural Resource Survey in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act for a proposed general plan amendment and zone change from commercial to multifamily residential. The 36.08-acre property, Tract 7027, APN 386-05-38, is located at the southeast corner of Alfred Harrell Highway and Old Walker Pass Road in the City of Bakersfield, California. The Phase I Cultural Resource Survey consisted of a pedestrian survey and a cultural resource record search.

2.0 Project Location

The project area is in the City of Bakersfield. It is a portion of the SE ¼ of the NW ¼, a portion of the SE ¼ of the SW ¼ of the NW ¼, a portion of the NE ¼ of the NW ¼ of the SW ¼, and a portion of the W 1/2 of the NE ¼ of the SW ¼ of Section 10, T.29S., R.29E., Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian, as displayed on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Rio Bravo Ranch 7.5-minute quadrangle map (Figure 1). The proposed multi-family project is located at the southeast corner of Alfred Harrell Highway and Old Walker Pass Road in the City of Bakersfield, California.

3.0 Record Search

A record search of the project area and the environs within one half-mile was conducted at the Southern San Joaquin Information Center. Scott M. Hudlow conducted the record search, RS# 22-064, on February 8, 2022. The record search revealed that twenty cultural resource surveys have been conducted within one half-mile of the project area, including four projects which have been conducted on portions or the entirety of the current project area (Schiffman 1993, Schiffman 1994, Hudlow 2007, and Strudwick 2008). Twelve cultural resources have been located within one half-mile of the current project area, including two sites, a prehistoric and a historic site, that have been identified directly on the north side of Old Walker Pass Road. No cultural resources have been identified within the project area.

4.0 Environmental Background

The project area is located at elevations between 680 and 800 feet above mean sea level in the Great Central Valley, south of the Kern River, in the foothills directly south of the river. The Great Central Valley is composed of two valleys-the Sacramento Valley and the San Joaquin Valley. The parcel is covered in low grasses, and an intermittent streambed is located on the western edge of the parcel adjacent to Alfred Harrell Highway. Construction mounds and a bladed road are present (Figures 2 and 3).

