

**CULTURAL RESOURCES ASSESSMENT  
OF THE PROPOSED TARGET STORE  
IN THE CITY OF DAVIS,  
YOLO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

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## INTRODUCTION

Raney Planning and Management has retained the services of Peak & Associates to perform a cultural resources assessment of the location of a proposed Target Store off of Second Street on a 19 acre parcel of land, just south of the Mace Ranch Subdivision in the City of Davis, California.

The project area lies west of Mace Boulevard, and north of Interstate 80 and the Union Pacific Railroad tracks that parallel the Interstate in this area. The project lies in the south half of the northeast quarter of section 12, Township 8 north, Range 2 east, and is mapped on the Davis 7.5' USGS topographic quadrangle (Map 1).

## CULTURAL HISTORY

### Archeological Background

The Central Valley region was among the first in the state to attract intensive fieldwork and research has continued to the present day. This has resulted in a substantial accumulation of data. In the early decades of the 1900s, E. J. Dawson explored numerous sites near Stockton and Lodi, later collaborating with W. E. Schenck (Schenck and Dawson 1929). By 1933, the focus of work was directed to the Cosumnes locality, where survey and exploration were conducted by the Sacramento Junior College (Lillard and Purves 1936). Excavation data, in particular, from the stratified Windmill Site (CA-Sac-107) suggested two temporally distinct cultural traditions. Later work at other mounds by Sacramento Junior College and the University of California enabled the investigators to identify a third cultural tradition intermediate between the previously postulated early and late horizons. The three-horizon sequence was based on discrete changes in ornamental artifacts and mortuary practices as well as an observed difference in soils within sites (Lillard, Heizer and Fenenga 1939). This sequence was later refined by Beardsley (1954), with an expanded definition of artifacts diagnostic of each time period and was extended to parts of the central California coast. Traits held in common allow the application of this system within certain limits of time and space to other areas of prehistoric central California.

The Windmill Culture (Early Horizon) is characterized by ventrally-extended burials (some dorsal extensions are known), with westerly orientation of heads, a high percentage of burials with grave goods, frequent presence of red ocher in graves, large projectile points, of which 60 percent are of materials other than obsidian; rectangular *Haliotis* beads; *Olivella* shell beads (types Ala and L); rare use of bone; some use of baked clay objects; and well-fashioned charmstones, usually perforated.

The Cosumnes Culture (Middle Horizon) displays considerable changes from the preceding cultural expression. The burial mode is predominately flexed, with variable cardinal orientation and some cremations present. There is a lower percentage of burials with grave goods, and ocher staining is common in graves. *Olivella* beads of types C1, F and G predominate, and there is abundant use of green *Haliotis sp.* rather than red *Haliotis sp.* Other characteristic artifacts include perforated canid teeth, asymmetrical and "fishtail" charmstones, usually unperforated; cobble mortars and evidence of wooden mortars; extensive use of bone for tools and ornaments; large projectile points, with considerable use of rock other than obsidian; and use of baked-clay.

Hotchkiss Culture (Late Horizon) -- The burial pattern retains the use of the flexed mode, and there is widespread evidence of cremation, lesser use of red ocher, heavy use of baked clay, *Olivella* beads of Types E and M, extensive use of *Haliotis* ornaments of many elaborate shapes and forms, shaped mortars and cylindrical pestles, bird-bone tubes with elaborate geometric designs, clamshell disc beads, small projectile points indicative of the introduction of the bow and arrow, flanged tubular pipes of steatite and schist, and use of magnetite. (The above adapted from Moratto 1984:181-183). The characteristics noted above are not all-inclusive, but cover the more important traits.

More recently, Bennyhoff and Hughes (1984) have presented alternative dating schemes for the Central California Archeological Sequence. The primary emphasis is a more elaborate division of the Horizons to reflect what is seen as cultural/temporal changes within the three horizons and a compression of the temporal span.

There have been other chronologies proposed for this general region. Fredrickson (1973) has correlated his research with Bennyhoff's (1977) work, and has defined, based upon the work of Bennyhoff, patterns, phases and aspects. Fredrickson also proposed periods of time associated heavily with economic modes, which provides a temporal term for comparing contemporary cultural entities.

