



**Historic Property Survey Report and  
Archaeological Survey Report**

Dollar Creek Shared-Use Trail Project  
Dollar Drive/SR 28 and Fulton Crescent Drive  
Placer County

*Prepared for Placer County using Caltrans Document Preparation  
Guidelines*

**March 2012**





**HISTORIC PROPERTY SURVEY REPORT****1. UNDERTAKING DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION**

District	County	Route <i>(Local Agency)</i>	<i>Local Assistance Project Prefix</i>	Post Miles <i>(Project No.)</i>	Charge Unit <i>(Agreement)</i>	Expenditure Authorization <i>(Location)</i>
3	Placer	Dept. of Public Works				

*(For Local Assistance projects off the highway system, use headers in italics)*

**Project Description:**

Placer County Department of Public Works proposes to create an approximately 14 foot wide (to include 10 feet of trail and 2 foot wide clear zones on either side of trail) paved Class 1 bike path between the intersection of Dollar Drive and SR 28 and the terminus of Fulton Crescent Drive, north of Dollar Point on the northwest shore of Lake Tahoe in Placer County. This trail will allow riders, along with other trail users, to travel from Sugar Pines State Park, north to Tahoe City, and east to the termination of the proposed project at Fulton Crescent Drive. All construction staging areas would be located within the APE. There are no detours necessary for this project as no roadway improvements are proposed. The project crosses SR 28 just west of its intersection with Dollar Drive, however all improvements are in the SR 28 right-of-way (ROW). There are no utilities to reroute within the APE and the project does not require demolition-related activities.

**2. AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS**

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) has been established in consultation with Caltrans District 3. APE maps were approved by Caltrans on TBD. According to Section 106 of the NHPA, as amended, the APE is defined as:

...the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause alterations in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist. The APE is influenced by the scale and nature of an undertaking and may be different for different kinds of effects caused by the undertaking (36 CFR 800.16[d]).

The APE for archaeological resources are the areas, surface and subsurface, that could experience ground disturbance as a result of proposed project activities including creating the path, bridge construction, and plant removal (Figures 3 and 4 of the Archaeological Survey Report (ASR), see attached). A horizontal APE has been established with a 15 ft from the center-line of the proposed trail, construction access, and trailhead access and parking area to accommodate work and staging areas. The vertical APE corresponds to the individual ground-disturbing project components outlined in the project description above.

**3. CONSULTING PARTIES / PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- Native American Tribes, Groups and Individuals
- Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians – October 27, 2011
  - United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria - October 27, 2011
  - Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California – October 27, 2011

For the federal undertaking described in Part 1: To minimize redundancy and paperwork for the California Department of Transportation and the State Historic Preservation Officer, and in the spirit intended under the federal Paperwork Reduction Act (U.S.C. 44 Chapter 35), this document also satisfies consideration under California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines Section §15064.5(a) and, as appropriate, Public Resources Code §5024 (a)(b) and (d).

## HISTORIC PROPERTY SURVEY REPORT

- April Wallace Moore - October 27, 2011
- Rose Enos - October 27, 2011
- Native American Heritage Commission
  - Native American Heritage Commission - October 27, 2011
- Local Historical Society / Historic Preservation Group *(also if applicable, city archives, etc.)*
  - Placer County Historical Society – October 18, 2011
  - North Lake Tahoe Historical Society – October 18, 2011

### 4. SUMMARY OF IDENTIFICATION EFFORTS

- |                                     |   |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | National Register of Historic Places  | Month & Year: 1979-2002 & supplements               |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | California Register of Historical Resources   | Year: 1992 & supplemental information to date       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | California Inventory of Historic Resources  | Year: 1976  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | California Historical Landmarks   | Year: 1995 & supplemental information to date       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | California Points of Historical Interest  | Year: 1992 & supplemental information to date       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | State Historic Resources Commission   | Year: 1980-present, minutes from quarterly meetings |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Caltrans Historic Highway Bridge Inventory  | Year: 2006 & supplemental information to date       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Archaeological Site Records <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Central Information Center September 26, 2011</li> </ul> |   |
- Results: *(provide a brief summary of records search and research results, as well as inventory findings)*  
The North Central Information Center (NCIC) records search identified 27 previous cultural resource studies completed within ½ mile of the project area. The 27 surveys included 10 studies completed within or intersecting the project area (Jackson, 1977; Munns, 1997; Peak & Associates, 1985, 1987, and 2007; Mead and Hunt, 2007; EDAW, 2007; URS, 2008; and USACOE, 2010).

The NCIC records search revealed that 13 historic and prehistoric resources have been recorded within or adjacent to the project area. Of the 13 identified resources two were located within the proposed trail alignment (P-31-1300, isolated pipe fragments; CA-PLA-1005H, a firestone can dump) and two were located adjacent to the proposed trail alignment (CA-PLA-1006H, Dollar Creek Dam and Ice House; the continuation of P-31-1300).

### 5. PROPERTIES IDENTIFIED

- Brian Marks, ESA, who meets the Professionally Qualified Staff Standards in Section 106 Programmatic Agreement Attachment 1 as an archaeologist, has determined that the only other properties present within the APE meet the criteria for Section 106 PA Attachment 4 (**Properties Exempt from Evaluation**).
- Isolated basalt flake
- Properties **previously determined not eligible** for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places are present within the Project APE. *(Include date of determination):*
- isolated pipe fragments (P-31-1300H)

For the federal undertaking described in Part 1: To minimize redundancy and paperwork for the California Department of Transportation and the State Historic Preservation Officer, and in the spirit intended under the federal Paperwork Reduction Act (U.S.C. 44 Chapter 35), this document also satisfies consideration under California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines Section §15064.5(a) and, as appropriate, Public Resources Code §5024 (a)(b) and (d).

**HISTORIC PROPERTY SURVEY REPORT****6. LIST OF ATTACHED DOCUMENTATION**

Attachment A: Archaeological Survey Report (ASR)

- Marks, 2012

**7. HPSR to File**

As assigned by FHWA, Caltrans has determined a Finding of **No Historic Properties Affected**, according to Section 106 PA Stipulation IX.A and 36 CFR 800.4(d) (1), is appropriate for this undertaking.

The on-foot survey of the APE located an unrecorded isolated basalt flake. The basalt flake was an approximately 3 cm by 5 cm flake. It has no cortical material present. While no unifacial or bifacial flakes were observed, the edges of the flake exhibited utilization scars. An isolated prehistoric find consisting of fewer than three items per 100 square meters is exempt from evaluation under Caltrans Section 106 PA.

The on-foot survey of the APE also located the isolated pipe fragments (P-31-1300H) along the existing trail. P-31-1300H was previously determined ineligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) due to its lack of association and integrity. CA-PLA-1005H, a firestone can dump, was not relocated during the course of survey.

No other cultural resources were identified within the APE. Therefore ESA staff recommends a finding of No Historic Properties Affected.

**8. HPSR to SHPO**

Not applicable.

**9. Findings for State-Owned Properties**

Not applicable; project does not involve Caltrans right-of-way or Caltrans-owned property.

**10. CEQA IMPACT FINDINGS**

(Check all that apply. Consultation with SHPO is not required under CEQA. **This instruction line and findings that are not applicable may be deleted**)

Not applicable; Caltrans is not the lead agency under CEQA.

**11. HPSR PREPARATION AND DEPARTMENT APPROVAL**

Prepared by (sign on line):

District \_\_\_ Caltrans PQS:

\_\_\_\_\_  
[PQS level and discipline]\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Prepared by: Brian Marks


\_\_\_\_\_  
March 1,  
2012

Consultant / discipline:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Archaeologist\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Affiliation

\_\_\_\_\_  
Environmental Science Associates

Reviewed for approval by: (sign on line)

District \_\_\_ Caltrans PQS  
discipline/level:\_\_\_\_\_  
[PQS certification level]\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Approved by: (sign on line)

District \_\_\_ EBC:

\_\_\_\_\_  
[Environmental Branch name]\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

## Dollar Creek Shared-Use Trail Project HPSR/ASR

### Historic Property Survey Report

#### Summary of Findings

<b>Archaeological Survey Report</b>	<b>1</b>
Introduction	1
Project Location and Description	2
Area of Potential Effects	2
Sources Consulted	7
Environmental Background	10
Field Methods	13
Study Findings and Conclusions	13
Unidentified Cultural Materials	13
References Cited	14

#### Attachments

A. Correspondence

#### List of Tables

1	Previous Investigations Done Within ½ Mile of the Project Area	8
2	Recorded Historic Structures Within or Immediately Adjacent to the Project Area	9

#### List of Figures

1	Regional Location Map	3
2	NCIC Records Search Study Area	4
3	Preliminary Draft – Archaeological Area of Potential Effects	5



**ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY REPORT FOR THE  
DOLLAR CREEK SHARED-USE TRAIL PROJECT  
PLACER COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

California Department of Transportation, District 3 - Marysville

**Prepared by**



Brian S. Marks, Ph.D., RPA  
Archaeologist, Cultural Resources Group

March 1, 2012

Date

Environmental Science Associates  
2600 Capitol Ave, Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95816  
phone: (916) 564-4500 fax: (916) 564-4501

**Approved by**

---

District Environmental Branch Chief

Date

USGS topographic quadrangle: Kings Beach, CA/NV. 1992

March 2012

ESA Project: D211433



# SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

---

This report documents the archaeological survey conducted for the Dollar Creek Shared-Use Trail Project (project), Placer County, California. Preparing this report consisted of archival review at the North Central Information Center and a reconnaissance-level pedestrian field survey conducted in October 2011.

This report details the methods and findings of this study, which consisted of a literature and records search and a field survey. Background investigations indicated that no prehistoric archaeological resources had been recorded within the Area of Potential Effects (APE) and that some pipe remnants were the only identified historic-period resource. The on-foot surface survey observed the pipe remnants and located an unrecorded isolated basalt flake. Research indicates that the APE has a moderate to high potential to contain buried archaeological resources.

It is California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) policy to avoid cultural resources whenever possible. If buried cultural materials are encountered during construction, it is Caltrans policy that work stop in that area until a qualified archaeologist can evaluate the nature and significance of the find. Additional survey work may be required if the project changes to include areas not previously surveyed



# DOLLAR CREEK SHARED-USE TRAIL PROJECT

---

## Archaeological Survey Report

### Introduction

Placer County Department of Public Works proposes to create an approximately 14 foot wide (to include 10 feet of trail and 2 foot wide clear zones on either side of trail) paved Class 1 bike path primarily within California Tahoe Conservancy (Conservancy) and North Tahoe Public Utility District (NTPUD) owned properties, between the intersection of Dollar Drive and SR 28 and the terminus of Fulton Crescent Drive, north of Dollar Point on the northwest shore of Lake Tahoe in Placer County, CA. The project establishes a separated shared-use trail, extending the backbone of the existing north shore bicycle trail network, linking residential uses to jobs, schools, shopping, and recreation and community areas. The approximately 2.5 mile long trail will link the existing Tahoe City to Dollar Point trail that ends near the intersection of Dollar Drive and SR 28 to the end of Fulton Crescent Drive and will utilize public lands owned by the NTPUD and Conservancy.

The project requires consideration under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), as amended. In accordance with Section 106 and the California Department of Transportation's *Guidance for Consultants*, the purpose of this study was to identify and record any prehistoric or historic-period archaeological resources within the Area of Potential Effects (APE). Additionally, the information provided in this report satisfies TRPA Code of Ordinance requirements for historic resource protection (see TRPA Revised Code Chapter 67 effective March 1, 2012 which replaces Code Chapter 29).

Brian S. Marks, Ph.D. (Anthropology) is a Registered Professional Archaeologist and has 14 years of archaeological experience. Dr. Marks meets the Secretary of Interior's Professional Qualification Standards for historical and prehistorical archaeologist. Kathy Anderson, M.A. Public History, has 5 years of experience. She accompanied Dr. Marks during the survey to document any historic built features along the proposed trail.

This report details the methods and findings of this study, which consisted of a literature and records search and a field survey. Background investigations indicated that no prehistoric archaeological resources had been recorded within the APE and a scatter of pipe fragments was the only historic-period resource in the APE. ESA observed these pipes along the proposed trail and located an unrecorded isolated basalt flake within the APE during the on-foot surface survey. Research indicates that the APE has a moderate to high potential to contain buried archaeological resources.

## Project Location and Description

### Existing Trail

Numerous dirt trails currently exist in the general vicinity of the project area. The proposed shared-use trail crosses and even follows existing trails in several places. Existing trails not used by the proposed shared-use trail will remain in their current state for use by nature walkers, hikers, and mountain bikers.

### Proposed Class 1 Bike trail

The project proposes to create an approximately 14 foot wide (to include 10 feet of trail and 2 foot wide clear zones on either side of trail) paved Class 1 bike path primarily within Conservancy and NTPUD owned properties, between the intersection of Dollar Drive and SR 28 and the terminus of Fulton Crescent Drive, north of Dollar Point on the northwest shore of Lake Tahoe in Placer County, CA (see Figures 1 and 2).

The proposed trail will cross California Tahoe Conservancy and NTPUD properties. With the exception of an easement through NV Energy property at the northern trail terminus at Fulton Crescent Drive, the trail will not impact private property.

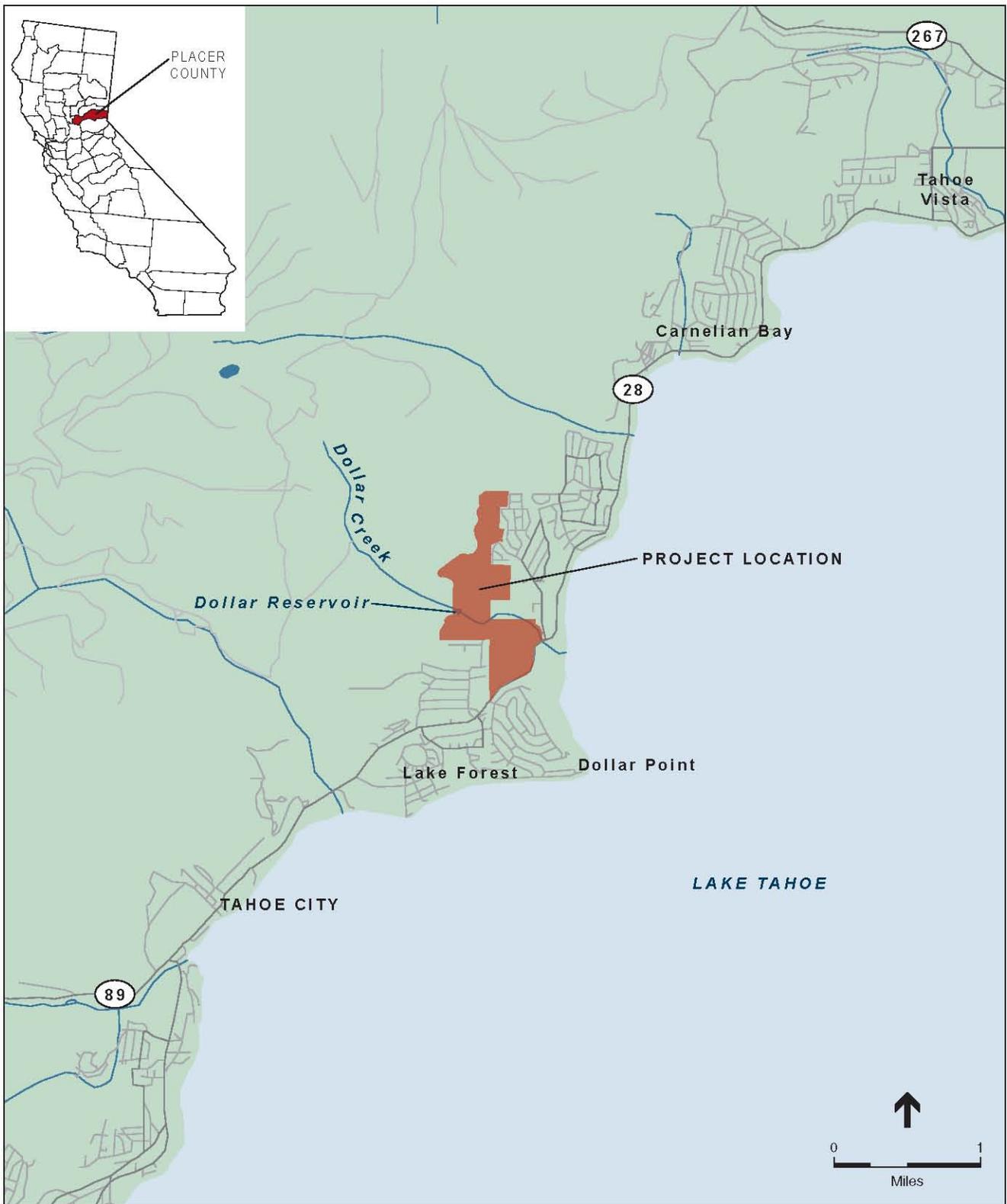
All construction staging areas will occur within the APE. There are no detours necessary for this project. There are no utilities to reroute within the APE, and the project does not require demolition.

