

A
PHASE I CULTURAL RESOURCE SURVEY
APNS 532-05-02, -03, and -05,
ASHE ROAD AND TAFT HIGHWAY,
CITY OF BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA

Submitted to:

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

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Management Summary

At the request of KFT Holdings, LLC a Phase I Cultural Resource Survey was conducted on 6.68 acres, APNs 532-05-02, -03, and -05, in the City of Bakersfield, in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act. The Phase I Cultural Resource Survey consisted of a pedestrian survey of the site and a cultural resource record search of the three parcels located at the northeast corner of Ashe Road and Taft Highway.

Two cultural resources were identified, S-1 and S-2. S-1 is the remains of a historic farmhouse. The foundation and associated rubble is present. The house probably dated to the 1920s. Site S-1 is not potentially eligible for nomination to the California Register of Historic Resources under Criteria A, B, C, and D.

S-1 is the remains of a historic farmhouse. As such, S-1 is not potentially eligible for nomination to the California Register of Historic Resources under Criteria C. Additionally, S-1 is neither linked to any individuals, historical trends, nor has the potential to yield additional information in the future that qualifies it for potential nomination to the California Register of Historic Resources under Criteria A, B, or D.

S-2 is a series of three historic houses, on one property and adjacent to each other. A garage and a series of metal sheds are also on the property. Two of these three houses are occupied; one is being used for storage. The two occupied houses have been extensively remodeled to make them livable. This property dates to ca. 1945. Due to the modern remodeling, post-2013, this property is not potentially eligible for nomination to the California Register of Historic Resources under Criteria A, B, C, and D.

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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 KFT Holdings, LLC, *Hudlow Cultural Resource Associates* conducted a Phase I Cultural Resource Survey at a location for a proposed commercial project at the northeast corner of Ashe Road and Taft Highway, APNs 532-05-02, -03, and -05, in the City of Bakersfield, California in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act. Ashe Road bounds the parcels to the west and Taft Highway bounds it to the south. The Phase I Cultural Resource Survey consisted of a pedestrian survey of the site and a cultural resource record search.

2.0 Survey Location

The project area is in the City of Bakersfield. It comprises a portion of the SW ¼ of the SW ¼ of Section 34, T.30S., R.27E., Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian, as displayed on the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Gosford 7.5-minute quadrangle map (Figure 1). The project area is located at the northeast corner of Ashe Road and Taft Highway 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 on January 29, 2019, AIC# 19-027. The record search revealed that eight surveys have been conducted within one half-mile of the project area. No surveys have previously surveyed the parcels. Three cultural resources have been identified within one half-mile of the project area, each is a historic house. No cultural resources have been identified within the current project area boundaries.

4.0 Environmental Background

The project area is located at an elevation approximately 365 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 field is denuded of native vegetation; and is partially covered in weeds and turfgrass.

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."