Various modifications have been proposed for the dates given in the table below, but it provides a basic temporal correlation for the two main chronologies in the general project vicinity. It is important to note that this is a framework only and that the identification of regional and local variations from the pattern is a major goal of current archeological research. Nevertheless, the succession of major cultural changes at approximately the same time period is characteristic over a large part of California.

### **Period and Dating**

#### Fredrickson

Emergent Period -- A.D. 500 to 1800  
 Upper Archaic -- 1000 B.C. to A.D. 500  
 Middle Archaic -- 3000 to 1000 B.C.  
 Lower Archaic -- 6000 to 3000 B.C.  
 Paleo Indian -- 10,000 to 6000 B.C.  
 Early Lithic -- ? to 10,000 B.C.

(Fredrickson 1973;)

#### Bennyhoff, Heizer and Schulz

Historic -- post-A.D. 1850  
 Phase 2, Late Horizon -- A.D. 1500 to 1850  
 Phase 1, Late Horizon -- A.D. 500 to 1500  
 Middle Horizon -- 1000 B.C. to A.D. 500  
 Early Horizon -- 2500 B.C. to 1000 B.C.

(Bennyhoff and Heizer 1958; Schulz 1981)

### **Ethnological Background**

The Patwin occupied the southern Sacramento Valley west of the Sacramento River from the town of Princeton, north of Colusa, south to San Pablo and Suisun bays. Patwin territory extended approximately 90 miles north to south and 40 miles east to west. Distinction is made between the River Patwin, who resided in large villages near the Sacramento River, especially between Colusa and Knights Landing, and the Hill Patwin, whose villages were situated in the small valleys along the lower hills of the Vaca Mountains and Coast Range, with concentrations in Long, Indian, Bear, Capay, Cortina and Napa valleys (Johnson 1978:350; Powers 1877:218). The term "Patwin" refers to the people belonging to the many small contiguous independent political entities in this area who shared linguistic and cultural similarities. Hill and River Patwin dialects are grouped into a North

Patwin language, separate from South Patwin, spoken by people who live near present-day Knight's Landing and Suisun. Together, these are classified as southern Wintuan and belong to the Penutian language family as do the languages of the Miwok and Costanoan peoples in the study corridor (Johnson 1978:350, 359; Kroeber 1925:351-354).

Politically, the Patwin were organized in small tribes or tribelets, each consisting of a primary village with satellite villages. Tribelets were autonomous and differed from other such units in minor cultural variations. Dialects might encompass several tribelets. Territories were vaguely defined, but included fishing and gathering areas used by the group. In each village, a leader or chief administered subsistence ventures, such as hunting or gathering, and presided over ceremonies. Social and economic activities were divided among families within a village, with certain families responsible for different specialties such as trapping ducks, collecting salt, making foot drums, or performing particular dances or shamanistic rituals (Johnson 1978:354-355).

Patwin territory includes the riverine environment of tule marshes, vines and brush near the Sacramento River, the flat grasslands dotted with oak groves, and the hills and small valley of the Coast Ranges. The villages situated on low bluffs near the river were often very large; in 1848, General Bidwell estimated at least 1000 residents at *Koru*, near Colusa (Powers 1877:219). In the hills, the Patwin settled in the small valleys, particularly along Cache and Putah creeks, where large populations were reported. The plains were least hospitable; there, villages were sparse because of the seasonal flooding in winter and lack of reliable water sources during the dry months. As Powers described:

In winter there was too much water on them, in summer none at all, and aborigines had no means of procuring an artificial supply. Besides there was no wood on them, and the overflowed portions in early summer breed millions of accursed gnats, which render human life a burden and weariness. Hence they were compelled to live beside water-sources, except during certain limited periods in the winter, when they established hunting-camps out on the plains (Powers 1877:219).

Kroeber noted that the Patwin responded to these seasonal changes by shifting their habitation sites:

The valley people evidently had their permanent villages on the river itself -- that is, in the marsh belt -- but appear to have left this during the dry half of the year to live on the adjacent plains, mostly by the side of tributaries. The upland people built their winter homes where the streams issue on these creeks, and in summer moved away from the main water courses into the hills or mountains (Kroeber 1925:354).