## Area of Potential Effects

The APE has been established in consultation with Caltrans District 3. Caltrans approved the APE maps on TBD. According to Section 106 of the NHPA, as amended, the APE is defined as:

...the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause alterations in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist. The APE is influenced by the scale and nature of an undertaking and may be different for different kinds of effects caused by the undertaking (36 CFR 800.16[d]).

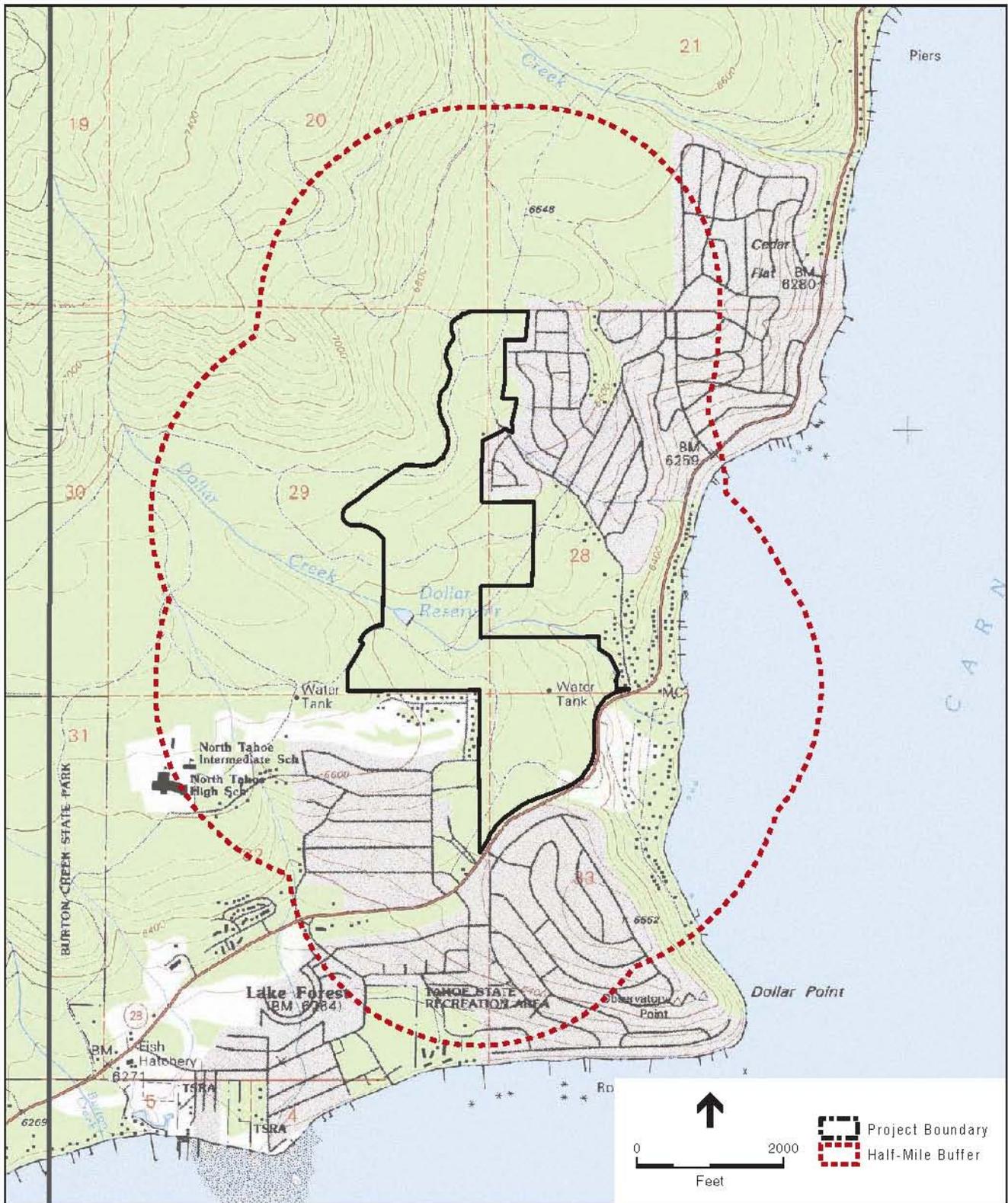
The APE for archaeological resources are the areas, surface and subsurface, that could experience ground disturbance as a result of proposed project activities including creating the path, bridge construction, and plant removal (Figure 3). A horizontal APE has been established as 15 ft from the center-line of the proposed trail, construction access, and trailhead access and parking area to accommodate work and staging areas. The vertical APE corresponds to the individual ground-disturbing project components outlined in the project description above.



SOURCE: DeLorme Street Atlas USA, 2000; and ESA, 2011

Dollar Creek Shared-Use Trail Project . 211433

**Figure 1**  
Regional Location Map



SOURCE: USGS, 1994; and ESA, 2012

Dollar Creek Shared-Use Trail Project . 211433

**Figure 2**  
NCIC Records Search Study Area



SOURCE: BingMaps, 2009; ESRI, 2009, and ESA, 2012

**Figure 3**  
Preliminary Draft – Archaeological Area of Potential Effects



## Sources Consulted

### Summary of Methods and Results

ESA staff conducted a records search for the project at the North Central Information Center (NCIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System at California State University Sacramento on September 26, 2011 (File No. PLA-1162). The purpose of the records search was to (1) determine whether known cultural resources have been recorded within or adjacent to the APE; (2) assess the likelihood for unrecorded cultural resources to be present based on historical references and the distribution of nearby sites; and (3) develop a context for the identification and preliminary evaluation of cultural resources. The records search consisted of an examination of the following documents:

- **NCIC base maps** (USGS Kings Beach 7.5-minute topographic maps), to identify recorded archaeological sites and studies within a ¼-mile radius of the APE.
- **NCIC base maps** (USGS Kings Beach 7.5-minute topographic maps), to identify recorded historic-period resources of the built environment (building, structures, and objects) within a ¼-mile radius of the APE.
- **Resource Inventories:** *California Inventory of Historical Resources, California Historical Landmarks, Historic Properties Directory Listing by City* (through October 2010).
- **Prehistoric Archaeology:** T.L. Jones and K.A. Klar (2007) *Prehistoric California: Colonization, Culture, and Complexity*. AltaMira Press, Walnut Creek.
- **Ethnographic Sources:** W.L. d’Azevedo (1986), Washoe. In *Great Basin, Handbook of North American Indians, Vol. 11*, edited by W.L. d’Azevedo, pp. 466–498, Washington, D.C.; Robert G. Elston (1986), Prehistory of the Western Area. In *Great Basin, Handbook of North American Indians, Vol. 11*, edited by W.L. d’Azevedo, pp. 135–498, Washington, D.C. A.L. Kroeber (1925) *Handbook of the Indians of California*. Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin 78. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.
- **Historic Maps:** An extensive on-line historic map collection with over 300 maps and views of California is available online at <http://davidrumsey.com>; General Land Office Plat T16N/R17E (1865); 1895 and 1940 USGS topographic quadrangles.

### Results of Records Search

The NCIC records search identified 27 previous cultural resource studies completed within a half-mile of the project area or APE (see Table 1). The 27 surveys included 10 studies completed within or intersecting the project area (Jackson, 1977; Munns, 1997; Peak & Associates, 1985, 1987, and 2007; Mead and Hunt, 2007; EDAW, 2007; URS, 2008; and USACOE, 2010).

**TABLE 1**  
**PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS DONE WITHIN ½ MILE OF THE PROJECT AREA**

<b>CCIC Report #</b>	<b>Author (Date), Title</b>	<b>Within/Adjacent to Project Area (Y/N)</b>
348	LSA (1987), A Cultural Resources Assessment Proposed Placer County Administration Center, Count of Placer.	Yes
1013	Greg Kostick (1993), Archaeological and Historical Resources Suvey and Impact Assessment for Lowell Hill.	No
1901	Susan Lindstrom (1997), Fulton Water Company Cedar Flat Well and Distribution System Heritage Resource Inventory, Placer County.	No
1920	Caltrans (1991), Negative Archaeological Survey Report: State Route 28 at Dollar Grade.	No
1979	William Banka (1998) Confidential Archaeological Addendum For Timber Operations on Non-Federal Lands in California.	No
4380	Susan Lindstrom (1989) A Cultural Resources Overview for the Tahoe City Community Plan, Placer County California.	Yes
4389	Caltrans (1991) Archaeological Inventory Surveys of Tahoe State Recreation Area.	Yes
4381	Susan Lindstrom (1986), A Cultural Resources Reconnaissance of the North Shore Transit Maintenance Facility Environmental Impact Report.	No
7216	S. Dexter (1994) Urban Fringe Management Heritage Resource Report.	No
7313	Stephen Windward (2005) An Archaeological Survey Report for the Highlands Village Conversion Timber Harvesting Plan, Placer County, California.	No
7418	Geotrans, Inc (2002) Proposed Cedar Flat Project.	No
7420	USFS (1997), Basalt Quarrying on Watson Creek: An Archaeological and Ethnographic Study in the Northern Lake Tahoe Basin.	No
7582	Herschel Davis (1994), Cultural Reconnaissance Report OHV Road and Spur Improvements and Obliteration: Placer and El Dorado Counties, California.	No
7725	John Furry (2006), Archaeological/Historical Property Survey of the Chinquapin Property.	No
7791	USFS (2006), North Short Trail ATM Environmental Assessment.	No
8072	Caltrans (2004), Historic Property Survey Report For the Proposed Roadway Rehabilitation and Drainage System Project on State Route 28 From Tahoe City to the Nevada State Line, Placer County, California.	Yes
9326	Caltrans (2008), Cultural Resources Inventory of Caltrans District 3Rural Conventional Highways in Butte, Colusa, El Dorado, Glenn, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, Sierra, Sutter, Yolo and Yuba Counties.	Yes
9506	Susan Lindstrom (9506) Highlands Forest Clearing Project Heritage Resources Inventory, Placer County, California	No
9606	USFS (2003), Proposed Mechanical Treatment of North Shore Units 13-3 and 13-4. LTBMU, Placer County, California.	Yes
9654	USFS (1996), North Shore Ecosystems Project Heritage Resources Inventory.	No
10005	Chambers Group, Inc (2007), Cultural Resources Inventory of Area B for the Lake Forest Erosion Control Project, Placer County, California.	No
10138	USFS (2007), An Archaeological Survey Report for the Dollar Point Fuel Reduction 2007, Placer County, California.	Yes
10139	USFS (2007), An Archaeological Survey Report for the Dollar Point Fuel Reduction 2009 Forest Fire Prevention Exemption, Placer County, California.	No
10141	John Furry (2009) Archaeological/historical Survey for the Beverly Road Fire Reduction Project located near Tahoe City, California.	No
10148	John Furry (2009) Archaeological/historical Survey for the Collins Project Area Near Tahoe City, Placer County, California	No

The NCIC records search revealed that 13 historic and prehistoric resources have been recorded within or adjacent to the project area or APE. Of the 13 identified resources two were located within the project alignment and two were located adjacent to the proposed trail alignment. Table 2 lists previously recorded cultural resources within the half- mile buffer of the APE.

**TABLE 2  
RECORDED HISTORIC STRUCTURES WITHIN OR IMMEDIATELY  
ADJACENT TO THE PROJECT AREA**

Primary Number (Trinomial)	Description	Within or Adjacent Project Area
P-31-1132 (CA-PLA-943)	Basalt Cobble Quarry, cobble core reduction and biface reduction assemblage	1/2 mile
P-31-1299 (CA-PLA-1005H)	Firestone Can Dump	Within
P-31-1300	Isolated Pipe Fragments	Within
P-31-1301 (CA-PLA-1006H)	Dollar Dam and ice house	Adjacent
P-31-1302 (CA-PLA-1007H)	Lithic Scatter and Trash Dump	1/2 mile
P-31-2008 (CA-PLA-1518H)	Creek Road Grade	1/2 mile
P-31-2768 (CA-PLA-1934)	Basalt Biface Reduction Site	1/2 mile
P-31-2771 (CA-PLA-1937)	Basalt Cobble Quarry	1/2 mile
P-31-2772 (CA-PLA-1938)	Basalt Cobble Core Reduction	1/2 mile
P-31-2773 (CA-PLA-1939)	Basalt Cobble Quarry	1/2 mile
P-31-2774 (CA-PLA-1940)	Basalt Cobble Quarry	1/2 mile
P-31-2775 (CA-PLA-1941)	Basalt Cobble Quarry	1/2 mile
P-31-2776 (CA-PLA-1942)	Lithic scatter	1/2 mile
P-31-2777 (CA-PLA-1943)	Basalt Cobble Quarry	1/2 mile
P-31-3351 (CA-PLA-2237)	Basalt Flake projectile point	1/2 mile
P-31-3394	FS Road 16N74	1/2 mile
P-31-3406	Basalt Flake Isolate	1/2 mile
P-31-3407	Basalt Flake Isolate	1/2 mile
P-31-5355	Truro Trail	1/2 mile
P-31-5356	Lanza Dump	1/2 mile
P-31-5357	Dollar Water Line	1/2 mile

SOURCE: NCIC, 2011

## **National Register of Historic Places-Listed Properties**

There are no National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) listed properties within a quarter-mile of the APE. The Watson Log Cabin, near the intersection of SR 28 and SR 89 in Tahoe City is the nearest NRHP-listed resource. Robert Montgomery Watson built the log cabin in 1908 for his son Robert Watson as a present for his marriage to Stella Tong in 1909. The cabin is approximately 2.5 miles southwest of the APE.

## **California Historic Landmarks**

There are no California Historic Landmarks (CHL) within a quarter-mile of the APE. The nearest CHL is the Squaw Valley Cable Car Building Lobby, over 7 miles west of the APE. The building was constructed in 1860.

## **Summary of Native American Consultation**

ESA submitted a sacred lands search request to the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) on September 23, 2011. The NAHC responded on October 27, 2011. A records search of their sacred land file did not indicate the presence of Native American cultural resources in the APE. The NAHC provided a list of Native American individuals/organization that might have additional information or concerns. ESA contacted each person on the list by letter on October 27, 2011. The Shingle Springs Rancheria responded with no knowledge of cultural resources in the APE, but also requested progress updates and copies of survey reports and record searches. There have been no other responses as of this writing.

## **Summary of Others Who Were Consulted**

A letter was sent to the Placer County Historical Society and the North Lake Tahoe Historical Society on October 18, 2011 requesting any information or concerns about the project APE. No response has been received as of this writing.

## **Environmental Background**

The project area is within the Sierra Nevada Geomorphic Province, specifically the Tahoe-Truckee Sub-section. This province is a 400-mile tilted fault block with the eastern face being more rugged and steep compared to the gentle western slope that plummets beneath the adjacent San Joaquin Valley. The topography in the APE and surrounding areas is mountainous, with an overall slope from west to east. The Tahoe-Truckee Sub-section contains moderately steep plateaus and steep mountains. Streams form canyons with steep side slopes. Elevation ranges from 5,000 ft along the Truckee River to 9,143 ft at Mt. Lola. The elevation of the APE ranges from 6,500 to 6,700 feet above sea level. Logging was prevalent in the past, but the area is currently used for hiking and mountain biking, with some housing along the periphery.

## Geoarchaeological Review

In many places, the interface between older land surfaces and alluvial fans are marked by a well-developed buried soil profile, or a paleosol. Paleosols preserve the composition and character of the earth's surface prior to subsequent sediment deposition; thus, paleosols have the potential to preserve archeological resources if the area was occupied or settled by humans (Meyer and Rosenthal, 2007). Because human populations have grown since the arrival of the area's first inhabitants, younger paleosols (late Holocene) are more likely to yield archeological resources than older paleosols (early Holocene or Pleistocene).

The APE is mapped as Pleistocene volcanic with basaltic rocks. The soil in the APE is mapped as various versions of the well drained Jorge and Tahoma cobbly fine sandy loams with 2 to 50 percent slopes. Due to the age of the soils, the likelihood of buried paleosols is low.

## Prehistory

In 9000 B.C., large pluvial lakes and marshes covered much of the California interior—the largest of which included Buena Vista and Tulare Lakes. Although an archaeological sequence was not defined based on the early findings near pluvial lakes, the material discovered subsumed a wide variation in time and occupation commonly referred to as the “Western Pluvial Lakes Tradition.” This tradition shared a common toolkit: leaf-shaped projectile knives and points (fluted) and milling stones for exploiting the rich resource base located around the pluvial lakes and marshes (Moratto, 1984). By 6500 B.C., a global warming trend called the Altithermal brought about the decline of the ancient lakes. This period of climate change and the cultural adaptations to these dryer, hotter conditions is poorly understood.