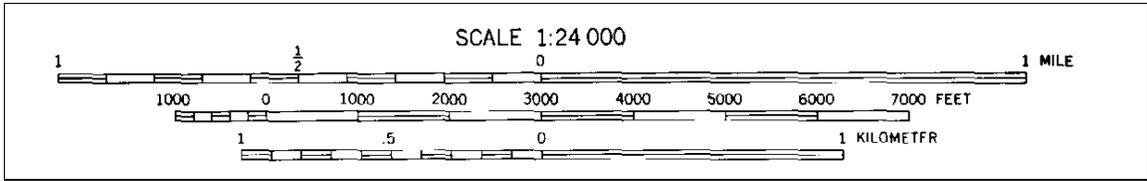
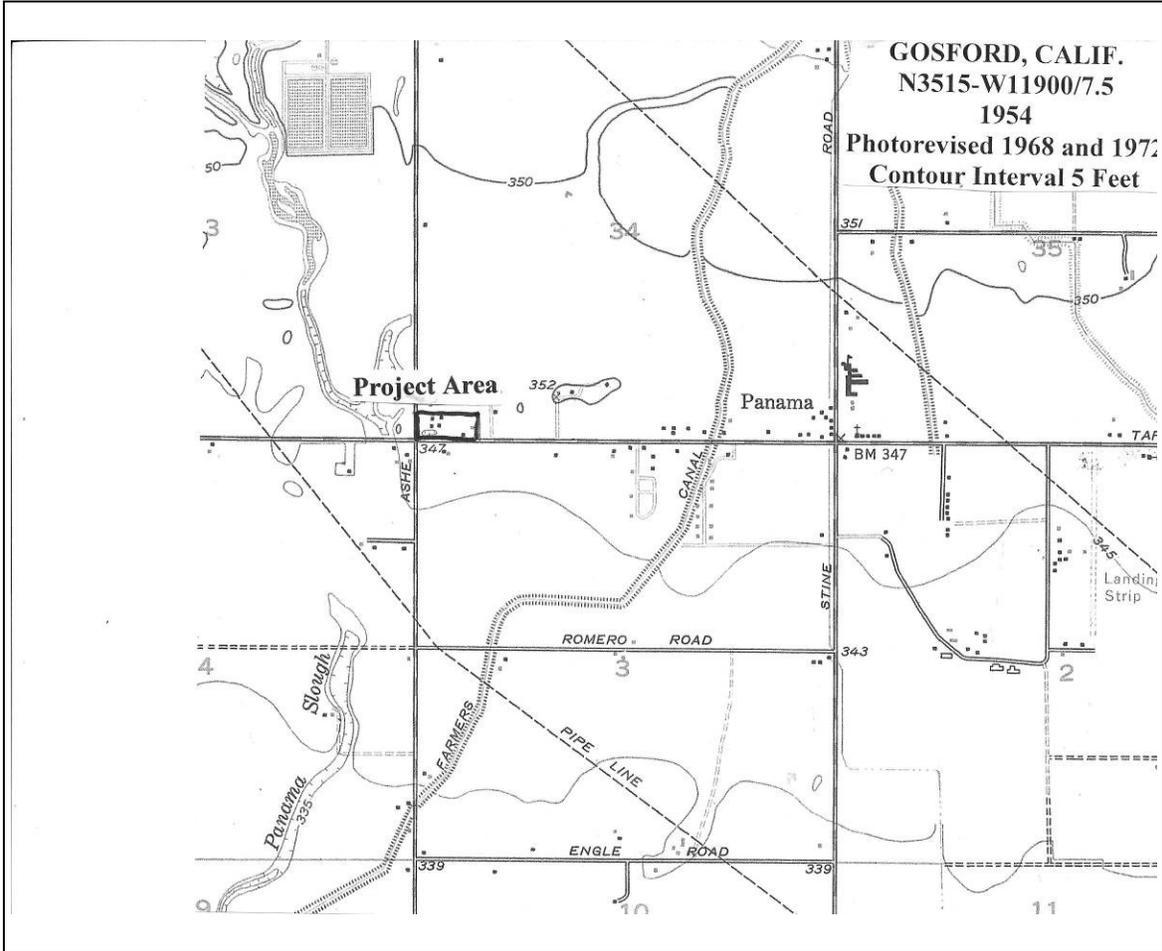


Figure 1
Project Area Location Map

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 during this period. 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 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. A half dozen villages were located along the Kern River, including *Woilo* ("planting place" or "sowing place"), which was located in downtown Bakersfield, where the Amtrak station is located. A second village was located across the Kern River from *Woilo*, 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 also 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. 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. Rabbitskin or mud hen blankets were worn during the cold season. Moccasins were worn in certain locations; 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

The city of Bakersfield 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 for 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.