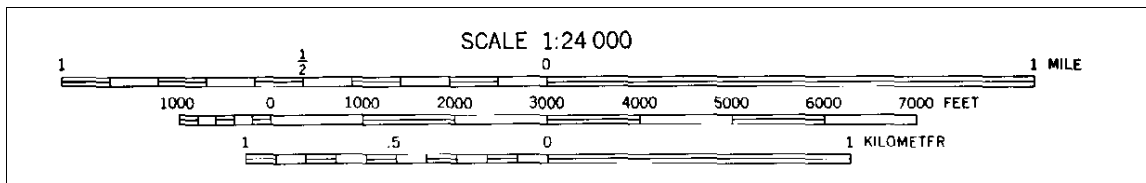
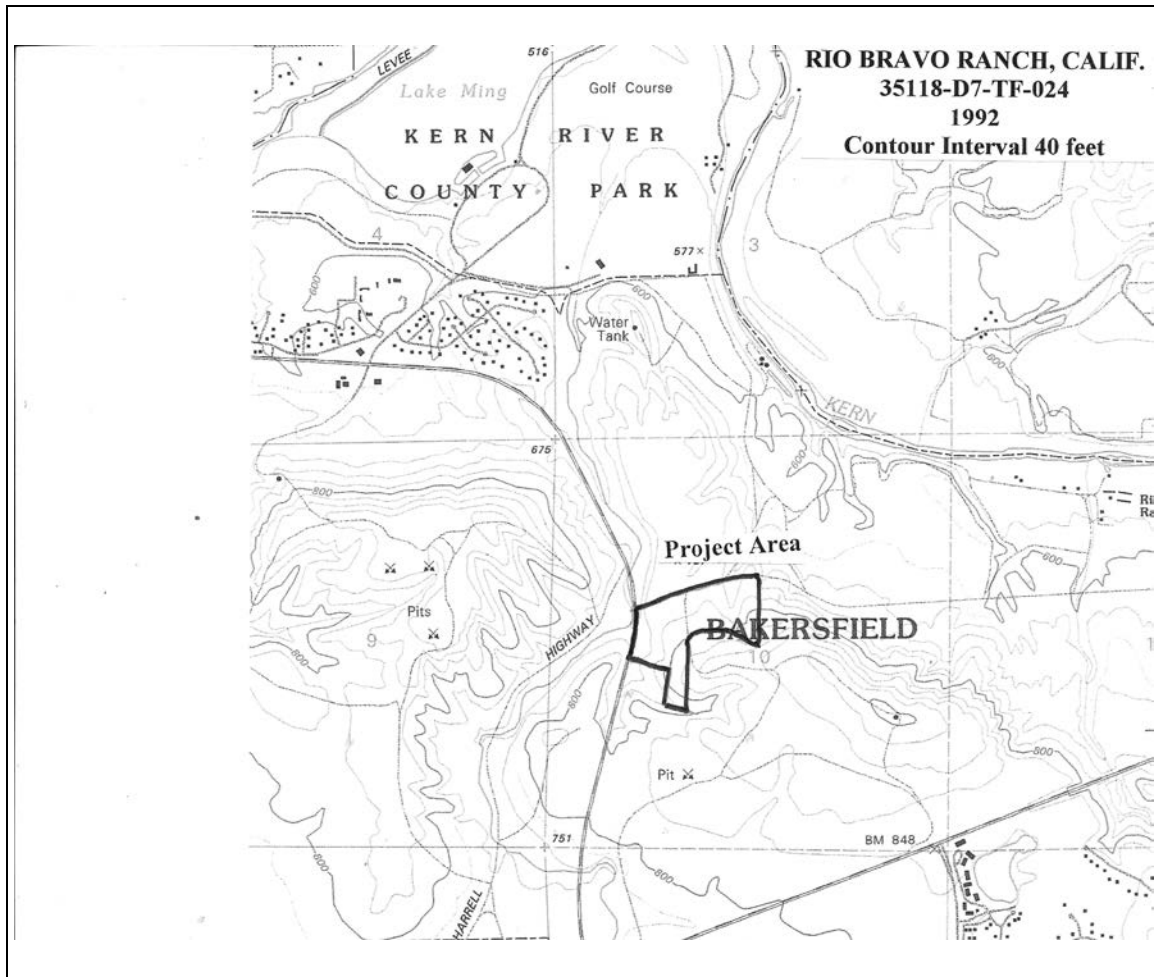


Figure 1
Project Area Location Map

5.0 Prehistoric Archaeological Context

Limited archaeological research has been conducted in the southern San Joaquin Valley. Thus, consensus on a generally agreed upon regional cultural chronology has yet to be developed. Most cultural sequences can be summarized into several distinct time periods: Early, Middle, and Late. Sequences differ in their inclusion of various "horizons," "technologies," or "stages." A prehistoric archaeological summary of the southern San Joaquin Valley is available in Moratto (Moratto 1984).

Despite the preoccupation with chronological issues in most of the previous research, most suggested chronological sequences are borrowed from other regions with minor modifications based on sparse local data.

The following chronology is based on Parr and Osborne's Paleo-Indian, Proto-Archaic, Archaic, Post-Archaic periods (Parr and Osborne 1992:44-47). Most existing chronologies focus on stylistic changes of time-sensitive artifacts such as projectile points and beads rather than addressing the socioeconomic factors, which produced the myriad variations. In doing so, these attempts have encountered similar difficulties. These cultural changes are implied as environmentally determined, rather than economically driven.

Paleo-Indians, whom roamed the region approximately 12,000 years ago, were highly mobile individuals. Their subsistence is assumed to have been primarily big game, which was more plentiful 12,000 years ago than in the late twentieth century. However, in the Great Basin and California, Paleo people were also foragers who exploited a wide range of resources. Berries, seeds, and small game were also consumed. Their technology was portable, including manos (Parr and Osborne 1992:44). The paleo period is characterized by fluted Clovis and Folsom points, which have been identified throughout North America. The Tulare Lake region in Kings County has yielded several Paleo-Indian sites, which have included fluted points, scrapers, chipped crescents, and Lake Mojave-type points (Moratto 1984:81-2).