Archaeologists developed a three-part cultural chronological sequence, the Central California Taxonomic System (CCTS) to explain local and regional cultural change in prehistoric central California from about 4,500 years ago to the time of European contact (Beardsley, 1954). The Windmill Pattern was the earliest comprehensive view of the region, from the Paleo-Indian Period to Lower Archaic (~6000 B.C. to ~3000 B.C.; Beardsley, 1954; Heizer & Fenenga, 1939). This cultural horizon reflected a people well adapted to riverine and marshland environments. The subsequent Berkeley Pattern or Cosumnes culture (~2000 B.C. to A.D. 300), comparable to the emerging Archaic Period in California prehistory (3000 B.C. to A.D. 1000), reflected a change in socioeconomic complexity and settlement patterns. The Tahoe-area expression of the Windmill Pattern appears as the Martis Complex and exhibits more sedentary life ways with housepits, hearths, tool caches, and the limited human burials. The Kings Beach Phase replaced the Martis Complex approximately 1500 years ago with an increase of small projectile points in the material culture assemblage. An increase in elaborate food processing tools implies an increased reliance of plant food, most likely the pinyon pine. By 900 years ago, the long term camps were used with less frequency and smaller groups.

## Ethnography

The proposed project lies entirely within the territory of the Hokan-speaking Washoe people. While they were an informal and flexible political collectivity, Washoe ethnography hints at a level of technological specialization and social complexity for Washoe groups, non-characteristic of their surrounding neighbors in the Great Basin. Semisedentism and higher population densities, concepts of private property, and communal labor and ownership were reported and may have developed in conjunction with their residential and subsistence resource stability (d'Azevedo 1986:473-476).

Lake Tahoe was and remains both the spiritual and physical center of the Washoe world. The Washoe lived along its shores, and the locations of several Washoe encampments in the Lake Tahoe Basin have been reported. The project vicinity is near two important Washoe fishing campsites, ImgiwO'tha and MathOcahuwo'tha (d'Azevedo 1986:473-476).

The Washoe Tribe is a federally recognized tribe by the U.S. Government, is a sovereign government and has maintained an established land base. Its approximately 1,600 tribal members are governed by a tribal council that consists of members of the Carson, Dresslerville, Woodfords, Stewart and Reno-Sparks communities, as well as a significant number of tribal members from non-reservation areas (Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada 1995).

## History

John Charles Fremont, a U.S. Army officer, led an exploratory expedition in California in 1844 and became the earliest documented Euro-American to arrive into the Lake Tahoe area. In February of that year, Fremont and his company mapped the location of Lake Tahoe and assigned it the name "mountain lake." The name soon changed to Lake Bonplaud, after the French botanist who accompanied the expedition. In 1853, the official mapmaker of the state renamed it Lake Bigler, and then in 1861 the name changed for the final time to Lake Tahoe (Hoover, 2002).

Settlers had been passing through the area on their travels to California as early as 1841, and the discovery of gold in California in 1849 and silver in Nevada in 1858 sent miners and fortune seekers traveling through the area, as well as settling in the region. When the mining boom started there was an immediate need for building materials. Tahoe City emerged as a lumber center supplying the Comstock Mines near Virginia City. The first survey for Tahoe City was made in 1863, and after the completion of the Central Pacific Railroad as far as Truckee, a wagon road was constructed connecting Truckee and Lake Tahoe. In 1873, Duane L. Bliss, H.M. Yerington, D.O. Mills, and J.A. Rigby organized the Carson and Tahoe Lumber and Fluming Company. Between the 1860s and 1890s, the region prospered as lumber towns developed around mills (Terhorst, 1992; Hoover, 2002).

Over harvesting of timber by the mills resulted in towns growing and then quickly withering, with little community endurance. With the end of the silver boom in Nevada, the demand for lumber declined rapidly, and only towns that developed as tourist centers were able to survive and continue to prosper. Some early settlers had sensed the possibilities of Lake Tahoe as a resort

location and established retreats and lodges in the area. William Pomin constructed the Tahoe House in Tahoe City in 1864, and in 1871 A.J. Bayley opened his Grand Central Hotel. After the decline of the lumber industry, Lake Tahoe developed as a resort, with tourists coming from San Francisco to vacation along the lake shore. In the 1920s, automotive traffic reached Lake Tahoe and both summer and winter tourism intensified. The legalization of gambling in 1931 became a significant economic factor in the Tahoe basin, although the north shore was never as significant a gaming center as the south shore. Tahoe hosted the 1960 Winter Olympics, resulting in the winter sports industry assuming a prominent place, along with gaming, in the economy of the Tahoe Basin (Terhorst, 1992).

## Field Methods

Brian S. Marks, Ph.D. RPA, conducted an intensive archaeological survey of the APE on October 11, 2011 along with Katherine Anderson. ESA surveyed the various proposed trail alignments within the APE on foot in approximately 10-foot transects. Ground visibility ranged from 0 to 100% depending on the amount of vegetation and detritus on the forest floor. In areas of poor visibility, the crew scraped back the vegetation to better see the ground surface.

## Study Findings and Conclusions

The on-foot survey of the area located the previously recorded isolated pipe fragments (P-31-1300H) along the existing trail, as well as an unrecorded isolated basalt flake. The pipes are 6 inch diameter riveted iron pipes. One of the pipes has a repair clamp at one end. The isolated pipe fragments are likely part of the water conveyance system that started at the Dollar Dam to the north.

The basalt flake was an approximately 3 cm by 5 cm flake. It has no cortical material present. While no unifacial or bifacial flakes were observed, the edges of the flake exhibited utilization scars. The crew observed additional angular basalt rocks; however, they did not exhibit enough characteristics to determine if they had undergone alteration by humans, nature (freeze fracturing), or mechanical (during logging activities).

## Unidentified Cultural Materials

If previously unidentified cultural materials are unearthed during construction, it is Caltrans' policy that work be halted in that area until a qualified archaeologist can assess the significance of the find. Additional archaeological survey will be needed if project limits are extended beyond the present survey limits. Prehistoric materials may include: obsidian and chert flaked-stone tools (e.g., projectile points, knives, scrapers) or toolmaking debris; culturally darkened soil ("midden") containing heat-affected rocks, artifacts, or shellfish remains; stone milling equipment (e.g., mortars, pestles, handstones, or milling slabs); and battered stone tools, such as hammerstones and pitted stones. Historic-era materials may include stone or concrete footings and walls; filled wells or privies; and deposits of metal, glass, and/or ceramic refuse.

There is a possibility of encountering human remains during ground disturbing construction activities (Section 7050.5 of the California Health and Safety Code states that it is a misdemeanor to knowingly disturb a human grave). If human graves are encountered, work should halt in the vicinity and the County Coroner should be notified. At the same time, an archaeologist should be contacted to evaluate the situation. If human remains are of Native American origin, the Coroner must notify the Native American Heritage Commission within 48 hours of this identification.

## References Cited

- Beardsley, R.K. *Temporal and Areal Relationships in Central California Archaeology. Parts I and II*. University of California Archaeological Survey Reports. Nos. 24 & 25: Berkeley, California, 1954.
- California (State of) Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), *California Inventory of Historical Resources*. State of California, The Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation, Sacramento, CA, 1976.
- California (State of) Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), *California Historical Landmarks*. Office of Historic Preservation, Department of Parks and Recreation, Sacramento, CA, 1990.
- d'Azevedo, W. L.
- 1986 Washoe. In *Great Basin*. Handbook of North American Indians, vol. 11: Great Basin, edited by W. L. d'Azevedo, pp. 466-498. Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C.
- Elston, Robert G.
- 1986 Prehistory of the Western Area. In *Great Basin*. Handbook of North American Indians, vol. 11: Great Basin, edited by W. L. d'Azevedo, pp. 135-148. Smithsonian Institution, Washington D.C.
- Heizer, R. F., and F. Fenenga. Archaeological Horizons in Central California. *American Anthropologist* 41: 378-399, 1939.
- Hoover, M. B., H. E. Rensch, E. G. Rensch, W. N. Abeloe. *Historic Spots in California*. Revised by Douglas E. Kyle. Palo Alto, CA: Stanford University Press, 2002.
- Intertribal Council of Nevada. 1995. *Washoe Tribe Of California and Nevada*. Website:<http://www.itcn.org/tribes/washoe/washo.html> accessed 11/02.
- Jones, T.L., and K.A. Klar, *Prehistoric California: Colonization, Culture, and Complexity*. AltaMira Press, 2007.
- Kroeber, Alfred L., *Handbook of the Indians of California*. Bureau of American Ethnology Bulletin 78. Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., Reprinted 1976 by Dover, New York, 1925.
- Meyer, Jack, and Jeffery Rosenthal, *A Geoarchaeological Overview and Assessment of Caltrans District 3*. Prepared for Caltrans District 3, Sacramento, 2008.
- Moratto, M. J. *California Archaeology*. Smithsonian Press: San Diego, California, 1984.

Terhorst, B. and C. Gerike, Historical, Architectural and Archaeological Resources of Placer County, The Report of the Placer County Cultural Resources Inventory, Volume 1. Report on file NCIC-CSUS. Sacramento, 1992.



# Attachment A

## Correspondence



September 23, 2011

Debbie Pilas-Treadway  
Native American Heritage Commission  
915 Capitol Mall, Room 364  
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: Request for Search of Sacred Lands Files and Native American Contact List

Dear Ms. Treadway:

ESA is conducting environmental studies for the North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project, Tahoe City, Placer County. The project is located on the Kings Beach USGS 7.5' Quad ; T/R: New Helvetia Land Grant (See attached map). The project would include the construction of an approximately 3 mile bike trail between Dollar Point and North Tahoe Regional Park.

In an effort to provide an adequate appraisal of all potential impacts that may result from the proposed project, ESA is requesting that a search be conducted of the sacred lands files and records of traditional cultural properties that may exist within or adjacent to the project area. I would also like to request a list of Native American individuals and organizations that should be contacted about potential sites and resources of importance to Native Americans.

Thank you for your time and cooperation regarding this matter. Please contact me at 916-564-4500 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Katherine Anderson  
Cultural Resource Associate

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Edmund G. Brown Jr., Governor

**NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION**

915 CAPITOL MALL, ROOM 364  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
(916) 653-4082  
Fax (916) 657-5390  
Web Site [www.nahc.ca.gov](http://www.nahc.ca.gov)



October 27, 2011

Katherine Anderson  
ESA  
2600 Capitol Avenue, Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95816

Sent by Fax: 916-564-4501

# of Pages: 3

Re: Proposed North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project, Placer County.

Dear Ms. Anderson:

A record search of the sacred land file has failed to indicate the presence of Native American cultural resources in the immediate project area. The absence of specific site information in the sacred lands file does not indicate the absence of cultural resources in any project area. Other sources of cultural resources should also be contacted for information regarding known and recorded sites.

Enclosed is a list of Native Americans individuals/organizations who may have knowledge of cultural resources in the project area. The Commission makes no recommendation or preference of a single individual, or group over another. This list should provide a starting place in locating areas of potential adverse impact within the proposed project area. I suggest you contact all of those indicated, if they cannot supply information, they might recommend others with specific knowledge. By contacting all those listed, your organization will be better able to respond to claims of failure to consult with the appropriate tribe or group. If a response has not been received within two weeks of notification, the Commission requests that you follow-up with a telephone call to ensure that the project information has been received.

If you receive notification of change of addresses and phone numbers from any of these individuals or groups, please notify me. With your assistance we are able to assure that our lists contain current information. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at (916) 653-4040.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katy Sanchez".

Katy Sanchez  
Program Analyst

**Native American Contact List**

Placer County  
October 27, 2011

Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians  
John Tayaba, Vice Chairperson  
P.O. Box 1340                      Miwok  
Shingle Springs, CA 95682      Maidu  
(530) 676-8010  
(530) 676-8033 Fax

Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians  
Nicholas Fonseca, Chairperson  
P.O. Box 1340                      Miwok  
Shingle Springs, CA 95682      Maidu  
nfonseca@ssband.org  
(530) 676-8010  
(530) 676-8033 Fax

Rose Enos  
15310 Bancroft Road              Maidu  
Auburn, CA 95603              Washoe  
(530) 878-2378

Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California THPO  
Darrel Cruz, Cultural Resources Coordinator  
919 Highway 395 South          Washoe  
Gardnerville, NV 89410  
**darrel.cruz@washoetribe.**  
(775) 265-4191 ext 1212  
(775) 546-3421 - cell  
(775) 265-2254 FAX

United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria  
David Keyser, Chairperson  
10720 Indian Hill Road          Maidu  
Auburn, CA 95603              Miwok  
530-883-2390  
530-883-2380 - Fax

United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria  
Marcos Guerrero, Tribal Preservation Committee  
10720 Indian Hill Road          Maidu  
Auburn, CA 95603              Miwok  
mguerrero@auburnrancheria.com  
530-883-2364  
530-883-2320 - Fax

Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California  
Waldo Walker, Chairperson  
919 Highway 395 South          Washoe  
Gardnerville, NV 89410  
waldo.walker@washoetribe.  
775-265-4191  
775-265-6240 Fax

April Wallace Moore  
19630 Placer Hills Road          Nisenan - So Maidu  
Colfax, CA 95713              Konkow  
530-637-4279                      Washoe

This list is current only as of the date of this document.

Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of the statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code and Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources for the proposed North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project; Placer County.

**Native American Contact List**  
Placer County  
October 27, 2011

United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria  
Gregory S. Baker, Tribal Administrator  
10720 Indian Hill Road      Maidu  
Auburn, CA 95603      Miwok  
gbaker@auburnrancheria.  
530-883-2390  
530-883-2380 - Fax

Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians  
Daniel Fonseca  
P.O. Box 1340      Miwok  
Shingle Springs, CA 95682      Maidu  
(530) 676-8010  
(530) 676-8033 Fax

**This list is current only as of the date of this document.**

**Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of the statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code and Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.**

**This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources for the proposed North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project; Placer County.**



2600 Capitol Ave  
Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95816  
916.564.4500 [phone](tel:916.564.4500)  
916.564.4501 [fax](tel:916.564.4501)

[www.esassoc.com](http://www.esassoc.com)

October 27, 2011

Rose Enos  
15310 Bancroft Road  
Auburn, CA 95603

**Subject: North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project**

Dear Ms. Enos:

ESA is conducting environmental studies for the North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project, Tahoe City, Placer County. The project is located on the Kings Beach USGS 7.5' Quad ; T/R: New Helvetia Land Grant (See attached map). The project would include the construction of an approximately 3 mile bike trail between Dollar Point and North Tahoe Regional Park.

In an effort to address any potential impact to archaeological or ethnographic resources, we are seeking comments from Native American representatives; your name was supplied to us by the Native American Heritage Commission as a contact for this area. We would appreciate your comments identifying any concerns or issues pertinent to this project.

Thank you for your time and cooperation regarding this matter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Katherine Anderson  
Cultural Resources Associate

Attachments



2600 Capitol Ave  
Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95816  
916.564.4500 [phone](tel:916.564.4500)  
916.564.4501 [fax](tel:916.564.4501)

[www.esassoc.com](http://www.esassoc.com)

October 27, 2011

Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians  
John Tayaba, Vice Chairperson  
PO Box 1340  
Shingle Springs, CA 95682

**Subject: North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project**

Dear Mr. Tayaba:

ESA is conducting environmental studies for the North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project, Tahoe City, Placer County. The project is located on the Kings Beach USGS 7.5' Quad ; T/R: New Helvetia Land Grant (See attached map). The project would include the construction of an approximately 3 mile bike trail between Dollar Point and North Tahoe Regional Park.

In an effort to address any potential impact to archaeological or ethnographic resources, we are seeking comments from Native American representatives; your name was supplied to us by the Native American Heritage Commission as a contact for this area. We would appreciate your comments identifying any concerns or issues pertinent to this project.

Thank you for your time and cooperation regarding this matter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Katherine Anderson  
Cultural Resources Associate

Attachments



2600 Capitol Ave  
Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95816  
916.564.4500 [phone](tel:916.564.4500)  
916.564.4501 [fax](tel:916.564.4501)

[www.esassoc.com](http://www.esassoc.com)

October 27, 2011

Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians  
Nicholas Fonseca, Chairperson  
PO Box 1340  
Shingle Springs, CA 95682

**Subject: North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project**

Dear Chairperson Fonseca:

ESA is conducting environmental studies for the North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project, Tahoe City, Placer County. The project is located on the Kings Beach USGS 7.5' Quad ; T/R: New Helvetia Land Grant (See attached map). The project would include the construction of an approximately 3 mile bike trail between Dollar Point and North Tahoe Regional Park.

In an effort to address any potential impact to archaeological or ethnographic resources, we are seeking comments from Native American representatives; your name was supplied to us by the Native American Heritage Commission as a contact for this area. We would appreciate your comments identifying any concerns or issues pertinent to this project.

Thank you for your time and cooperation regarding this matter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Katherine Anderson  
Cultural Resources Associate

Attachments



2600 Capitol Ave  
Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95816  
916.564.4500 [phone](tel:916.564.4500)  
916.564.4501 [fax](tel:916.564.4501)

[www.esassoc.com](http://www.esassoc.com)

October 27, 2011

Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians  
Daniel Fonseca  
PO Box 1340  
Shingle Springs, CA 95682

**Subject: North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project**

Dear Mr. Fonseca:

ESA is conducting environmental studies for the North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project, Tahoe City, Placer County. The project is located on the Kings Beach USGS 7.5' Quad ; T/R: New Helvetia Land Grant (See attached map). The project would include the construction of an approximately 3 mile bike trail between Dollar Point and North Tahoe Regional Park.