European exploration of the region begins in the 1770s with the Spanish. In 1772, Pedro Fages arrived in the San Joaquin Valley searching for army deserters. Father Francisco Garces, a Jesuit priest, soon visited the vicinity in 1776. The Spanish empire collapsed in 1820, and California became Mexican territory. 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 ostensible 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. The outcome of the Mexican-American War was that Mexico rescinded its claims to much of the American southwest, in 1848, bringing these territories into the United States, including California.

In January 1849, the discovery of gold in Coloma, California changed the settlement of California, forever. In the summer of 1849, 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 out 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; but was tamed by the farming. 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 before arriving in the area in the 1840s and 1850s. Col. Baker realized he had to drain the Kern Delta to manufacture usable farmland, and 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. 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. Bakersfield could now flourish as an agricultural community, producing 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 Sumner 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 made over 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 tremendously.

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 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 January 30, 2019, 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 15-meter (49 feet) intervals across the entire parcel. All archaeological material more than fifty years of age or earlier encountered during the inventory would have been recorded, except for APN 532-05-02. The property owner would not grant access, so no pedestrian survey was accomplished. The house was surveyed from the adjacent parcel and Ashe Road.

9.0 Report of Findings

Two cultural resources were identified, S-1 and S-2. Site S-1 is the foundation and rubble pile from a historic farmhouse, which probably dates to the 1920s. (Figures 2 and 3). The house faced to the north away from Taft Highway. One dead shade tree is present, and one thriving pine tree, which sheltered the north elevation is present. Three openings on the north, east, and west elevations are present. Brick edging for flower gardens is present along the north elevation of the foundation. The north elevation was the primary elevation. The foundation was a concrete pier system with additional concrete piers that create a base for the floor joists. The house was a frame house. Dimensional-cut plywood is present. The walls were chicken-wired, stucco; the house was probably covered in a gable roof. The roof had open unadorned eaves. A poured-in-place concrete foundation rests directly to the west of the house foundation. A concrete porch step is present to the east of the house

foundation, but no other remains are present. The debris pile to the west of the foundation contains the house rubble.



Figure 2
S-1, Foundation, View toward the North



Figure 3
S-1, Demolition Pile, View toward the North

Access was not granted to the last parcel. As such, the complex was surveyed from the adjacent parcel and Ashe Road. Site S-2 is a domestic complex with three separate residences (Figures 4-7). The front two residences were occupied, the residence to the rear is unoccupied and used for storage. A garage is also present and a series of metal outbuildings. Each of the three residences is a one-story, frame and stucco, gable roofed house. The main house in the southwest corner has a central fireplace, and a shed porch raised on square posts. Replacement single-pane sash windows pierce the house. The house to the rear is currently used for storage. It has a series of small shed additions in the southwest corner of the house. The last house is a small one-story house with a centered entrance and symmetrically placed flanking windows on the west, primary elevation. A centered, shed porch is attached to the west elevation. The houses all face Ashe Road.



Figure 4
S-2, View toward the East



Figure 5
S-2, View to the Northeast



Figure 6
S-2, View toward the Northeast, Western Elevation



Figure 7
S-2, Second House, View to the East

10.0 Management Recommendations

At the request of KFT Holdings, LLC a Phase I Cultural Resource Survey was conducted on 6.68 acres, APNs 532-05-02, -03, and -05, in the City of Bakersfield, in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act. The Phase I Cultural Resource Survey consisted of a pedestrian survey of the site and a cultural resource record search of the three parcels located at the northeast corner of Ashe Road and Taft Highway.

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11.0 References

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Appendix I

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Education

The George Washington University
M.A. American Studies, 1993
Specialization in Architectural History,
American Material Culture, and Folklife

University of California, Berkeley
B.A. History, 1987
B.A. Anthropology, 1987
Specialization in Colonial History
and Historical Archaeology

Public Service

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

7/97- *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.

11/95- *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 architectural and
archaeological surveys for private and public clients; including the survey,
documentary photography, measured drawings, mapping of structures,
filling of survey forms, historic research, assessing impact and writing
reports. Evaluated 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.