Within a village, the Patwin constructed earth-covered semisubterranean structures. The Hill Patwin used a circular floor plan while the River Patwin favored an elliptical shape. Four types of building occurred in a predictable pattern: the ceremonial dance house was placed a short distance to the north or south of the village, the sudatory or sweat house was positioned to the east or west of the dance house, and the menstrual hut was built on the edge of the village, farthest from the dance house. Family dwellings could be erected anywhere within the community. Family lodges were built by one's paternal relatives while the other structures were the product of a communal effort. They used readily available materials, forming a framework of saplings, and covering the walls and roof with mud and brush (Johnson 1978:357-358; Powers 1877:220-221).

Natural resources flourished in Patwin territory. They gathered seeds and plant foods and hunted game animals on the plains, shot or netted ducks and other migratory water fowl in the thick tule marshes, and netted salmon and other fish in the rivers and streams. Some of these activities were conducted by groups or families assigned to particular resource areas by a village chief. Acorns

were a staple in the Patwin diet. Two types of Valley oak and, rarely, live oak acorns were gathered at communally-owned groves (Johnson 1978:355). Common practice was to store abundant quantities of acorns in tall granaries to assure against hunger in years of poor harvest. Kroeber observed a Patwin granary more than eight feet tall and three feet in diameter (Heizer and Elsasser 1980:99). Women prepared the bitter crop by pulverizing the acorns, then leaching out the bitter tannic acid before making bread or acorn soup. At privately-owned gathering tracts on the plains, families gathered seeds, including sunflower, alfalfa, clover, bunchgrass, wild oat and yellow-blossom. The Patwin also collected a variety of bulbs, nuts, roots and berries, including buckeye, pine nuts, juniper berries, manzanita berries, blackberries, wild grapes, brodiaea bulbs, and tule roots. To obtain salt, the Patwin scraped off rocks that were found near Cortina, burned a grass that grew on the plains or obtained it in trade from the neighboring Pomo (Johnson 1978:355).

King salmon, silver salmon and steelhead trout that run from the ocean to fresh-water rivers and streams were an important diet item. Explorers observed Patwin fishing for salmon with a boom net in 1854 (Heizer and Elsasser 1980: Figure 37). The Patwin also caught smaller fish and collected mussels from the river bottom. They attracted wild ducks by setting out realistic decoys, then drove the fowl into large nets stretched above the marshes. Hunters also netted mud hens, geese and quail. The Suisun tribelet pursued waterfowl in tule rafts (Powers 1877:220). The Patwin hunted large game, such as tule elk, deer, antelope and bear, and took many varieties of small animals, reptiles, insects and birds either to eat or to use for ceremonial and practical materials (Johnson 1978:355).

The ceremonial life of the Patwin was centered on the Kuksu cult system, which features one or more secret societies, each with its own dances and rituals. The Kuksu cult occurs among several north central California tribes, but it was more elaborate among the Patwin who possessed three secret societies: the Kuksu, ghost and Hesi types, each with a slightly different purpose. The ghost society stressed initiation, the Kuksu emphasized curing the shamanistic functions, and the Hesi elaborated on ceremonial dancing (Johnson 1978:353). In addition to ritual duties, shamans were called upon to heal the sick by applying native medicines or by sucking out the offending spiritual cause of the illness. The Patwin generally buried their dead, although the tribelets furthest south may have cremated the deceased. The Patwin near Colusa bent the body, wrapped it with strings of shell money, covered it with an animal skin secured with ropes. They interred the corpse with material goods in a grave situated within a village or within 100 yards of a dwelling or dance house (Kroeber 1925:359-361).

Historic accounts of the Patwin include the early mission registers of baptisms, marriages and deaths of Indians taken to Mission Dolores and Mission San Jose as early as 1800. In 1823, Mission San Francisco Solano was established in nearby Sonoma and it continued the missions' work until about 1832-1836, when all the missions were secularized. During the Mexican period of the 1830s and 1840s, Mariano G. Vallejo maintained military control of the area and often negotiated with Patwin leader Chief Solano. During this time, several Mexican land grants were awarded and large ranchos were established on Putah and Cache creeks (Johnson 1978:351).

