

A
**PHASE I CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY,
MOUNTAIN VISTA DRIVE AND MCCUTCHEN ROAD,
CITY OF BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA**

Submitted to:

McIntosh and Associates
2001 Wheelan Court
Bakersfield, California 93309

Keywords:

Gosford 7.5' Quadrangle, City of Bakersfield,
California Environmental Quality Act

Submitted by:

Hudlow Cultural Resource Associates
1405 Sutter Lane
Bakersfield, California 93309

Author:

Scott M. Hudlow

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Management Summary

At the request of McIntosh and Associates, a Phase I Cultural Resource Survey was conducted on exactly 28.91 acres. The property lies north of McCutchen Road and includes a new extension of Mountain Vista Drive south from the existing right-of-way to McCutchen Road in the City of Bakersfield, California. The Phase I Cultural Resource Survey consisted of a pedestrian survey of the twenty-acre site and a cultural resource record search.

No cultural resources were identified. 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.

Table of Contents

Management Summary	2
Table of Contents	3
List of Figures.....	3
1.0 Introduction	4
2.0 Survey Location	4
3.0 Record Search	4
4.0 Environmental Background.....	4
5.0 Prehistoric Archaeological Context	4
6.0 Ethnographic Background	8
7.0 Historical Overview.....	10
8.0 Field Procedures and Methods.....	12
9.0 Report of Findings.....	12
10.0 Management Recommendations	12
11.0 References.....	13
Appendix I.....	15

List of Figures

1 Project Area Location Map.....	5
2 Project Area, View to the South.....	7
3 Project Area, View to the Northwest	7

1.0 Introduction

At the request of McIntosh and Associates, *Hudlow Cultural Resource Associates* conducted a Phase I Cultural Resource Survey on approximately 28.91 acres, for a proposed single-family residential development and a road extension. The property lies north of McCutchen Road and includes a new extension of Mountain Vista Drive south from the existing right-of-way to McCutchen Road in the City of Bakersfield, California. This project is being undertaken in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The Phase I Cultural Resource Survey consisted of a pedestrian survey and a cultural resource record search.

2.0 Survey Location

The project area is in the City of Bakersfield. The parcel is the S ½ of the S ½ of Section 30 and the N ½ of the NE ¼ of the NE ¼ of the NW ¼ of Section 31, T.30S., R.27., Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian, as displayed on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Gosford 7.5-minute quadrangle map (Figure 1). The property lies north of McCutchen Road and includes a new extension of Mountain Vista Drive south from the existing right-of-way to McCutchen 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 Archaeological Information Center. Scott M. Hudlow conducted the record search, RS# 22-051 on February 2, 2022. The record search revealed that fourteen cultural resource surveys have been conducted within one-half mile radius of the project area. No previous surveys have been conducted within the current project area. Eleven cultural resources have been recorded within one half-mile of the current project area, including four prehistoric sites and seven historic sites. No cultural resources have been recorded within the current project area.

4.0 Environmental Background

The project area is located at elevations between 340 and 345 feet above mean sea level in the Great Central Valley, which is composed of two valleys-- the Sacramento Valley and the San Joaquin Valley. The project area is located in the southwestern portion of the southern San Joaquin Valley, south of the Kern River. The former agricultural lot is denuded of native vegetation (Figures 2 and 3).

5.0 Prehistoric Archaeological Context

Limited archaeological research has been conducted in the southern San Joaquin Valley. Consensus on a generally agreed upon regional cultural chronology has yet to be developed. Most cultural sequences can be