The Proto-Archaic period, which dates from approximately 11,000 to 8,000 years ago, was characterized by a reduction in mobility and conversely an increase in sedentism. This period is classified as the Western Pluvial Lake Tradition or the Proto-Archaic, of which the San Dieguito complex is a major aspect (Moratto 1984: 90-99; Warren 1967). An archaeological site along Buena Vista Lake in southwestern Kern County displays a similar assemblage to the San Dieguito type site. Claude Warren proposes that a majority of Proto-Archaic southern California could be culturally classified as the San Dieguito Complex (Warren 1967). The Buena Vista Lake site yielded manos, millingstones, large stemmed and foliate points, a mortar, and red ochre. During this period, subsistence patterns began to change. Hunting focused on smaller game and plant collecting became more integral. Large stemmed, lanceolate (foliate) projectile points represents lithic technology. Millingstones become more



Figure 2
Project Area, View to the Southeast

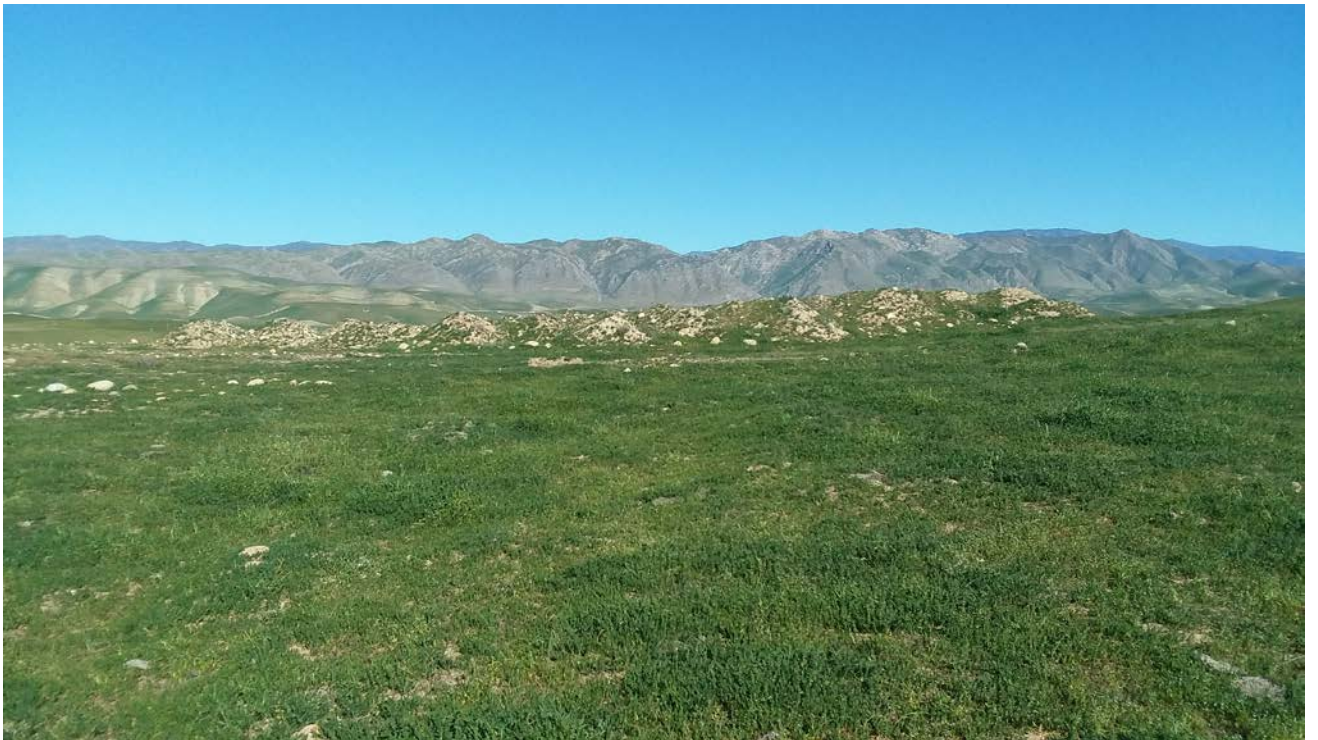


Figure 2

Project Area, View to the Northeast

prevalent. The increased sedentism possibly began to create regional stylistic and cultural differences not evident in the paleo period.