Pre-contact population is difficult to estimate, but a survey of various sources seems to indicate that the Patwin may have numbered 4000 before their first encounter with non-Indians. Missionization, punitive military expeditions and fatal confrontations with ranchers took their toll on the populace. John Work's party of trappers from the Hudsons Bay Company came down the Sacramento River in 1832, returning up the river in 1833. They unintentionally introduced a deadly disease to native California and, in their wake, a malaria epidemic swept through the Sacramento Valley. Just four years later, in 1837, smallpox raged through the villages and, as a result of these diseases, up to 75 percent of the Patwin died (Cook 1955). Those who survived these tragedies eventually settled on small reservations or worked as ranch laborers. Throughout the 1800s and 1900s, the population decreased; in 1972, the Bureau of Indian Affairs counted only 11 Patwin in the entire territory.

Three reservations -- Colusa, Cortina and Rumsey -- remain active in former Patwin territory; they are occupied primarily by descendants of Wintun and other groups (Bureau of Indian Affairs 1983; Johnson 1978:352).

## **Historical Background**

The first settler in the Davis vicinity, Jerome Davis, settled on his land in the early 1850s. By 1856, Davis had 8000 acres of land, 1000 of which were enclosed. Davis irrigated portions of his land by pumping water from Putah Creek with a steam engine. Davis raised livestock, peaches, grapes, wheat and barley. By 1864, his ranch totaled about 13,000 acres, with 8000 acres fenced.

In 1867, William Dresbach leased the Davis home, using it as a hotel, the "Yolo House." A settlement grew up in the vicinity, and Dresbach named it Davisville. This name persisted until 1907 when the University was established and the post office name was shortened to Davis.

In 1905, the State Legislature established the University Farm and the first buildings for the University were built in 1907. In 1922, the school was officially organized as a branch of the College of Agriculture of the University of California at Berkeley. More classes were added, and a College of Letters and Science organized in 1951. In 1959, Davis was authorized as a general campus of the University of California (Kyle ed. 1990:537).

The rich agricultural lands surrounding Davis continued to be developed and the railroad siding at Chiles, just west of the project area, became a busy shipping point. The mainline in this area was first constructed by the Central Pacific Railroad just after the Civil War. It was acquired by the Southern Pacific in 1884 and was their mainline from the Bay Area until the Union Pacific acquired the Southern Pacific in 1996.

At the end of Second Street, a road extended from town to parallel the siding, was the Frontier Fertilizer operation. The fertilizer plant is defunct, but the site is now an EPA superfund site bordering portions of the western and southern boundaries of the project area. Second Street has since been extended through to Mace Boulevard.

## **RESEARCH**

Records of previously recorded cultural resources and cultural resource investigations were examined by the Northwest Information Center of the California Historical Resources Information system. No historic or prehistoric cultural resources have been recorded within the project area, but the area has never been systematically surveyed.

In addition, historic maps of the area were consulted to determine whether any previous historic activities had taken place on the parcel. The 1865 General Land Office plat of the township shows I.S. Chiles as a prominent landowner in the vicinity, hence the name of the railroad siding, but the land around the project area was owned by "Mrs. Henderson." A road from Davis turns north near the western edge of the project area and continues into Section 1 to intercept another early road running roughly on the modern route of Cowell Avenue.

The only recorded resource near the project area is the railroad, which has been assigned the primary numbers P-48-000549 and P-57-000400. Since the railroad is on the other side of Second Street

from the proposed project, it will not be impacted by the development. Other than this, historic maps did not indicate any previous use of the land other than agriculture.

## **FIELD SURVEY**

The project area was inspected on October 16, 2005, by a team led by Robert Gerry of Peak & Associates. Linear transects were walked with a spacing of no more than 15 meters between transects, to insure adequate ground coverage. Ground visibility was poor over much of the project area due to dense high weeds. It was necessary to do regular probing by trowel to insure that no features were overlooked. There were, however, several areas where the ground cover has been mown almost to ground level, providing a check on survey results.

The project area is flat and without surface water sources. This makes it a relatively unlikely area for prehistoric camps or villages, particular given that Putah Creek is only about one half mile to the south, with much more desirable areas for occupation. No evidence was discovered of prehistoric cultural resources during the course of the survey.