In an effort to address any potential impact to archaeological or ethnographic resources, we are seeking comments from Native American representatives; your name was supplied to us by the Native American Heritage Commission as a contact for this area. We would appreciate your comments identifying any concerns or issues pertinent to this project.

Thank you for your time and cooperation regarding this matter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Katherine Anderson  
Cultural Resources Associate

Attachments



2600 Capitol Ave  
Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95816  
916.564.4500 **phone**  
916.564.4501 **fax**

[www.esassoc.com](http://www.esassoc.com)

October 27, 2011

April Wallace Moore  
19630 Placer Hills Road  
Colfax, CA 95713

**Subject: North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project**

Dear Ms. Moore:

ESA is conducting environmental studies for the North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project, Tahoe City, Placer County. The project is located on the Kings Beach USGS 7.5' Quad ; T/R: New Helvetia Land Grant (See attached map). The project would include the construction of an approximately 3 mile bike trail between Dollar Point and North Tahoe Regional Park.

In an effort to address any potential impact to archaeological or ethnographic resources, we are seeking comments from Native American representatives; your name was supplied to us by the Native American Heritage Commission as a contact for this area. We would appreciate your comments identifying any concerns or issues pertinent to this project.

Thank you for your time and cooperation regarding this matter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Katherine Anderson  
Cultural Resources Associate

Attachments



2600 Capitol Ave  
Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95816  
916.564.4500 [phone](tel:916.564.4500)  
916.564.4501 [fax](tel:916.564.4501)

[www.esassoc.com](http://www.esassoc.com)

October 27, 2011

Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California THPO  
Darrel Cruz, Cultural Resource Coordinator  
919 Highway 395 South  
Gardnerville, NV 89410

**Subject: North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project**

Dear Mr. Cruz:

ESA is conducting environmental studies for the North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project, Tahoe City, Placer County. The project is located on the Kings Beach USGS 7.5' Quad ; T/R: New Helvetia Land Grant (See attached map). The project would include the construction of an approximately 3 mile bike trail between Dollar Point and North Tahoe Regional Park.

In an effort to address any potential impact to archaeological or ethnographic resources, we are seeking comments from Native American representatives; your name was supplied to us by the Native American Heritage Commission as a contact for this area. We would appreciate your comments identifying any concerns or issues pertinent to this project.

Thank you for your time and cooperation regarding this matter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Katherine Anderson  
Cultural Resources Associate

Attachments



2600 Capitol Ave  
Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95816  
916.564.4500 [phone](tel:916.564.4500)  
916.564.4501 [fax](tel:916.564.4501)

[www.esassoc.com](http://www.esassoc.com)

October 27, 2011

Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California  
Waldo Walker, Chairperson  
919 Highway 395 South  
Gardnerville, NV 89410

**Subject: North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project**

Dear Chairperson Walker:

ESA is conducting environmental studies for the North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project, Tahoe City, Placer County. The project is located on the Kings Beach USGS 7.5' Quad ; T/R: New Helvetia Land Grant (See attached map). The project would include the construction of an approximately 3 mile bike trail between Dollar Point and North Tahoe Regional Park.

In an effort to address any potential impact to archaeological or ethnographic resources, we are seeking comments from Native American representatives; your name was supplied to us by the Native American Heritage Commission as a contact for this area. We would appreciate your comments identifying any concerns or issues pertinent to this project.

Thank you for your time and cooperation regarding this matter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Katherine Anderson  
Cultural Resources Associate

Attachments



2600 Capitol Ave  
Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95816  
916.564.4500 [phone](tel:916.564.4500)  
916.564.4501 [fax](tel:916.564.4501)

[www.esassoc.com](http://www.esassoc.com)

October 27, 2011

United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria  
David Keyser, Chairperson  
10720 Indian Hill Road  
Auburn, CA 95603

**Subject: North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project**

Dear Chairperson Keyser:

ESA is conducting environmental studies for the North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project, Tahoe City, Placer County. The project is located on the Kings Beach USGS 7.5' Quad ; T/R: New Helvetia Land Grant (See attached map). The project would include the construction of an approximately 3 mile bike trail between Dollar Point and North Tahoe Regional Park.

In an effort to address any potential impact to archaeological or ethnographic resources, we are seeking comments from Native American representatives; your name was supplied to us by the Native American Heritage Commission as a contact for this area. We would appreciate your comments identifying any concerns or issues pertinent to this project.

Thank you for your time and cooperation regarding this matter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Katherine Anderson  
Cultural Resources Associate

Attachments



2600 Capitol Ave  
Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95816  
916.564.4500 [phone](tel:916.564.4500)  
916.564.4501 [fax](tel:916.564.4501)

[www.esassoc.com](http://www.esassoc.com)

October 27, 2011

United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria  
Marcos Guerrero, Tribal Preservation Committee  
10720 Indian Hill Road  
Auburn, CA 95603

**Subject: North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project**

Dear Mr. Guerrero:

ESA is conducting environmental studies for the North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project, Tahoe City, Placer County. The project is located on the Kings Beach USGS 7.5' Quad ; T/R: New Helvetia Land Grant (See attached map). The project would include the construction of an approximately 3 mile bike trail between Dollar Point and North Tahoe Regional Park.

In an effort to address any potential impact to archaeological or ethnographic resources, we are seeking comments from Native American representatives; your name was supplied to us by the Native American Heritage Commission as a contact for this area. We would appreciate your comments identifying any concerns or issues pertinent to this project.

Thank you for your time and cooperation regarding this matter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Katherine Anderson  
Cultural Resources Associate

Attachments



2600 Capitol Ave  
Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95816  
916.564.4500 [phone](tel:916.564.4500)  
916.564.4501 [fax](tel:916.564.4501)

[www.esassoc.com](http://www.esassoc.com)

October 27, 2011

United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria  
Gregory S Baker, Tribal Administrator  
10720 Indian Hill Road  
Auburn, CA 95603

**Subject: North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project**

Dear Mr. Baker:

ESA is conducting environmental studies for the North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project, Tahoe City, Placer County. The project is located on the Kings Beach USGS 7.5' Quad ; T/R: New Helvetia Land Grant (See attached map). The project would include the construction of an approximately 3 mile bike trail between Dollar Point and North Tahoe Regional Park.

In an effort to address any potential impact to archaeological or ethnographic resources, we are seeking comments from Native American representatives; your name was supplied to us by the Native American Heritage Commission as a contact for this area. We would appreciate your comments identifying any concerns or issues pertinent to this project.

Thank you for your time and cooperation regarding this matter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Katherine Anderson  
Cultural Resources Associate

Attachments



MIWOK  
MAIDU

United Auburn Indian Community  
of the Auburn Rancheria

David Keyser  
Chairman

Kimberly DuBach  
Vice Chair

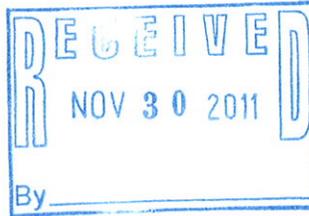
Gene Whitehouse  
Secretary

Brenda Conway  
Treasurer

Calvin Moman  
Council Member

November 14, 2011

Katherine Anderson  
ESA  
2600 Capitol Avenue, Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95816



Subject: North Tahoe Bike Trail Project

Dear Ms. Anderson,

Thank you for your invitation to consult on the above named project. The United Auburn Indian Community (UAIC) of the Auburn Rancheria is comprised of Miwok and Southern Maidu (Nisenan) people whose tribal lands are within Placer County and ancestral territory spans into El Dorado, Nevada, Sacramento, and Yuba counties. The UAIC is concerned about development within its aboriginal territory that has potential to impact the lifeways, cultural sites, and landscapes that may be of sacred or ceremonial significance. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on this and other projects in your jurisdiction.

The project area you've identified lies outside what the UAIC considers to be our geographic purview. However, we'd like to encourage you to consult with the other tribe(s) identified by the Native American Heritage Commission for the project area. We support your efforts to ensure that California Indian resources and religious values are given proper consideration in project planning. You may want to contact Darrell Cruz, THPO for the Washoe directly.

**Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California**

Darrel Cruz, CRO/THPO Director  
919 US Hwy 395 South  
Gardnerville, NV 89410  
Tel: 775.888.0936  
Fax: 775.888.0937  
Email: [darrel.cruz@washoetribe.us](mailto:darrel.cruz@washoetribe.us)

Thank you again for taking these matters into consideration, if you have any questions please contact Marcos Guerrero, cultural resources specialist, at (530) 883-2364 or email at [mguerrero@auburnrancheria.com](mailto:mguerrero@auburnrancheria.com). In the event that you do not hear back from the Washoe Tribe on this project please contact the UAIC.

Sincerely,

Gregory S. Baker,  
Tribal Administrator

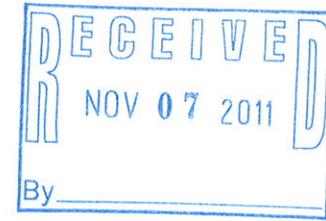
CC: Marcos Guerrero, UAIC



**SHINGLE SPRINGS RANCHERIA**  
P.O. BOX 1340; SHINGLE SPRINGS, CA 95682  
(530) 676-8010; FAX (530) 676-3582

November 1, 2011

ESA  
2600 Capitol Avenue  
Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95682



RE: North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project

Dear Katherine Anderson

Thank you for your letter dated October 27, 2011 seeking information regarding the proposed North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project in Placer County. Based on the information provided, the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians is not aware of any known cultural resources on this site. However, SSR would like to have continued consultation through updates, as the project progresses this will foster a greater communication between the Tribe and your agency.

SSR would also like to request any and all completed record searches and or surveys that were done in or around the project area up to and including environmental, archaeological and cultural reports.

If during the progress of the project new information or human remains are found we would like to be able to go over our process with you that we currently have in place to protect such important and sacred artifacts (especially near rivers and streams).

Please contact the following individuals if such finds are made:

Mr. Daniel Fonseca, Director and Most Likely Descendant (MLD)  
Office: (530) 676-8010, [dfonseca@ssband.org](mailto:dfonseca@ssband.org)

And copy all communications to:  
Crystal Dilworth, Office Coordinator [cadilworth@ssband.org](mailto:cadilworth@ssband.org) Office (530) 698-1471

September 14, 2011

Ms. Sally Torpy, Coordinator  
North Central Information Center  
California State University, Sacramento  
6000 J Street, Adams Building, Suite #103  
Sacramento, CA 95819-6100

**Subject: Records Search Request for the North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail - 211433**

Dear Ms. Torpy:

ESA is conducting environmental studies for the **North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project**, Tahoe City, Placer County. The project is located on the Kings Beach USGS 7.5' Quad (See attached map). The project would include the construction of an approximately 3 mile bike trail between Dollar Point and North Tahoe Regional Park. Our budget for this records search is \$1000. If the time requirements for gathering the following information approaches this limit, please let me know so I can determine what types of information are more crucial for our needs.

Please include the following information for the Project Area (PA) (see map legend):

- Cultural Resources Sites and Surveys within the PA and within a ½ mile of the PA
- Copies of the bibliographic information for survey reports within the PA and within ½ mile of the project site
- A copy of site forms for resources within the PA
- A list of Historical Resources, Historic Resource Surveys, or literature on Historic Districts within the PA and within a ½ mile of the PA
- A review of Historic Properties Directories, e.g. National Register, California Register, California Historical Landmarks, and California Points of Historical Interest within the PA and within a ½ mile of the PA
- California Inventory of Historic Resources (OHP list)
- Any historic USGS maps or GLO Plats you may have.

If you have any questions, please give me a call, (916) 564-4500

Sincerely,

Katherine Anderson  
Cultural Resources Associate  
[attachment]

## **Geography**

Placer County, in central northeastern California, consists mostly of uplands with a diverse range of environments. The County has an area of 964,140 acres or 1,506 square miles. Placer County occupies a diverse region that includes the oak-studded plains east of the Sacramento River; the variegated foothills; the dense stands of conifers and grassy meadows of the rocky Sierra Crest; and the more arid lands of the eastern slope, including portions of the northern and western shores of Lake Tahoe.

At its western border are the flat and gently rolling lands of the Central Valley. These quickly give way to foothills, and then the steep mountains and crest of the Sierra Nevada. The western third of the County is generally flat with some foothills; the middle portion consists of large east-west trending ridges such as Forest Hill Divide, Iowa Divide, and Mosquito Ridge. Separating these ridges are large canyons such as steeply sloped Royal Gorge which is about 3,000 feet deep. At the eastern side of the County is the crest of the Sierra Nevada and then the Lake Tahoe Basin. Elevations range between 50 feet in the west and 9,000 feet at the crest, and about 6,000 feet in the Lake Tahoe Basin.

As varied as the topography are the plant communities on these lands. The grassy California Prairie is in the west, and blue oak-gray pine communities are in the foothills. As the elevation rises the communities transition from yellow pine forest to Sierra montane forest, with upper montane forests in the high country. The area around Lake Tahoe Basin consists of Sierra montane forest.

There are several rivers in Placer County. The largest is the American River; with its Middle and North forks forming substantial tributaries. The American River and the Middle Fork of the American River, along with the Rubicon River, form the southern boundary of Placer County. The Bear River forms a portion of the County's northern boundary. Other major watercourses are the

Truckee River and the South Fork of the Yuba River. The Bear and the American River have been well-developed for hydroelectric power generation. While not substantial, the County's western watercourses, such as Auburn Ravine and its tributaries, were important sources of water.

Placer County encompasses about a third of Lake Tahoe. This lake, renowned for the beauty of its setting, attracts many visitors. Most of the other large bodies of water in Placer County are reservoirs. The largest is Folsom Lake, a State Recreation Area; others include Lake Combie, Rollins Reservoir, Camp Far West Reservoir, French Meadows Reservoir, and Hell Hole Reservoir.

Placer County, named after placer mining, still exhibits much evidence of the gold mining era. Placer mining, widely practiced in the 1850s, had essentially given way to hydraulic mining by the 1860s, and then to dredge mining by the late 1890s. Hydraulic and dredge mining left large pits and tailings that are distinctive features of the County's landscape. Many of the areas affected by the mining are to this day unfit for productive land uses.

Preliminary reports from the US Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, put the 1970 population of Placer County at 77,632, and the 1980 population at 117,293. As of January 1992, the State of California Department of Finance estimated the County's population at 186,861 with just over half of its population living in unincorporated areas. The largest city in the County is Roseville, followed by Rocklin, and then Auburn, the County seat. Other incorporated towns are Lincoln, Loomis, and Colfax. Several smaller present-day communities are scattered throughout the County and include Dutch Flat, Foresthill, Meadow Vista, and Tahoe City. About 1/3 of the County, 315,000 acres, are Tahoe and Eldorado national forest lands.

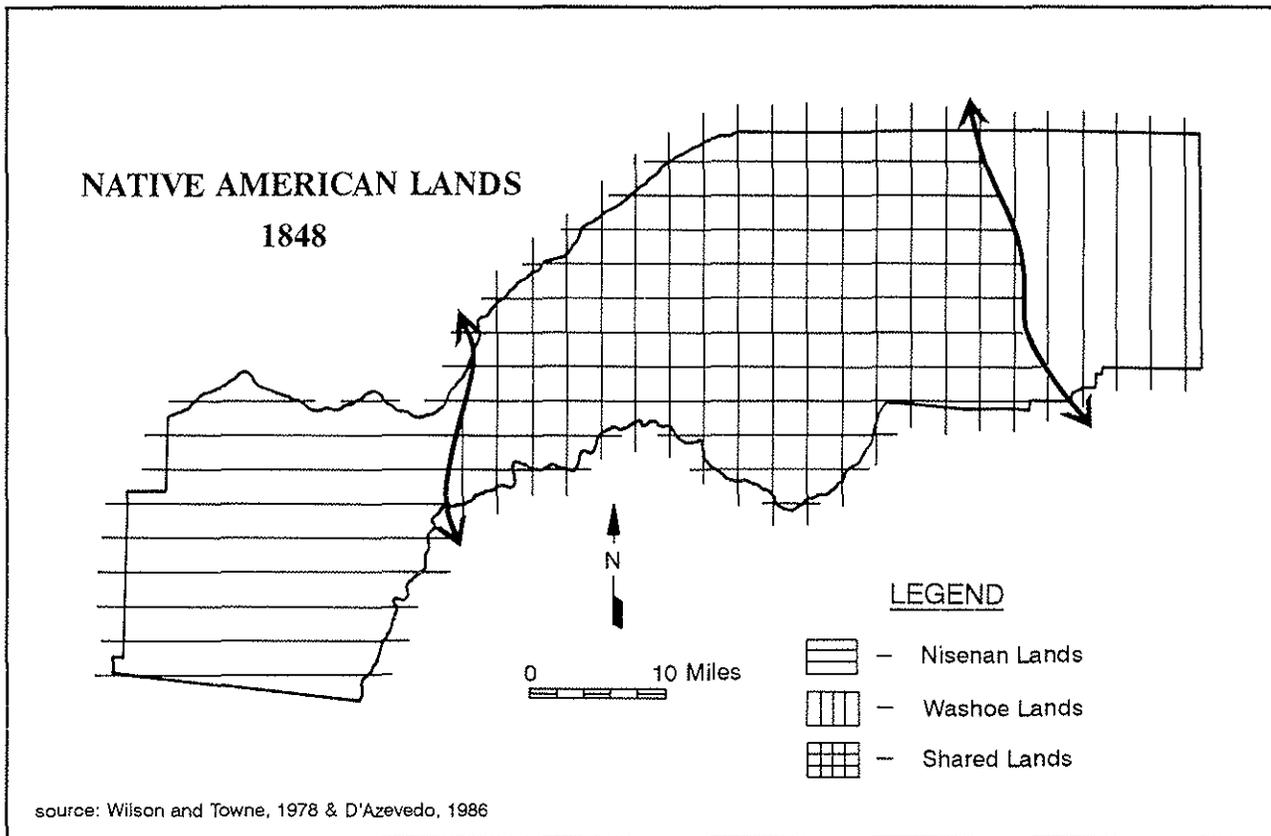
The County has a varied economy based on agriculture, recreation, retirement, tourism, and summer and winter sports at Lake Tahoe and in the national forests. The national forests and adjacent lands also support a

timber-harvesting industry. Gold mining, such a significant aspect of Placer County's history, has been in decline for many years and is no longer a notable industry. The extraction of sands, gravels, clays, and stone, however, contribute to today's economy. Placer County manufacturing industries include lumber products and stone and clay products. New light industries, such as electronic firms, are emerging in the Roseville and Lincoln areas. Transportation is a significant aspect of the County, and east-west trending U.S. Interstate Highway 80, which passes through the County, is one of the nation's major highways. The Southern Pacific Railroad - formerly the Central Pacific and the first transcontinental railroad - passes through Placer County. Substantial railroad facilities, for preparing transcontinental trains, are at Roseville. Tourists visit Lake Tahoe, the National Forests, and historical locations such as Old Town Auburn.