The Archaic period persisted in California for the next 4000 years. In 1959, Warren and McKusiak proposed a three-phase chronological sequence based on a small sample of burial data for the Archaic period (Moratto 1984:189; Parr and Osborne 1992:47). It is distinguished by increased sedentism and extensive seed and plant exploitation. Millingstones, shaped through use, were abundant. Bedrock manos and metates were the most prevalent types of millingstones (Parr and Osborne 1992:45). The central valley began to develop distinct cultural variations, which can be distinguished by different regions throughout the valley, including Kern County.

In the Post-Archaic period enormous cultural variations began manifesting themselves throughout the entire San Joaquin Valley. This period extends into the contact period in the seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. Sedentary village life was emblematic of the Post-Archaic period, although hunting and gathering continued as the primary subsistence strategy. Agriculture was absent in California, partially due to the dense, predictable, and easily exploitable natural resources. The ancestral Yokuts have possibly been in the valley for the last three thousand years, and by the eighteenth century were the largest pre-contact population, approximately 40,000 individuals, in California (Moratto 1984).

6.0 Ethnographic Background

The Yokuts are a Penutian-speaking, non-political cultural group. Penutian speakers inhabit the San Joaquin Valley, the Bay Area, and the Central Sierra Nevada Mountains. The Yokuts are split into three major groups, the Northern Valley Yokuts, the Southern Valley Yokuts, and the Foothill Yokuts.

The southern San Joaquin Valley in the Bakersfield and associated Kern County area was home to the Yokuts tribelet, Yawelmani. The tribelets averaged 350 people in size, had a special name for themselves, and spoke a unique dialect of Yokuts. Land was owned collectively and every group member enjoyed the right to utilize food resources. The Yawelmani inhabited a strip of the southeastern San Joaquin Valley, north of the Kern River to the Tehachapi Mountains on the south, and from the mountains on the east, to approximately the old south fork of the Kern River on the west (Wallace 1978:449; Parr and Osborne 1992:19). The Yawelmani were the widest ranging of the Yokuts tribelets.

The Southern Valley Yokuts had a mixed economy emphasizing fishing, hunting, fowling, and collecting shellfish, roots, and seeds. Fish were the most prevalent resource and was a productive activity throughout the entire year. Fish were caught in many different manners, including nets, conical basket traps, catching with bare hands, shooting with bows and arrows, and stunning

fish with mild floral toxins. Geese, ducks, mud hens and other waterfowl were caught in snares, long-handled nets, stuffed decoys, and brushing brush to trick the birds to fly low into waiting hunters. Mussels were gathered and steamed on beds of tule. Turtles and dogs were consumed (Wallace 1978:449-450).

Wild seeds and roots provided a large portion of the Yokuts' diet. Tule seeds, grass seeds, fiddleneck, alfilaria were also consumed. Acorns, the staple crop for many California native cultures, were not common in the San Joaquin Valley. Acorns were traded into the area. Land mammals, such as rabbits, ground squirrels, antelope and tule elk, were not taken often (Wallace 1978:450).

The Yokuts occupied permanent structures in permanent villages for most of the year. During the late and early summer, families left for several months to gather seeds and plant foods, shifting camp locations when changing crops. Several different types of fiber-covered structures were common in Yokuts settlements. The largest was a communal tule mat-covered, wedge-shaped structure, which could house upward of ten individuals. These structures were established in a row, with the village chief's house in the middle and his messenger's houses were located at the ends of the house row. Dance houses and assembly buildings were located outside the village living area (Nabokov and Easton 1989:301).

The Yokuts also built smaller, oval, single-family tule dwellings. These houses were covered with tall mohya stalks or with sewn tule mats. Bent-pole ribs that met a ridgepole held by two crotched poles framed these small houses. The Yokuts also built a cone-shaped dwelling, which was framed with poles tied together with a hoop and then covered with tule or grass. These cone-shaped dwellings were large enough to contain multiple fireplaces (Nabokov and Easton 1989:301). Other structures included mat-covered granaries for storing food supplies, and a dirt-covered, communally owned sweathouse.

Clothing was minimal, men wore a breechclout or were naked. Women wore a narrow-fringed apron. Cold temperatures brought out rabbitskin or mud hen blankets. Moccasins were worn in certain places; however, most people went barefoot. Men wore no head coverings, but women wore basketry caps when they carried burden baskets on their heads. Hair was worn long. Women wore tattoos from the corners of the mouth to the chin; both men and women had ear and nose piercings. Bone, wood or shell ornaments were inserted (Wallace 1978:450-451).