There are no standing structures on the property and no foundations were discovered during the survey. Some modern amenities have already been installed. Faraday Avenue, a new local access route, has been installed running from Second Street near the southeast end of the project area across the project area to terminate at a circle just wet of the property boundary. This street has no buildings along it as yet, but street lights, fire hydrants and underground utilities are all in place. There is a connection from Faraday to the bicycle path that has been constructed between the project area and Mace Ranch. All of this is recent construction.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

There will be no impact to identified cultural resources from implementation of this project.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

Although no sites have been identified within the project area, it is remotely possible that historic activities have obscured evidence of them. Since the Davis area has been subject to repeated flooding, there is also the possibility that a cultural resource could be present in the project area and buried by silt. This situation pertained on the university campus, where buried sites have been discovered during the course of construction. However, the possibility in this area is not very high.

If artifacts or unusual amounts of stone, bone or shell should be uncovered during construction or grading activities, work should be halted and a qualified archeologist should be consulted for an on-site evaluation. If the bone appears to be human, California law mandates that the Coroner of Yolo County be contacted. If the bone is likely to be Native American in origin, the coroner must contact the Native Heritage Commission.

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**APPENDIX 1**  
**Information Center Communication**

**APPENDIX 2**

**Native American Communication**

**APPENDIX 3**

Resumé of Investigator

**PEAK & ASSOCIATES, INC.  
RESUME**

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**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Mr. Gerry has over twenty-nine years of extensive experience in both the public and private sectors. He has directed all types of cultural resource-related projects, including field survey, test excavations, data recovery programs, intensive archival research and cultural resource management. He has completed archeological work in most cultural areas of California and in the western Great Basin.

**EDUCATION**

Graduate studies - Anthropology - California State University, Sacramento, 1972-1977

B.A. - Anthropology - University of Illinois, Chicago Circle, 1972

**RECENT PROJECTS**

Mr. Gerry was field director for a cultural resources survey of about 18,640 acres within the Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 1, Kern County, California. The project employed a stratified random sampling strategy and resulted in the recording of 112 cultural resources, and preparation of a management plan. He also directed a subsequent excavation program for evaluation of significance. Additionally, he served as field director for archeological surveys on the Plumas, Stanislaus, El Dorado and Six Rivers National Forests.

He was field director and primary report writer on several linear surveys of considerable length -- including the San Joaquin Valley Pipeline (157 miles) for Shell Oil, the Point Arena-Dunnigan fiber optic cable (137 miles) and the Medford, Oregon, to Redding, California fiber optic cable (151 miles), the Oregon and Idaho portions of the Spokane to Boise fiber optic cable, and the San Bernardino to San Diego fiber optic cable, for American Telephone & Telegraph Company. He also assisted on the 170 mile Pacific Pipeline survey on the southern coast of California.

He produced the computer program that stored, sorted and printed out data abstracts for 1604 sites involved in the Enlarged Shasta Dam and Alternatives Class I Cultural Resources Overview for the Bureau of Reclamation. He directed the transit-and-stadia mapping of a prehistoric/ historic site complex covering some 170 acres in El Dorado County and drafted the final map.

Mr. Gerry has developed a specialty in bridge replacement evaluations, completing five such studies in Tuolumne County, two in Santa Barbara County, two in Amador County and eight others in various areas of California.

Mr. Gerry has had extensive experience in the recordation of mining sites in northern California and Nevada for proposed mining undertakings as well as in the course of survey for proposed

subdivisions, reservoirs, and other development projects. He directed the survey of two parcels totalling 2,240 acres in the Battle Mountain Mining District in Lander County, recording a number of mining sites and features. Within the Cook Ranch Project area in El Dorado County, he completed the recordation of several gold mines and a cinnabar mine.

Mr. Gerry has directed test excavations for evaluation of significance at a number of sites, both historic and prehistoric. Recent examples include CA-NAP-261, twelve sites on Naval Petroleum Reserve No. 1 and three sites on Russell Ranch in Sacramento County.

His work has included an important role in working with Native American peoples. He has surveyed eight allotments and rancherias in the Pit River area, the Point Arena/Manchester Rancheria in Mendocino County, the Susanville Rancheria in Lassen County, the Rumsey Rancheria in Yolo County, and three rancherias in northwestern California. In each of these projects, he has been closely involved with Native American organizations and individuals, including a number of native people he has directed as surveyor trainees.