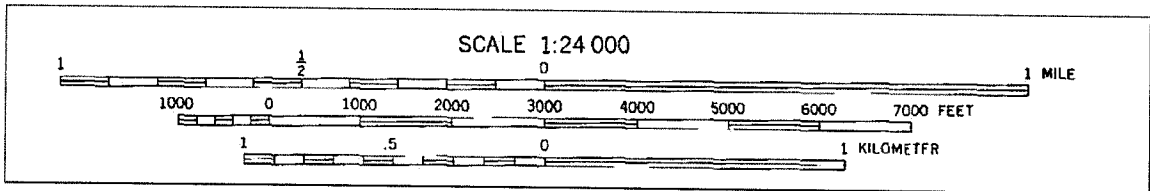
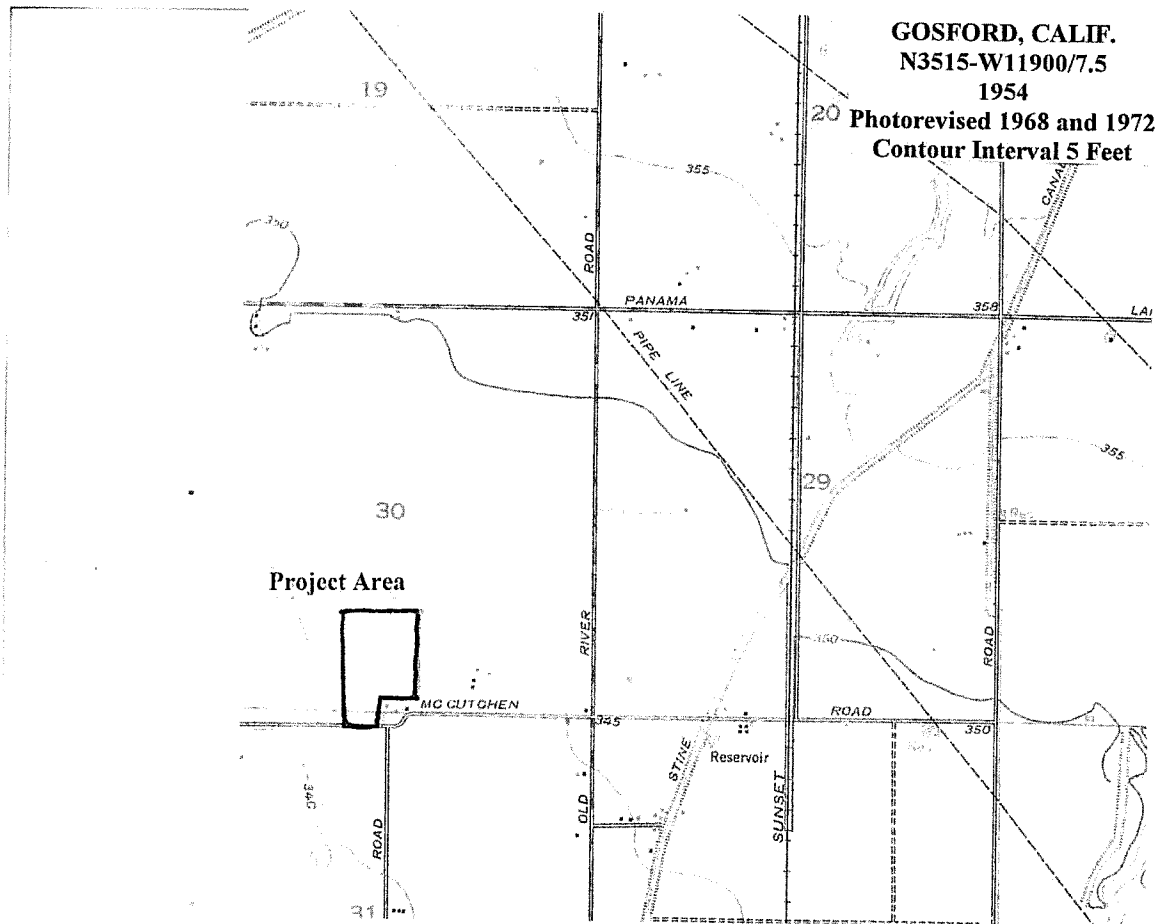


Figure 1
Project Area Location Map

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 represent lithic technology. Millingstones become more 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



Figure 2
Project Area, View to the South



Figure 3
Project Area, View to the Northwest

and Osborne 1992:47). It is distinguished by increased sedentism and extensive seed and plant exploitation. Millingstones, shaped through use, were abundant. 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 by the sixteenth or seventeenth century, 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 the Yokuts language. 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. One half dozen villages were located along the Kern River, including *Woiilo* ("planting place" or "sowing place"), which was located in downtown Bakersfield, where the original Amtrak station was located. A second village was located across the Kern River from *Woiilo*, on the west bank.

The Southern Valley Yokuts established a mixed domestic economy emphasizing fishing, hunting, fowling, and collecting shellfish, roots, and seeds. Fish were the most prevalent natural resource; fishing 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 were consumed, as were dogs, which might have been raised for consumption (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, particularly from the foothills. Land mammals, such as rabbits, ground squirrels, antelope and tule elk, were not hunted 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. These small houses were framed by bent-pole ribs, which met a ridgepole held by two crotched poles. 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. Rabbitskin or mud hen blankets were worn during the cold season. 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 into the ears and noses (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. Fathers transmitted totems, particular to each paternal lineage, to each of his children. The totem was a bird or animal that no lineage member would kill or eat; the totems were dreamed of and prayers were given to the totems. 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 Historical Overview

Kern County was settled in the 1860s, soon after California joined the United States after the passage of the Compromise of 1850. The Compromise of 1850 allowed California to join the Union as a free state even though a major portion of the state lied beneath the Missouri Compromise line; and was potentially subject to southern settlement and slavery. Americans had long been visiting and working in California prior to the admission of California into the Union.

The Spanish moving north from Baja California into Alta California began European settlement of California in 1769. Father Junipero Serra, a Franciscan friar founded Mission San Diego de Alcalá, beginning California active European settlement. However, Spanish mission efforts were focused on California's coastal regions. Spanish exploration of the San Joaquin Valley region begins in the 1770s. In 1772, Pedro Fages arrived in the San Joaquin Valley searching for army deserters. Father Francisco Garcés, a Franciscan priest, soon visited the vicinity in 1776. The Spanish empire collapsed in 1820, all of Spain's former Central and South American colonies became independent nations. As a result, California became Mexican territory. California stayed in Mexican hands until the Mexican-American War. Mexican California remained a coastal society with little interest in settling in California's hot, dry interior valleys.