Placer County also serves as a bedroom community for the City of Sacramento, the State Capitol, which is directly to the west. Some commuters travel as far as the San Francisco Bay area. Placer County continues to grow in population as the County's pleasant environment and convenient location attract new residents.

### Native Americans

Over the millennia of Sierra Nevada prehistory, the area to become Placer County was occupied by a number of Native American peoples, some unknown to us today and others surviving to the present. For at least one thousand years prior to 1848, when the discovery of gold attracted outsiders by the thousands, Placer County was home to two major groups: the Nisenan in the west and the Washoe in the east.



Native American Lands 1848

Containing many of the environmental zones found throughout the state, the region supported an abundance and variety of game, waterfowl, fish, and plants. This diversity provided the native peoples with all the food necessary for a wholesome and varied diet and all the material required for a variety of tools, implements, and structures. To this material abundance they brought resourcefulness and ingenuity, artistry and entertainments, and a basically harmonious world view, resulting in richly satisfying lifeways.

Both the Nisenan and Washoe were hunter-gatherers, who developed and perfected a variety of techniques for extracting animal, vegetable, and mineral resources, modifying them to their needs, and often storing them for later use. Many time-worn strategies were shared by both groups, while innovations also passed freely between them and their neighbors. Nonetheless, there were strong contrasts between the Nisenan and Washoe--many of them due to the different territories they controlled.

## ***The Nisenan***

### **Language and Territory**

The land from west of the Sierra crest to the west bank of the Sacramento River, including the drainages of the Yuba, Bear, and American rivers, was held by people who spoke a language known as Nisenan (meaning 'from among us' or 'of our side'), whom anthropologists also call Southern Maidu. Other Maidu languages were spoken in the north, up to the southern slopes of Mt. Lassen in the northwest and past Eagle Lake in the northeast. The Maidu language family has been classified as a member of the Penutian language stock, which includes other languages spoken nearby, such as Patwin (in the lower Sacramento Valley), Sierra Miwok (in the hills and mountains to the south), Plains Miwok (in the northern San Joaquin Valley), and Yokuts (in the lower San Joaquin Valley). Speakers of the Penutian languages are believed to have entered California from the Columbia Plateau

to the north, coming in successive waves beginning about 4500 years ago.

There were at least three major dialects of the Nisenan language: Valley Nisenan and Northern Hill and Southern Hill Nisenan. Several subdialects are known for the Hill Nisenan within the County, including those of the Auburn, Clipper Gap, and Colfax areas. Dialects and subdialects reflect the closeness of a given group--the less time spent with outsiders, the more distinctive a group's speech becomes. Just as with dialects of American English, however, Nisenan dialects were mutually understandable.

The banks of the Sacramento River housed the large settlements of the Valley Nisenan, with populations of several hundred people each, while the plains between the river and the foothills were relatively unsettled, used primarily for hunting by both hill and valley groups. Large parties of men from the Auburn group would make fishing trips to the Sacramento, while the group also controlled a salt spring near Roseville and maintained an acorn-collecting camp in that vicinity. A less amicable "No Man's Land" -- from the Sierra crest down to about Emigrant Gap--existed between the Nisenan and the Washoe; some accounts refer to frequent fighting between the two groups in this area, while others describe friendly encounters.

### **Settlement and Subsistence**

The mild to moderate winters, abundant year-round water sources, and relatively accessible terrain of the Hill Nisenan territory supported relatively large, semi-permanent villages, some with populations of several hundred people. The villages were usually placed on ridges and large flats along major streams, while hamlets occupied by extended families of a dozen or more people were located in favored spots in the vicinity. At winter villages and hamlets, Hill Nisenan houses were conical-shaped and covered with slabs of bark, skins, and brush. Acorn granaries were often present, and bedrock milling stations (colloquially known as Indian Grinding Rocks) were present at virtually

every settlement. Other locations of importance, each given specific names and known to most members of the tribelet, included summer camps, quarries, ceremonial grounds, trading sites, fishing stations, cemeteries, river crossings, and battlegrounds.

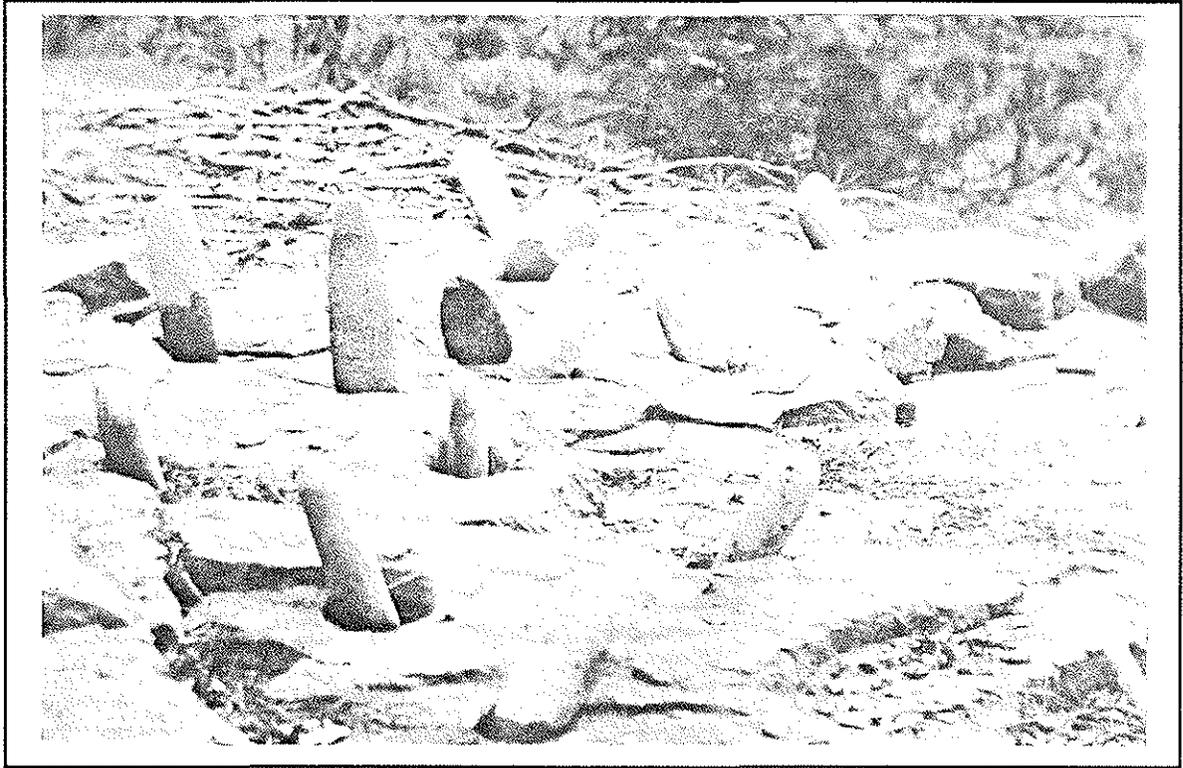
The combination of principal village and related hamlets formed a village community, or "tribelet," which held a fixed territory and acted as a group under the leadership of a headman. While extended families acted on their own on more individual matters, a headman presided over such group decisions as the nature and timing of group hunts or collection trips and relations with other groups--including trading expeditions and ceremonies. Ceremonial dances to celebrate seasonal events and honor deities were held in the large semisubterranean dance house, which distinguished the principal village from its satellites; 27 such villages were identified in the Auburn-Colfax area by Littlejohn, an ethnographer of the 1920s, each presumably representing a tribelet center. Only a handful of these villages would have been occupied at the same time; people regularly shifted residence every few years, particularly after the death of a headman or another person of importance. From archaeological study, however, it is clear that most of these locations were reoccupied, with abandonment of such short duration that the material remains appear to represent one continuous occupation, often for many centuries. Information on the size of each tribelet's territory is lost, and it is now unclear where a particular central area of influence began or ended.

In the Sacramento Valley, the low lands along the rivers were flooded every year, creating marshes in the basins along the Sacramento and Feather rivers. Besides the fish and mollusks that the rivers, sloughs, and lakes yielded, the great seasonal marshes attracted immense flocks of water fowl during the spring and fall migrations, who were said to have blackened the sky in their flight. With their permanent villages just upslope from these great flood basins, the Hill Nisenan had an array of game animals to hunt within a short distance of their homes:

Tule elk, deer, and predators such as the grizzly bear focused on these upper margins of the basin for at least a few months each year during the winter and spring. The drier foothills surrounding their villages supported a diversity of oaks and other nut-bearing trees; berries, bulbs, and greens; and large and small game were also plentiful.

There were several choices when the summer heat set in: families could move to the uplands, which were just experiencing a "spring" renewal, or to the deep river canyons, where fish, small game, and water-loving plant resources were readily available year round. While some groups travelled, others might occupy the main village on through the summer, taking advantage of the variety of foothill crops that ripened in this season. Throughout Nisenan territory, small camp sites were established along a network of trails; larger base camps were revisited year after year at their upland or riverine destinations. Typically, the Auburn group fished, hunted, and gathered around Georgetown in El Dorado County, while the Colfax group summered around Gold Run and Dutch Flat. The tenuous relationships between the Nisenan and the Washoe were said to have restricted the former's use of the highest elevations, although these groups often met to trade goods from their respective regions, and the Washoe sometimes visited the lower western slopes to gather acorns. The Washoe exchanged obsidian, salt, pine nuts, rabbit skins, dried fish, and seed beaters for the Nisenan's acorns and shells, the latter supplied to the hill people by the Patwin and Maidu.

Acorns, while not the only Nisenan staple, were a major and regular source of sustenance. They were gathered in late fall as a group activity, when extended families or whole villages would work together, the men knocking the acorns to the ground and the women and children gathering and hauling them by the basketful. Grinding the nuts into a fine flour on the bedrock mortar, leaching the flour, and cooking it into mush or soups was an activity that likely consumed at least some part of every woman's day.



**Bedrock Mortar Site, Bird's Valley**  
(photograph courtesy Placer County Department of Museums)

### **Post-Contact**

Located away from the mission influence of the late 18th and early 19th centuries, Nisenan traditional lifeways remained relatively intact longer than central coastal or bay groups. The first severe effect of Euroamerican presence in California resulted from a series of epidemics in the early 1830s, which swept through the Central Valley from the Tulare Basin north to Oroville. While Hill Nisenan were not directly affected, these diseases killed up to 75 percent of their Valley Nisenan neighbors, in some cases consuming whole villages. Captain John Sutter had little trouble gaining cooperation from the few surviving Valley Nisenan when he arrived in their territory in 1839, removing many of the survivors to his fort for use as laborers. With the discovery of gold at Coloma in 1848, the disruption of traditional Hill Nisenan lifeways began abruptly and was virtually complete within a few years. Overt killings and disease reduced populations, while traditional hunting and

gathering areas were overrun by miners, watercourses were diverted, and old settlements were taken over by outsiders.

Despite more than a century of disruption, the large number of active Nisenan groups in the Auburn area attest to the persistence of native peoples in Placer County. Nisenan people today are concertedly working to preserve cultural information and to protect the archaeological sites that reflect their heritage.

### ***The Washoe***

#### **Language and Territory**

The land east of the Sierran crest was occupied by the Washoe, whose territory included all of Lake Tahoe and the lands north to Honey Lake and south to the northern headwaters of the Tuolumne River; in the east, Washoe territory extended more than 20 miles into Nevada to include the Washoe, Carson, and Antelope valleys at the base of the Sierra range. Placer County

abundant water and resource diversity are present.

Much of the archaeological work undertaken within Placer County has focused on basins of the eastern Sierra slopes at Truckee and Lake Tahoe, which were first scientifically excavated in the 1950s. A few projectile points (stone tools for spears or darts) have been found that represent ancient styles used in the Great Basin, suggesting use of this area of the Sierra around the time of the Western Pluvial Lakes Tradition, as does a radiocarbon date (more than 8000 years ago) from a site just east of Placer County. While these early people appear to have focused on big game (perhaps extinct megafauna), they also used the variety of small game and plant food as people have throughout the region's occupation. Unlike the people who followed them, however, it appears that they did not grind seeds, live on sites long enough to accumulate midden deposits, construct permanent structures, or store resources. This earliest stage of eastern Sierra use remains virtually unknown. From the limited evidence to date, it appears that the high region was used for hunting by special task groups and seldom, if ever, was occupied by residential groups.

### **The Martis Complex**

Detailed evidence for prehistoric use of the region begins with an archaeological culture termed the Martis Complex at approximately 4000 years before present and continuing to approximately 1500 years ago. This complex, which spread throughout the northern Sierra, was first identified at archaeological site CA-PLA-5, on Martis Creek in eastern Placer County. The general picture of Martis times indicates a more settled lifeway, with the same base camps occupied repeatedly over a long time period; intensive use is suggested by excavated housepits, tool caches, hearths, and occasional human burials. Residential sites were usually situated on valley margins adjacent to a wide range of resources; hot springs were especially favored locations. Field camps are often found on saddles and ridges overlooking streams. Intensive use of

basalt quarries in eastern Placer County appears to date to this time period. Artifacts associated with the Martis Complex include roughly shaped projectile points of basalt, handstones and millstones used for seed grinding, as well as the bowl mortar and pestle. While several Martis sites have been excavated, archaeologists continue to debate the timing, nature, and origins of this early culture.

On the western slopes and valley margins of Placer County, far fewer excavations have been conducted, and there is little evidence of early use. An exception is the Spring Garden Ravine site (CA-PLA-101), investigated in 1970 as part of the cultural resources studies for the Auburn Dam. Here, an assemblage of Martis materials was radiocarbon dated to approximately 3500 years ago, but few questions regarding the early use of the western Sierra have been addressed.

### **The Late Prehistoric Period**

About 1500 years ago the Martis Complex in the east, was replaced by the Kings Beach Phase, an archaeological culture exhibiting greater mobility and believed to represent the ancestral Washoe. The phase is represented by small projectile points, usually of obsidian, representing the introduction of the bow and arrow. Elaborate food-processing equipment suggests emphasis on plant food and the beginning of pinyon pine exploitation. Major winter sites used during Martis times continued to be occupied. By about 900 years ago, however, these camps were used with less frequency by smaller groups, as suggested by the smaller housepits and a lack of other features of indicative of extended stays. The distinctive change in settlement and resource use of the Kings Beach Phase may have resulted in part from environmental change, with drier conditions reducing the resource base in the Lake Tahoe vicinity, while rising population levels encouraged greater movement.

Archaeologists have hypothesized that there was a direct line between Martis Complex people and those of the Kings Beach Phase. While evidence of the Martis Complex is

found throughout the northern Sierra, it is believed that by Kings Beach times Maidu peoples (including the Nisenan) controlled their historic-period territory. This archaeological evidence, still unverified, is given support by the linguistic evidence noted above that suggests that the Washoe may have been displaced by Maidu peoples. One hypothesis proposes that the same environmental shift that had reduced the resources around Lake Tahoe allowed an increase in the distribution of oaks, enhancing the value of the Sierran slopes to the acorn-using Maidu.