Tule dominated the Yokut's material culture. It was used for many purposes, including sleeping mats, wall coverings, cradles, and basketry. Ceramics are uncommon to Yokuts culture as is true throughout most California native cultures. Basketry was common to Yokuts culture. Yokuts made cooking containers, conical burden baskets, flat winnowing trays, seed beaters, and

necked water bottles. Yokuts also manufactured wooden digging sticks, fire drills, mush stirrers, and sinew-backed bows. Knives, projectile points, and scraping tools were chipped from imported lithic materials including obsidian, chert, and chalcedony. Stone mortars and pestles were secured in trade. Cordage was manufactured from milkweed fibers, animal skins were tanned, and awls were made from bone. Marine shells, particularly olivella shells, were used in the manufacture of money and articles of personal adornment. Shells were acquired from the Chumash along the coast (Wallace 1978:451-453).

The basic social and economic unit was the nuclear family. Lineages were organized along patrilineal lines. Yokuts fathers transmitted totems, particular to each paternal lineage, to each of his children. The totem was an animal or bird that no member would kill or eat and that was dreamed of and prayed to. The mother's totem was not passed to her offspring, but was treated with respect. Families sharing the same totem formed an exogamous lineage. The lineage had no formal leader nor did it own land. The lineage was a mechanism for transmitting offices and performing ceremonial functions. The lineages formed two moieties, East and West, which consisted of several different lineages. Moieties were customarily exogamous. Children followed the paternal moiety. Certain official positions within the villages were associated with certain totems. The most important was the Eagle lineage from which the village chief was appointed. A member of the Dove lineage acted as the chief's assistant. He supervised food distribution and gave commands during ceremonies. Another hereditary position was common to the Magpie lineage, was that of spokesman or crier.

7.0 Field Procedures and Methods

On February 12, 2022, Scott M. Hudlow (for qualifications see Appendix I) conducted a pedestrian archaeological survey of the entire proposed project area. Hudlow surveyed in north/south transects across the entire lot in 15-meter (33 feet) intervals. All archaeological material more than fifty years of age or earlier encountered during the inventory was recorded. An isolate form was completed, artifacts and maps were drawn. The lot is covered in low grasses; however, the top of the ridge in the middle of the parcel has been previously leveled.

8.0 Report of Archaeological Findings

One cultural resource was identified, M-1. M-1 is a sizable prehistoric scraper (Figure 4). It measures approximately 10 cm x 10 cm. It is thick in the center and tapered to each edge, with distinct percussion flaking scars.



Figure 4
Isolate M-1, Large Prehistoric Scraper

9.0 Management Recommendations

At the request of the McIntosh and Associates, a Phase I Cultural Resource Survey was conducted on a 36.08-acre parcel, APN 386-05-38, Alfred Harrell Highway and Old Walker Pass Road, in the City of Bakersfield, California. The Phase I Cultural Resource Survey consisted of an archaeological survey and a cultural resource record search.

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10.0 References

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Appendix I

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Education

The George Washington University
M.A. American Studies, 1993
Specialization in Historical Archaeology
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University of California, Berkeley
B.A. History, 1987
B.A. Anthropology, 1987
Specialization in Historical Archaeology
and Colonial History

Public Service

3/94-12/02 *Historic Preservation Commission*. City of Bakersfield, Bakersfield, California 93305.

7/97-12/01 *Newsletter Editor*. *California History Action*, newsletter for the California Council for the Promotion of History.

Relevant Work Experience

8/96- *Adjutant Faculty*. Bakersfield College, 1801 Panorama Drive, Bakersfield, California, 93305. Teach History 17A, Introduction to American History and Anthropology 5, Introduction to North American Indians.

Owner, Sole Proprietorship. Hudlow Cultural Resource Associates. 1405 Sutter Lane, Bakersfield California 93309. Operate small cultural resource management business. Manage contracts, respond to RFP's, bill clients, manage temporary employees. Conduct Phase I archaeological and architectural surveys for private and public clients; including the cultural resource survey, documentary photography, measured drawings, mapping of structures, filing of survey forms, historic research, assessing impact and writing reports. Evaluated archaeological and architectural sites and properties in lieu of their eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places in association with Section 106 and 110 requirements of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act).

Full resume available upon request.