American exploration of the San Joaquin Valley begins in the 1820s with Jedediah Smith, Kit Carson, and Joseph Walker looking for commercial opportunities. The United States government began exploring California in the 1830s. Soon, the Americans will be searching for intercontinental railroad routes to link the eastern and western halves of the continent.

The defeat of the Mexicans during the Mexican-American War and the subsequent discovery of gold will drastically alter the complicated political realities of the west. The Mexican-American War was ostensibly fought to settle a boundary dispute with the Mexicans over the western boundary of the newly-annexed state of Texas, which had fought a successful rebellion against the Mexican Army in the mid 1830s. The Republic of Texas was an independent country for nine years until Texas was annexed by the United States in 1845. One major outcome of the Mexican-American War was that Mexico rescinded its claims to much of the American southwest. In 1848 these territories were folded into the United States, including California.

In January 1848, the discovery of gold in Coloma, California changed the settlement of California, forever. In the summer of 1848, when the gold strike was publicly announced, the overnight settlement of California began. The Mexican population of California was small and limited to the coasts and a few of southern California's interior valleys. A sizable native population settled the remainder of California; Bakersfield and Kern County was Yokuts territory. The Gold Rush tipped the balance of native communities throughout California, as many of California's natives were decimated.

Many areas experienced smaller gold rushes, including the Kern River Valley, when gold was discovered in Keyesville in 1853. The gold was soon played and the true future of the region was soon identified, farming, as the gold prospectors came down from the mountains. Kern Island, a median point along the Kern Delta, between the mouth of the Kern River and the Kern Lake, was settled in 1860. Soon, Col. Thomas Baker bought the property from the original owner, Christian Bohna and the settlement of Bakersfield began in earnest.

Col. Baker was lured to California by the prospects of gold. He was a practicing lawyer and surveyor and was slowly moved west from Ohio. He was involved in Iowa's territorial government and served in both the California senate and assembly. Col. Baker realized he had to drain the Kern Delta to manufacture usable farmland. He also improved his land, creating one of the only transit locations between Los Angeles and Visalia in the 1860s.

Baker laid out the town and began the process of draining, diverting, and controlling the Kern River. In 1873, Bakersfield was incorporated and was the first city in the newly-created Kern County, which was previously a portion of Tulare County. In 1874, Bakersfield got a rail link with the establishment of the Southern Pacific line over the Tehachapi Pass connecting Kern County to northern California to points east. The train station was located in Sumner, a spite town that was established by the Southern Pacific about a mile east of downtown

Bakersfield, now located in east Bakersfield. The train brought Bakersfield agricultural prosperity, since it now had quick, rail connections to larger California and eastern markets for its fruits and grains.

The city of Bakersfield was expanding to the north in the early twentieth-century toward the Kern River, after its 1898 reincorporation. The city centered along Chester Avenue, which was the main north/south thoroughfare. The community of Sumter lied to the east, and the surrounding area in all directions was farmland. The city of Bakersfield was a small community at the turn of the century, slightly less than 5,000 people lived in Bakersfield; an additional 17,000 people lived in Kern County (Maynard 1997:43). Bakersfield was a quiet city in the center of a farming region.

However, the discovery of the Kern River oil field in May 1899 quickly changed the face of the region. Bakersfield quickly became the center of a California oil boom, which remade the community. The population more than doubled in less than ten years, bringing prosperity to the area (Maynard 1997:43). Many people recognized that prosperity could not only be achieved through working in oil, but also through providing necessary services, such as milk products and lodging. The city of Bakersfield grew.

Between 1900 and 1950, Bakersfield and the greater Kern County region grew tremendously under the influence of two economic forces, agriculture and oil. By 1950, Bakersfield was a mid-sized city of approximately 50,000. It sported minor league baseball, had a regional airport, and was a major automobile link along Route 99, which connected northern and southern California. In the late 1960s, Bakersfield was beginning to change again, as the Kern County Land Company was sold to Tenneco West, and Bakersfield began to suburbanize.

8.0 Field Procedures and Methods

On February 9, 2022, Scott M. Hudlow (for qualifications see Appendix I) conducted a pedestrian survey of the entire proposed project area. Hudlow surveyed in north/south transects at 10-meter (33 feet) intervals across the entire parcel. All archaeological material more than fifty years of age or earlier encountered during the inventory was recorded.

9.0 Report of Findings

No cultural resources were identified.

10.0 Management Recommendations

At the request of McIntosh and Associates, a Phase I Cultural Resource Survey was conducted on exactly 28.91 acres. The property lies north of McCutchen Road and includes a new extension of Mountain Vista Drive south from the existing right-of-way to McCutchen Road in the City of Bakersfield,

California. The Phase I Cultural Resource Survey consisted of a pedestrian survey of the twenty-acre site and a cultural resource record search.

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Appendix I

Scott M. Hudlow
1405 Sutter Lane
Bakersfield, California 93309
(661) 834-9183

Education

The George Washington University
M.A. American Studies, 1993
Specialization in Historical Archaeology
and Architectural History

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.