A few excavated sites in western Placer County have yielded materials representing the ancestral Nisenan of the late prehistoric period, with small projectile points suited for arrows (after about A.D. 700) and relatively abundant mortars and pestles, including bedrock milling features (after about A.D. 1500). An elaborate exchange network also marked the late prehistoric throughout central California, with shell beads forming a standard currency. Archaeologically, this exchange can be seen in exotic obsidians from the eastern Sierra and the North Coast Ranges, coastal shells, and distinctive projectile points showing up one hundred miles or more from their source. Ethnographies inform us that perishable goods were traded as well, with quantities of bows, feathers, basketry materials, furs, as well as exotic food goods exchanged between groups.

An indication of the limited archaeological investigations in western Placer County is the lack of a name for the late-period prehistoric complex, unlike the Kings Beach Phase of the east, or the Mesilla Phase in the foothills to the north. While scores of prehistoric sites were recorded during the series of archaeological surveys for the Auburn Dam during the 1960s, at most of these sites the indestructible bedrock mortar is all that survived the combination of gold-mining activities and natural flooding of the river canyon.

## **Historic Period**

### **Early Exploration And Settlement**

Euroamerican presence in the area now defined as California dates to the 1540s when explorers ventured into this region under the flag of Spain. The Spanish missions brought the first documented historic-period settlement beginning in 1769 and continuing into the early 1820s. The missions of New Spain housed few European residents, but rather drew from California's native population both for labor and for converts. When New Spain rebelled against Spanish rule in 1822 and formed the Republic of Mexico, former mission lands were granted to settlers as ranchos and much of Alta California opened to more intensive settlement by Mexicans as well as European and American settlers.

The earliest documented overland travel expedition from the eastern United States into Alta California was that of Jedediah Strong Smith, who made the journey in 1826. Early in 1844, John Charles Fremont, a U.S. Army officer, led an exploring expedition into Alta California. On February 14th, Fremont and Charles Preuss made the first documented observation of Lake Tahoe. They mapped its location and assigned it the name "mountain lake." The name was soon changed to Lake Bonpland, after the French botanist who accompanied the expedition.

As early as 1841, settlers made the arduous journey to the west. In that year, the Bidwell-Bartleson Party became the first organized company of settlers to make the trip overland to California. Routes to California remained obscure into the late 1840s, and the earliest emigrants endured extreme hardships traversing the Sierra Nevada. The first wagons to pass through Placer County's Emigrant Gap arrived there in 1845. From this location, emigrants had to lower their wagons to the floor of the Bear River Valley before they could continue their journey into the Central Valley. The following year, the saga of the infamous Donner Party unfolded in neighboring Nevada County when the winter's first snow

blocked the route through Donner Pass, a landform at the present-day Placer-Nevada County line.

Emigrant Gap is California Historical Landmark No. 403.

The first documented historical settlement in Placer County occurred in 1844 when French sailor Theodore Sicard was granted Sicard's Ranch by the Mexican government. The following year, Sicard constructed an adobe residence on the rancho located in the Sacramento Valley along the Bear River near Johnson's Crossing. In October 1846, fellow Frenchman Claude Chana arrived at Sicard's Ranch and that fall, Sicard and Chana planted orchards that are regarded as the pioneer commercial orchards of the Sacramento Valley. The site of this early activity was later inundated by debris flowing downstream from hydraulic mining operations in the gold country.

### ***The Gold Rush***

The most pivotal event in California history came on January 24, 1848 when James Wilson Marshall discovered gold at Sutter's Mill along the South Fork of the American River. Nine days later, before either party had knowledge of Marshall's discovery near Coloma, the Mexican government ceded all lands of Alta California to the United States, as a concession of the Mexican War.

There was not an immediate and widespread response to the discovery at Sutter's Mill; initial reports were viewed with great skepticism. The Gold Rush of 1848 was set into motion only after curious gold seekers visited Coloma and as other discoveries were made. One such discovery occurred on May 16, 1848 when Claude Chana was returning to Sicard's Ranch from a visit to the diggings at Coloma. As Chana and his team made their way through what would later be known as Auburn Ravine, he discovered gold near present-day Ophir. In the wake of this and other discoveries, gold nuggets began to show up in stores in the Central Valley and on the coast. By June of 1848, the population of California's principal cities was

drastically reduced as hoards rushed to the gold fields. By the fall of 1848, word had reached the eastern United States and by spring of the following year, the Gold Rush of 1849 was on.

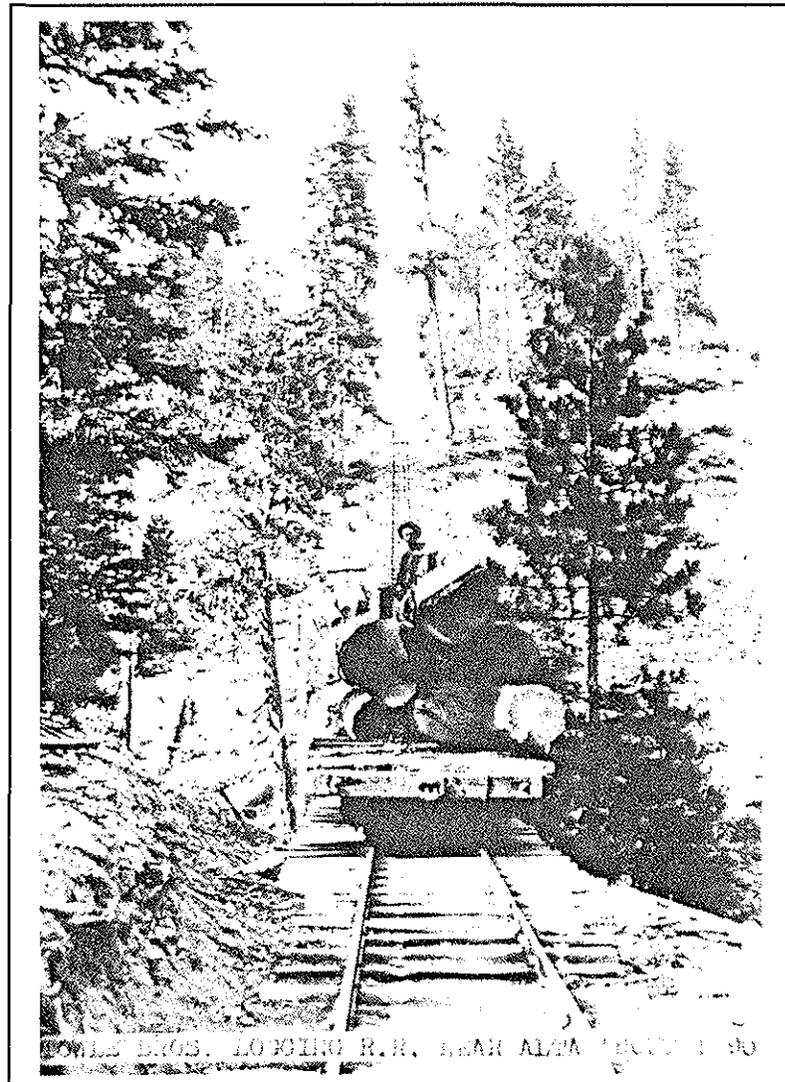
The influx of 49ers into California during the Gold Rush is said to have been the greatest single population shift to one location on the North American continent. In May of 1848, the gold fields hosted only a few hundred miners. Two months later, that number had grown to 4,000. With would-be miners swarming from Oregon, Mexico, and throughout California, the number of miners in the gold fields had reached 10,000 by the close of 1848. In 1849, nearly 90,000 gold-seekers came to California and the growth continued. California was admitted to the Union on September 9, 1850. The new state's population grew from just over 100,000 in 1850 to over 200,000 in 1852.

Early emigrants had few choices for routes to the gold fields and many came by way of the California Trail, also known as the Overland Emigrant Trail. The earliest routes were marked by trail blazers, showing the way for those who would follow. The constant flow of traffic over the trail during the Gold Rush converted the vague paths of early settlers into well-established routes. At Big Bend, rock outcrops near the crest of the Sierras still bear the scars and stains of the thousands of wagon wheels that rolled over the summit.

The Overland Emigrant Trail in Placer County is California Historical Landmark No. 799-2.

### ***Early Mining Towns And The Growth Of The Gold Country***

For nearly every strike in the gold fields, there grew a camp. In the years following the discovery of gold, thousands of mining camps and towns were established throughout the gold country. In his landmark study, *California Gold Camps*, Erwin G. Gudde lists 406 mining camps and districts in Placer County.



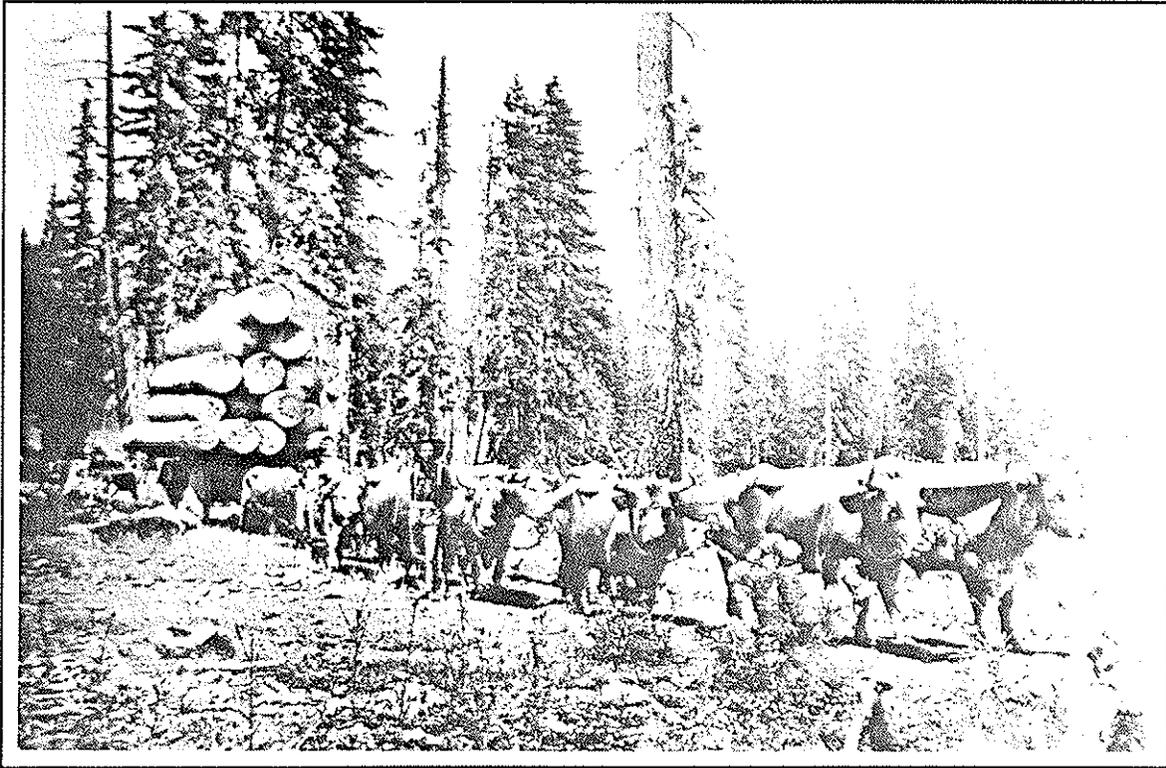
The Towle Brothers Logging Railroad, near Alta, about 1890  
(photograph courtesy Placer County Department of Museums)

### Lake Tahoe Region and Tahoe City

In 1863, Reverend T. Starr King christened Lake Tahoe with its current name after the Washoe term for "lake." The same year marked the discovery of gold and silver deposits in what are now Squaw and Martis valleys. By this time, many of Placer County's earliest boom towns had collapsed, and many of the County's other mining districts, such as Forest Hill and Last Chance, reported a mass exodus of their residents to the new diggings near Lake Tahoe. At Squaw Valley, several boom towns were established including Knoxville

and Claraville. Other towns like Elizabethtown, Centerville, Modiosho, and Neptune City housed miners working in Martis Valley. Just two years later, these strikes had worked out and Tahoe's gold rush was over.

When the mining boom started in 1863, there was an immediate need for building materials and Tahoe City emerged that year as a lumber center. Little development occurred here at first. The first public building, the Tahoe House, was erected in 1864 by William Pomin. The same year, Augustus Perry operated the first steam ship, "The Governor Blaisdel," on Lake Tahoe, heralding the



**Logging near Lake Tahoe**  
(photograph courtesy Placer County Department of Museums)

beginning of the lake's maritime history. The following year, Tahoe City residents constructed a 200-foot wharf at the town site and the settlement began to grow. Tahoe City was recorded as an official town in 1868.

New economic enterprises were established along the lakeshore in the late 1860s and early 1870s and the Tahoe area entered its first period of real growth. In 1868, Jeremiah Hurley and Prentiss Pringle started the Tahoe Fishery, and the next year William Campbell and Henry Burke opened the Warm Springs Hotel in the fledgling community of Warm Springs, now Brockway. The first outlet gates on the Truckee River, Lake Tahoe's only outlet, were constructed at Tahoe City in 1870 to regulate the flow of water. Unregulated, the waters of the Truckee River flow into the neighboring State of Nevada. The outlet gates, which restricted water flow, have been a source of controversy since 1870.

The outlet gates, replaced in 1913, are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Much of the initial growth of the Tahoe area, though, was brought about by the activities of a local businessman named Duane L. Bliss. In 1871, Bliss and some business partners purchased timber land in the Tahoe area and two years later established a successful timber operation called Bliss, Carson & Tahoe Fluming and Lumber Company. Bliss and his associates also organized Bliss' Lake Tahoe Transportation and Railway Company that year. Constructed initially for freight purposes, the rail line brought industry to the area and opened the lake to tourism. The rail line operated from 1873 until 1898. In a 1941 article published in the Tahoe Tattler, Gurney Breckenfeld reports on the influence of Bliss' companies:

*In those 25 years the Bliss enterprises logged over 50,000 acres and produced 750 million board feet and 500,000 cords of wood, built three steamers, two sawmills, 13 miles of railroad, 25 miles of V flume (invented to shoot logs from Carson summit to lumber yards in the Nevada valley three thousand feet below.) The strapping young industry brought dairying, and other businesses flocking to Tahoe.*

In 1873, the first telegraph line was installed to Tahoe City. With lake settlements linked by rail and by telegraph, Lake Tahoe was no longer an isolated location. Dairy operations, fisheries, and hay ranches became more numerous. The summer and winter tourism industry, which has accounted for most of the Tahoe region's growth, was not fully underway until the early 1900s.

### **New England Mills (Weimar)**

One of the many lumber mills in operation along Moody Ridge was New England Mills, which was established by Captain Starbuck and his partners to supply the railroad. The railroad formally established a station here about 1877 and applied the name New England Mills. A small community grew up around the station and, when a post office was established there in 1886, the name was changed to Weimar, a distortion of the name of a local Native American. The site of New England Mills is just north of the Weimar Institute, established as the Weimar Tuberculosis Sanatorium, or the Eleven Counties Sanatorium, on November 17, 1919. Nothing remains of New England Mills.

### **Iron Mining**

#### **Hotaling**

Another extractive industry was established at the iron works at Hotaling. Four years after the 1865 opening of Clipper Gap Station along the Central Pacific line, Brown and Company began extracting trace iron ore.

When ore samples were evaluated in San Francisco, they were deemed the purest ore yet worked in the state. In 1874, Mr. P. Fitzhue examined the deposits and began extraction under the name of Iron Mountain Iron Company. In 1879, Fitzhue sold the company to Egbert Judson, Anson P. Hotaling, and Irving M. Scott, who established the California Iron Company.

In the first year of operation as the California Iron Company, bridges, dams, roads, houses, outbuildings, and an extensive blast furnace were constructed. A village grew up around the iron works and took the name Hotaling from one of the owners. The Company built a school and a store and, in September of 1881, opened the Hotaling post office. The iron works required coal for fuel and the company constructed as many as 26 brick kilns on both sides of the Bear River and began to clear the forests for coal production. The railroad was the company's prime customer and bought pig iron as soon as it was produced.

Hotaling was consumed by fire on September 10, 1882. All efforts to control the flames were in vain and the fire destroyed not only the blast furnace but all of the stockpiled coke. In February 1883, six carloads of fire-proof bricks arrived at Hotaling, and crews began to rebuild. That May the new iron works opened and business looked as promising as the first operation. By the early 1890s, it had become too costly to transport iron to market and the plant was removed by 1892. No buildings remain of the California Iron Company at Hotaling.

### **Fruit Industry**

The industry that has come to characterize western Placer County is the production of fruit. With a temperate climatic belt extending between Auburn and the Sacramento Valley and, with the availability of rail transportation, towns like Newcastle and Loomis rose to their zenith. Other efforts, like the ill-fated Placer County Citrus Colony, were less successful.

the Mountain Quarries Bridge (also called the No-Hands Bridge) was, upon its completion, the longest span concrete arch railroad bridge owned by a private concern. The rail lines were removed around 1940, but the bridge remains open to pedestrian and equestrian traffic.

The Mountain Quarries Bridge is listed with the Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) and has been designated a Historic Civil Engineering Landmark by the American Society of Civil Engineers.

### ***Tourism And Resorts***

Placer County's favorable climate was recognized early as ideal for recreational activity. Summer tourism at Lake Tahoe was underway as early as the 1870s. In the following decades, rail transportation, and later automotive transportation, opened Placer

County as a convenient get-away. Since those earliest years, tourism has remained an important economic mainstay of Placer County and is, today, one of its most important attractions.

### **Lake Tahoe and Tahoe City**

Lake Tahoe's resort business is said to have started in 1871, when A.J. Bayley opened his celebrated Grand Central Hotel. The tourist trade remained limited to the summer months at first and in 1880, Tahoe City had only 32 permanent residents. Year-round tourism did not become common until the 1890s. Duane Bliss, who had initiated the Tahoe area's timber industry, also brought prosperity to the local tourism economy. By the 1890s, Nevada's Comstock Lode had been worked out and the local timber industry was beginning to fail. Bliss and his partners moved their railroad headquarters and yards



**A.J. Bayley's Grand Central Hotel, Tahoe City**  
(photograph courtesy Placer County Department of Museums)

to Tahoe City. They constructed a narrow-gauge rail line to Truckee and then opened the Tahoe Tavern. With a link to the Southern Pacific line, winter tourism at Lake Tahoe began to increase.

In the 1920s, automotive traffic reached Lake Tahoe and both summer and winter tourism intensified. New communities began to emerge at this time, including Kings Beach and Homewood. In 1928, the Auburn Ski Club was started at Lake Tahoe and 3 years later, the Tahoe area's first ski jump was constructed 1 mile south of Tahoe City. The popularity of winter sports at Lake Tahoe has continued to grow since the 1930s. In 1960, Squaw Valley was selected as the site for the Eighth Olympic Winter Games, and this site is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

### **Applegate**

At the transition zone between the foothills and the Sierra Nevada, the mild climate of Applegate was found ideal and one of the earliest summer resort businesses of western Placer County began here. Using the buildings formerly occupied by a local fraternal order, the Oaks Resort was founded in the 1890s, to the southeast of Applegate. Today, the former resort is a Christian retreat. Other resort communities in the Applegate area included Pinewood, or Warham Place, and Walmond. A 1973 article from Placer GOLD, recalls the resort business:

*...each [resort] offered the conveniences of the city - tennis courts, porcelain bathrooms, swimming pools and dance pavillions [sic] - plus the peace and serenity of the country. People flocked to Applegate to "sleep in the open air", drink spring water and perhaps pan a little gold. They would come on the train with their trunks where they were met by carriages from each resort. During the busy summers, college students would come up to work as*

*musicians in dance bands and [as] table waiters.*

### **Other Resorts and Resort Communities**

In the 1920s and '30s, numerous other resorts were established along new roads between the Sierra foothills and Lake Tahoe. A resort community grew up around Lake Alta. This artificial lake, once a holding pond for hydraulic mining, opened as a resort around 1900. Since that time, the Lake Alta area has remained relatively undisturbed and still functions as a summer retreat.

Other resorts include the Rainbow Lodge which opened in 1921 along the Royal Gorge. The Rainbow Lodge still serves as a half-way stop between Auburn and Lake Tahoe. Another resort community was Baxter's. Located along Highway 40, Baxter's thrived as a small resort in the 1930s. Most of the buildings of this community, later known as Baxter, stood until 1991 when they were demolished. Only the Baxter Cafe and the now-defunct Baxter Hotel remain.

### **Auburn**

Today, Auburn is a commercial center but many visitors are drawn to Auburn as a historical landmark. The durable buildings of Auburn's Old Town were built to withstand fires but have also withstood the test of time. Perhaps better than any town or historical district in Placer County, Old Town Auburn evokes the feeling of the County's gold mining history.

For a synopsis of Placer County's history, see Time Line of Placer County Events, Appendix H.

## **Cultural Resource Inventory of Area B for the Lake Forest Erosion Control Project, Placer County, California**

observed in the project area included mule deer, black bear, and a variety of small mammals and birds typical to this subalpine environment.

The Lake Forest ECP study area constitutes the majority of Sections 32 and 33, Township 16 North, Range 17 East. Smaller portions of the study area are located in Sections 28 and 29, Township 16 North, Range 17 East, and in Sections 4 and 5 of Township 15 North, Range 17 East. The study area appears on the Kings Beach, California-Nevada (1992), USGS 7.5-minute quadrangle.

Area B is located in the westernmost portion of the Lake Forest ECP study area and consists of approximately 625 acres. The area is located mostly in Section 32 of Township 16 North, Range 17 East, with smaller portions located in Sections 29, 31, and 33, and in Section 4 of Township 15 North, Range 17 East.

### **3.0 CULTURAL SETTING**

#### **3.1 Prehistory**

Evidence of early Post-Pleistocene adaptations was not observed in the project area and will, therefore, not be discussed in this report. A detailed discussion of the early cultural sequence and related adaptations in this region can be found in Wallace (1978). The archaeology of the Sierra Nevada was first outlined by Heizer and Elsasser (1953). Two cultural complexes, the Martis Complex and the Kings Beach Complex, were defined and are typically applied to characterize the prehistory of the Lake Tahoe area. The following discussion of the local prehistory for the Eastern Sierra Front was derived mainly from discussions found in Elston (1982), Miller and Elston (1979), Zeier (1992), and Wallace (1978).

The Martis Complex, which coincides temporally with the early and middle Archaic hunting and gathering adaptation, has been described as a high-elevation variant of the seasonal hunting and seed gathering culture that occupied the area east of the main crest of the Sierra Nevada Range. Zeier (1992:9) suggests that the Martis Complex occupation of the Eastern Sierra Front ranged from 7,000 to 1,500 years before present (BP).

The Spooner Phase (7,000-4,000 BP) coincides with the regional Early Archaic adaptive strategy. Sites dating to this phase typically contain flaked stone tools of light-colored basalts and projectile points belonging to the Pinto and Humboldt Series.

Early Martis Phase (4,000-3,500 BP) sites are characterized by the presence of large contracting stemmed points belonging to the Elko and Martis Series. A continued use of light-colored basalts is evident for the production of flaked stone tools. The reuse of habitation sites and longer seasonal occupations of optimal locations becomes evident during this phase and is manifest in the appearance of steep-sided house pits (Zeier 1992).

Middle Martis Phase (3,500-2,500 BP) sites are characterized by the presence of Steamboat points, large basalt bifaces, and other flaked stone tools produced from light-colored basalt. Use of steep-sided house pits for longer term habitation sites persists in this phase.

The Late Martis Phase (2,500-1,500 BP) evidences a continuation of the Early and Middle Martis Phase adaptations, with continued use of the steep-walled house pit structures, a focus on the use of basalt for flaked stone tool production, and a shift to increased production of corner-notched and eared Elko and Martis points. The Martis Period settlement pattern is generally characterized by a variety of site types reflecting an increase in population density, but with continued reliance on seasonal mobility to take advantage of a diverse range of resources.

The Late Archaic Period, represented on the Eastern Sierra Front by the Kings Beach Phase (1,500 BP to Historic Times), represents the development of subsistence and settlement

## Cultural Resource Inventory of Area B for the Lake Forest Erosion Control Project, Placer County, California

strategies corresponding with a decrease in lateral mobility and a continued increase in population density (Zeier 1992). Early Kings Beach Phase (1,500-800 BP) sites are recognized by the dominance of Rosegate points in their lithic artifact assemblages. Desert Side-notched and Cottonwood Series points dominate assemblages of Late Kings Beach Phase (800 BP to Historic Times) sites. Evidence of the settlement and subsistence patterns that developed during the Kings Beach Phase are often equated with the occupation of the Tahoe area by the Washoe at this time (Zeier 1992).

### 3.2 Ethnography

The project area falls within the center of Washoe territory, with primary use by the northern Washoe. The northern Washoe traditionally inhabited areas around present day Reno, Truckee, Loyalton, the Sierra Valley, Long Valley, and Honey Lake, and are acknowledged in the most general sense to have known the most about Tahoe's north shore. D'Azevedo's northern contacts indicated less emphasis on Lake Tahoe, and he suggests that the northern Washoe may have withdrawn relatively early in the post-contact period and that Lake Tahoe may have retained more relative importance to the eastern Washoe (based out of Carson Valley) and the southern Washoe (centered around Woodfords) (Rucks 1996:2).

Freed (1966:81, quoted in Rucks 1996:2) also observed that the north quadrant of Lake Tahoe was best known to and used by the northern Washoe. More specifically, his Washoe contacts stated that Washoe from Reno and Carson City camped "all summer" at Watson Creek. One campsite on Watson Creek, *masundauwO'tha* (*masun*, slow; *wO'tha*, river) was a short distance from the lake. Besides fishing, the Washoe hunted ground squirrels and woodchucks, and gathered several kinds of seeds (*mA'sum*, pigweed seed, *cugllatsi*, and *sEsme*). They also collected mushrooms, locusts, and a kind of berry called *k'ila'tsim*. Another encampment at the mouth of Griff Creek, *gumIE'phEI wO'tha*, was used only as a resting spot and not as a full-fledged camping site. At *diphIkhwO'tha* (*diphIkh*, white paint; *wO'tha*, river), near Dollar Point, a creek once ran and the Washoe obtained fish, porcupine berries, sunflower seeds, *cu'wE'thUkh*, and white clay with which they decorated themselves. Scott (1957:351, 496) claims that Dollar Point was called Chinquapin by the Washoe, so named for the scrub trees with edible nuts (called Chinquapin) they found growing there. Whitefish were taken at a camp, *wO'thanamIn*, near the mouth of Burton Creek. Grasshoppers were collected in nearby meadows. The whitefish run here was earlier than Trout Creek (along Tahoe's south shore). Large green tree worms were collected and roasted in hot sand. A camp, *daubayodu'* (translated as "running over"), was located on a small hill in Tahoe City. It has since been destroyed by the construction of Highway 89. The Washoe fished and collected grasshoppers, which were roasted over hot coals. About a mile north of here on the lakeshore was a cave where the Washoe collected swallow eggs. The campsite, which was near this cave, is normally under water. The Washoe named the Truckee River *debeyumewe* or "coming out" (d'Azevedo 1956:51). In addition to the sites named by Freed (1966), a 1984 map produced by the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) also shows a "campsite" above the Tahoe City Golf Course. Lekisch (1988:133) notes a Washoe and Paiute (?) trail that led from Martis Valley, over the divide, and to Lake Tahoe in the Tahoe Vista area. This route may have roughly followed the alignment of Road 16N63 (05-19-733).

The Gatekeepers Museum site in Tahoe City was an important locale where Lake Tahoe was honored as the source of the Truckee River and Pyramid Lake. Here, the Washoe paid respect and gave thanks for Tahoe's waters, acknowledging the importance of outflow of the lake to nourish the desert "and all those people below." Elders continue to pray for renewal of the lake at this location. After Euroamerican "encroachment," the legal term the federal government used to describe the process by which the Washoe gradually lost their territory (Rucks 1996:1), ca. 1848, the Washoe continued to trek to the lake to harvest plant resources, fish, and work as domestic laborers and game guides for resorts.

## **Cultural Resource Inventory of Area B for the Lake Forest Erosion Control Project, Placer County, California**

The Washoe have developed a Comprehensive Land Use Plan (Washoe Tribal Council 1994) that includes goals of reestablishing a presence within the Lake Tahoe Basin and re-vitalizing Washoe heritage and cultural knowledge, including the harvest and care of traditional plant resources and the protection of traditional properties within the cultural landscape (Rucks 1996:3). In concert with Washoe goals, the Forest Service, as part of ecosystem management (USDA 1995a, 1995b) and in order to address federal responsibilities to tribal sovereign governments (USDA 1995c), has engendered interest in the identification of anthropogenic landscapes resulting from Washoe land-management practices. Plans include the re-introduction of traditional plant gathering practices by Washoe people and the collection of oral histories relevant to land use, resource use and management, diet, social and economic history, organization and beliefs (Rucks 1996:3). These activities are relevant to the explanation, interpretation, evaluation, and management of archaeological remains in the Lake Tahoe Basin and are critical for modeling the Lake Tahoe ecosystem (e.g., Rucks 1995; Walsh 1995).

### **3.3 History**

The study area stands adjacent to several north shore communities, including Tahoe City, Lake Forest, Dollar Point, Carnelian Bay, Agate Bay, Tahoe Vista, Kings Beach, Brockway, and Crystal Bay. Events surrounding the formation and growth of these settlements have bearing on land use within the study area.

#### **Lake Forest Settlement**

The first settlement of the Lake Forest area came around 1859, when Homer D. Burton laid claim to the lakeside meadowlands of the creek, which now bears his name (Van Etten 1987). Burton named his Island Farm after a small hill exposed during low-water periods on the terminal end of a marshy spit of land (Scott 1973:164). The 1874 von Leicht-Hoffmann map has the word "Island" at this location. Wheeler's 1876 map shows "Island House." Here, Burton developed and cultivated garden vegetables, buckwheat, and timothy hay. Burton's Island Farm could also accommodate upwards of 30 guests. Two of Tahoe's first sailing vessels were placed in service by Burton in 1859-60 (Scott 1957:358). Lake Forest was a refueling stop for lake steamers, and a huge wharf, located near the present Coast Guard pier, was an over-water cache for cordwood. It took about four cords of wood per day to fuel a large steamer, much of it being harvested nearby and skidded to the wharf by teams of horses.

In the 1880s, Burton sold his 300-acre farm to Antone Russi, a dairyman whose name graces the upstream meadows of the Burton Creek drainage, two miles to the northwest. The Antone Meadows/Burton Creek area was one of the main Forest Service grazing allotments in the area (Stone, personal communication in Kraushaar 1992b:12). Russi died in the 1890s, and his widow married dairyman Frank X. Walker, who then took over the farm. Walker located his living quarters, corrals and milk house on the edge of the meadow where Tamarack Lodge was later built and managed the cattle business successfully for two decades (Scott 1957:358). In 1910, after having owned Russi's property for more than a decade, Walker sold a parcel, which included the Burton home, to George Briggs of Sacramento. Matt Green subdivided this acreage, calling it Tahoe Island Park, and later it was resubdivided into Lake Forest by Henry Droste of Tahoe Realty, the first real estate office on the western side of the lake (R.H. Watson, personal communication 3/4/1958, in Scott 1957:358).

The settlement of Lake Forest grew up west of Burton's former lakeshore establishment. It borders on the old dog-leg of SR 28 between the Tahoe City Fish Hatchery and Dollar Hill. It wasn't until the 1930s that Lake Forest supported any larger-scale commercial activity. Seasonal residences grew in number, supplied by the founding of the Snyder Lumber Company in 1939. Several local businesses participated in an advertising campaign in 1946, reflecting the commercial upswing,

## **Cultural Resource Inventory of Area B for the Lake Forest Erosion Control Project, Placer County, California**

which Lake Forest enjoyed in the early postwar years. A post office, which opened in 1947, signaled the sense of permanence for this primarily seasonal community. With the relocation in 1954 of SR 28 to shorten and straighten the Tahoe City approach to Dollar Grade, the horseshoe, now known as Lake Forest Road, was removed as a main thoroughfare.

### **Dollar Point Settlement**

Over the decades, Dollar Point has carried a variety of names: Chinquapin (after the Washoe derivation), Griff's, Old Lousy, Observatory, and Wychwood. The appellation "Old Lousy" has at least two explanations that have bearing on its historic land use. Griffin, a land squatter and cordwood cutter in the area, was nicknamed "Old Lousy," as he allegedly never changed his clothes (Ernest Henry Pomin, Tahoe Park, 5/18/1955 in Scott 1957:496; Scott 1957:351). An alternative derivation comes from the notion that the waters off the promontory were considered "lousy" with trout (Robert H. Watson, Lake Forest, 9/2/1955 in Scott 1957:496). The named "Observatory Point" was coined in 1873 when James Lick, the San Francisco philanthropist, offered to appropriate \$1,000,000 for the construction of a large observatory there. An added incentive in this venture was the boost given by D. L. Bliss and H. M. Yerington of the Carson and Tahoe Lumber and Fluming Company (C&TL&FCo.), who owned a half section of land at "Old Lousy" and generously agreed to donate 140 acres to James Lick if his plans materialized (Scott 1957:351). Upon the death of D. L. Bliss in 1906, the land was turned over to his heirs (Scott 1957:353). In 1915, Mrs. Lora Moore Knight acquired the property and built her first Tahoe home, calling it Wychwood. The "Old Tea House," built by Mrs. Knight in the early 1920s at her famous Vikingsholm Castle at Emerald Bay, was once located on Dollar Point. Moving to Emerald Bay in 1927, she sold the property to Robert Stanley Dollar, Sr. Dollar Point and Dollar Hill are named in his honor. The private water source for the Dollar Estate was located on the hillside, about a mile above their residence, at Dollar Reservoir (Van Etten 1987:122).

### **The Lumber Industry, Recreation, and Community Development**

The C&TL&FCo. may have conducted the earliest and most active logging of the project area. Acquisition of timber tracks around Carnelian Bay and at Dollar Point began at least as early as 1875, with Placer County tax assessments being levied on timber tracks up until 1887. The C&TL&FCo. may have consolidated operations on their somewhat discontinuous land holdings by entering into mutually beneficial business relations with A.W. Pray, who was logging in Sections 10, 28, and 32 (T16N/R17E). The C&TL&FCo. purchased Pray's mill at Glenbrook in 1873. It is possible that these initial business dealings continued as both companies acquired new timber lands around Carnelian Bay and Dollar Point. An "Abstract Deed" between the C&TL&FCo. and the Carnelian Bay Company, dated 1910, documents the transfer of all of Sections 17 and 20 together with the western half of Section 21 (all in T16N/R17E) from the former to the latter. In turn, the Carnelian Bay Company later sold these lands to Crown Zellerbach Paper Company. No doubt, the previously logged pine stands were re-entered to harvest fir as pulpwood for the paper mill at Floriston, farther down the Truckee Canyon. In 1947, these same lands in section 17, 20 and 21 were sold to Fibreboard Corporation.

The Sierra Nevada Wood & Lumber Company (SNW&LCo.), one of the leading competitors, was run by W. S. Hobart. The company cut primarily in the northern and northeastern section of the Tahoe Basin, inland from Crystal and Agate Bays, between 1879 and 1896. Hobart also had lumber holdings in the southeastern basin and in the northern basin as far west as Tahoe City. The project area falls within extensive historic Placer County land holdings of the SNW&LCo. The company also owned considerable land in the general project vicinity (particularly in T17N/R17E and T17N/R18E). Smaller, discontinuous blocks were held in T15N/R16E. The extent to which the SNW&LCo. logged their lands in Placer County is uncertain. Any logging would have been centered around Agate Bay, with little or no logging west of there. Tax records show that

**Cultural Resource Inventory of Area B for the Lake Forest Erosion Control Project,  
Placer County, California**

aggressive land acquisitions were taking place by 1878. However, after 1884, the SNW&LCo. exchanged 5000 acres of their Placer County timber holdings to the Truckee Lumber Company (TLCo.) for 5000 acres of TLCo. timber lands north of Truckee.

For four prosperous decades—between the 1860s and 1890s—settlements followed the pattern dictated by lumbering: Towns mushroomed quickly in virtually every locality where mills began sawing. As the mills "devoured their birthrights," most of the associated towns withered and died and are now only place names on a map. A handful of lumbering centers—Truckee, Incline, Kings Beach, Tahoe City—built a future primarily on tourism; these communities survived and continued to prosper, initiating a trend towards increased urbanization and year-round residency (Wilson 1992:48). Very early on, there were those who sensed the possibilities of the Lake Tahoe region as a pleasure and health resort for tourists. Brewer (1863:444) noted in 1863 that "beautiful as Lake Tahoe is from the south, it is yet more so from the north. . . This end will eventually become the most desirable spot for persons in pursuit of pleasure."

With the legalization of gambling in 1931, gaming became a significant factor in the economic structure of the Tahoe Basin (Van Tassel 1985:15) although the north shore has never been as significant a gaming center as the south shore. Outside Nevada, gambling was found at the Tahoe Inn and Tahoe Tavern in Tahoe City, and the Buckhorn in Kings Beach (Van Tassel 1985:76).

After the 1960 Winter Olympics, an irreversible trend was established with the demand for year-round residency. Thereafter, the ski industry assumed a prominent place, along with gaming, in the economy of the Tahoe Basin.

**4.0 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH**

Susan Lindström coordinated with personnel at the North Central Information Center at California State University, Sacramento, and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit (LTBMU, Davis personal communication 2004) to complete a thorough archaeological records search. A one-mile radius around the project area was searched for previous cultural resource inventories and known archaeological sites. The search identified 12 previous archaeological projects (Table 1) and 7 known archaeological sites (Table 2). Locations of previous projects and known sites in the vicinity are shown in Figure 4.

Table 1. Previous Cultural Resource Projects Within One Mile of the Lake Forest ECP.

<b>Project No.</b>	<b>Author (Date)</b>	<b>Project/Report Name</b>	<b>Relation to Area B</b>
USFS TB-95-4	Dexter (1995)	Urban Lots Management Project	Outside
348	Padon (1987)	A Cultural Resource Assessment for the Proposed Placer County Administration Center, County of Placer	Inside
1615	Miller (1996)	Fairview-Incline Erosion Control Project (ARR No. 05-19-149)	Inside
1616	Ferrier (1994a)	Archeological and Historical Resources Survey and Impact Assessment: A Supplemental Report for a Timber Harvesting Plan	Inside
1617	Ferrier (1994b)	Archeological and Historical Resources Survey and Impact Assessment: A Supplemental Report for a Timber Harvesting Plan	Inside
1919	Jensen & Associates (1996)	Archaeological Inventory Survey, Proposed Recreational Development Project, c.30-acres at Tahoe City, Placer County, California (AP# 093-010-	Inside

ca 1860s 2004

## HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

The proposed project is located in Placer County, which was formed in 1851 from portions of Sutter and Yuba counties (Kyle 1990:257). John C. Frémont viewed Lake Tahoe during an 1844 expedition to California. Thousands more would pass by during the mass immigration of the late 1840s and early 1850s; however, initial Euro-American settlement near the lake did not begin in earnest until the 1860s. Lake Tahoe's "Official Map of 1887" indicates that, although several sizable tracts of land were in private ownership, the Carson and Tahoe Lumber and Fluming Company was the largest holder in the project area.

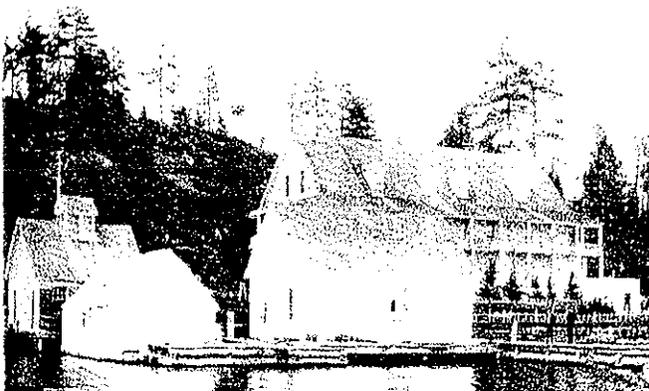
### THE CARSON AND TAHOE LUMBER AND FLUMING COMPANY

Lumbering operations in the Lake Tahoe basin began in response to the demand for wood created by activities at the Comstock mines near Virginia City. In 1873, Duane L. Bliss, H.M. Yerington, D.O. Mills, and J.A. Rigby organized the Carson and Tahoe Lumber and Fluming Company (Carson and Tahoe). From its headquarters in Glenbrook, Nevada, the Carson and Tahoe proceeded to acquire smaller companies, eventually becoming one of the largest lumber enterprises in the vicinity. By 1875, the Carson and Tahoe controlled over 50,000 acres of timberland, operated several sawmills, two Lake Tahoe steam tugs to tow logs, two logging railroads, logging camps employing 500 men, and a planing mill and box factory in Carson City. Within the project area, the Carson and Tahoe owned the land in the vicinity of Watson Creek, including Carnelian Canyon (Official Map of Lake Tahoe, 1887; UNR Web site). By the late 1800s, forests in the Lake Tahoe vicinity had been severely depleted and the mining at the Comstock had slowed. The Carson and Tahoe abandoned their logging operations c. 1896 and officially closed in 1898. During the course of its operation, the Carson and Tahoe had logged 750,000,000 board feet of lumber and 500,000 cords of wood from Tahoe Basin forests. Following its closure, the company proceeded to sell much of their land to private parties (Nevada, State of; UNR Web site).

### EARLY SETTLEMENT

#### *BROCKWAY*

In 1869, two stage and mill owners completed construction of a wagon road from Truckee to the natural hot springs at the location that would become known as



Brockway Hot Springs, 1878. Photo: California State Library (Reprinted in Scott 1957: 323)

Brockway (Scott 1957:319). One of the men, William Campbell, acquired title to 63 acres surrounding the spring and proceeded to construct a bathhouse and several cottages. In the following year, Campbell and his partner, Henry Burke, added a two-story hotel and more cottages to their establishment (Scott 1957:321). During the succeeding three decades, Campbell leased the property to a number of men who were unable to make the hotel and cabins operate at a profit. By 1899, the resort was deteriorating badly. The following year, however, Frank Brockway Anderson, an associate of Elias J. "Lucky" Baldwin, purchased the property and began an aggressive marketing and improvement campaign that had limited success (Scott 1957:327). In 1909, the Alversons filed bankruptcy and the resort was sold at auction to Melville Lawrence and George Lord Mortimer Comstock, the operators of Baldwin's Tallac resort at the south end of the lake (Ibid.). Several managers came and went at the hotel until, in 1914, Lawrence moved to Brockway permanently and took over the day-to-day operations of the resort. Comstock's son, Harry, joined Lawrence shortly thereafter, and together they improved the facilities through the construction of a casino, dining room, swimming pool, and golf course (Scott 1957:329). The Brockway Golf Course remains at the junction of SR 28 and SR 267, although in a somewhat modified form. Maps on file with the Placer County Assessor indicate that "Fairway 18" existed on the south side of SR 28 (Placer County 1926). Although the map is unrecorded, "Fairway 18" was subdivided into at least 12 parcels by 1945, the estimated date of the earliest residence.

### *TAHOE VISTA*

Morris Brooks and Charles Pain, president and secretary-manager of the Tahoe Development Company, purchased 1,110 acres of land at this location from Frank Brockway Alverson in 1910 and proceeded to construct the Tahoe Vista Hotel (Scott 1957:336). The following year, the Tahoe Development Company subdivided a portion of its land into residential parcels, and two years later



Tahoe Vista Casino. Photo: Tevis Paine  
(Reprinted in Scott 1957:336)

constructed a casino at the head of its 200-foot pier (Scott 1957:337). The family-oriented resort was a financial success; however, the sale of a residential parcel to a notorious "madam" from Sacramento had a negative effect on the sale of the residential parcels. The Tahoe Vista Hotel burned during the winter of 1922-23 (Ibid.). Some of the structures associated with the hotel, such as the hotel's restaurant, were later reused for residential and commercial purposes.

### *CARNELIAN BAY*

Carnelian Bay was "named by the Whitney Survey because of the presence of a variety of chalcedony, known as carnelian or Cambay stone" (Gudde 1949:67). In 1871, a Dr. Bourne of

San Francisco and Sacramento opened a “hygienic establishment” at Carnelian Bay, offering “curing, bathing, and fine fishing” (Scott 1957:347). Later renamed the Carnelian Bay Hotel, the resort became a popular destination for lake steamers loaded with day-trippers and fishermen. In 1896, Joseph, Nicholas, and William Flick purchased much of the lakeshore land at Carnelian Bay, including the hotel and surrounding town (Scott 1957:349). The brothers sold their property in 1909-1910 to the Carnelian Bay Improvement Company, which began to subdivide its holding into residential and commercial parcels. The subdivision map filed the previous year by the Carnelian Bay Company also depicts parcels dedicated for a park and hotel (Placer County 1908). A subsequent map shows that the company later subdivided the “hotel reserve” for an inland harbor and park (Placer County 1915). The harbor exists at the southern terminus of Carnelian Woods Avenue.

### TAHOE CITY

Tahoe City is situated at the mouth of the Truckee River, the only outlet for the waters of the lake. Tahoe City, originally known simply as “Tahoe,” was first surveyed in 1863 and functioned primarily as a logging town (Kyle 1990:258). In the following year, M.L. King completed the first hostelry, Tahoe City Hotel, which was touted as the “largest hostelry on the western shore of the lake” with “fifty commodious suites and luxurious apartments, two dining rooms, a dance salon, and bowling alley” (Scott 1957:28, 472). The Central Pacific Railroad completed its line to Truckee in 1868, after which commenced construction of a road to connect the end of the line with the lake (Kyle 1990:258; State of California 1990:148). The same year, William Pomin completed construction of Tahoe House and Bar, a modest establishment offering accommodation and refreshment to tourists (Kyle 1990:258; Scott 1957:25, 472). Regular stage service to Tahoe City facilitated travel to the Lake Tahoe basin, which encouraged the construction of additional hotels and the improvement of those existing.

A. J. Bayley of Pilot Hill, California, purchased King’s Tahoe City Hotel in 1871, changing the name to the Grand Central Hotel and making numerous, large-scale improvements (Scott 1957:29). In addition to offering “unsurpassed luxury” to its visitors, telegraph service reached the hotel from Truckee in 1873 (Scott 1957:31). Bayley vigorously marketed his resort, with a concentrated effort made to attract Bay Area “blue bloods” in the *Tahoe Tattler*,



Grand Central Hotel, 1874. Photo: California State Library (Reprinted Scott 1955:27).

a publication started in 1881 at the hotel (Scott 1957:35-36). The Grand Central was open from May through the 1<sup>st</sup> of October until fire destroyed the structure in the fall of 1895 (Scott 1957:37, 41).

**TAHOE TAVERN AND THE BLISS FAMILY**

In 1863 Duane L. Bliss, president of the Carson and Tahoe Lumber and Flume Company, formed the Lake Tahoe Transportation Company (LTTC), an enterprise created to facilitate tourism at Lake Tahoe that included lake steamers, a rail connection between Truckee and Tahoe City, and a resort hotel (Wheeler 1992:48). Bliss reorganized the LTTC in 1898 as the Lake Tahoe Railway and Transportation Company (LTRTC), distributing all of the stock to his five children and brother-in-law, Walter D. Tobey (Wheeler 1992:53). Duane’s eldest son, William Seth, in his position as vice-president of the LTRTC, surveyed and supervised the construction of a narrow-gauge railroad between Tahoe City and Truckee (Wheeler 1992:53-54). The railway, completed in 1900, was constructed using salvaged materials from the Lake Tahoe Railroad of Glenbrook and the Lake Valley Line of Bijou, and included a one-eighth-mile long trestle pier located slightly south of Tahoe City (Scott 1957:41). From this pier, visitors could step from the rail cars onto one of the company’s several lake steamers.



Tahoe Tavern, 1914. Photo: C.O. Valentine (Reprinted Scott 1955:52)

Two years after complete of the railway, the Bliss family constructed the Tahoe Tavern using a design by Duane’s third son, Walter Danforth Bliss (Scott 1957:51). In the following decades, the family added an annex to the hotel (1906), a Casino (1907), and a south wing at a cost of \$200,000 (1925). The complex was considered the height of Sierra Nevada luxury, with a laundry, steam plant, resident physician, bowling alley, barber’s

shop, ballroom with stage, swimming pool, tennis courts, shops, and boating and motoring facilities (Scott 1957:51). In the 1920s, the family sold Tahoe Tavern to the Linnard Hotel interests in partnership with a group of San Francisco capitalists (Wheeler 1992:45). The resort survived until the mid-1960s, when Tahoe Tavern and its outbuildings were demolished and the site developed for condominiums.



Tahoe Tavern Casino, c. 1920. Postcard: Special Collections Department, University of Nevada, Reno

The Bliss ventures were truly family-run. William Seth Bliss, Duane's eldest son, worked at his father's right hand in most situations. The second son, Charles Tobey Bliss, a former employee of Hobart Mills north of Truckee, assumed management of the Tahoe Tavern in 1910 (Wheeler 1992:146). During his tenure at the Tavern, C.T. Bliss lived in a large, Shingle style home in Tahoe City that was designed by the third son, Walter Danforth Bliss. After the family sold the resort, C.T. retired to Piedmont, California (Scott 1957:45; Wheeler 1992:103). Walter Bliss made his mark in the Tahoe basin through the design of numerous residences and hotels for both family members and private clients. Walter graduated from MIT with a degree in architecture, after which he completed an internship with the prestigious firm of McKim, Mead, and White in New York City (Wheeler 1992:54-55). In 1898, Walter formed a San Francisco-based partnership with his college roommate, William B. Faville, who had also trained with McKim, Mead, and White. Bliss and Faville "eventually became highly respected architects, responsible for many well-known Bay Area buildings: the St. Francis Hotel, the Bank of California, the Hotel Oakland, the Children's Hospital, the Geary Theater, the Southern Pacific Building, the Balboa Building, and various buildings at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition" (Wheeler 1992:55). In 1901, Walter designed the Tahoe Tavern to suite its rugged surroundings (Ibid.). The house he designed for his brother, Charles, in Tahoe City further demonstrates his ability to design a structure compatible with its intended environment. Walter also designed the Glenbrook Inn on the eastern side of the lake (1907) and the Hellman-Ehrman Mansion now located in Sugar Pine Point State Park (1901-1903). Walter Bliss had a long-lived career, finally retiring from practice in 1951 (Architect and Engineer 1951:26).

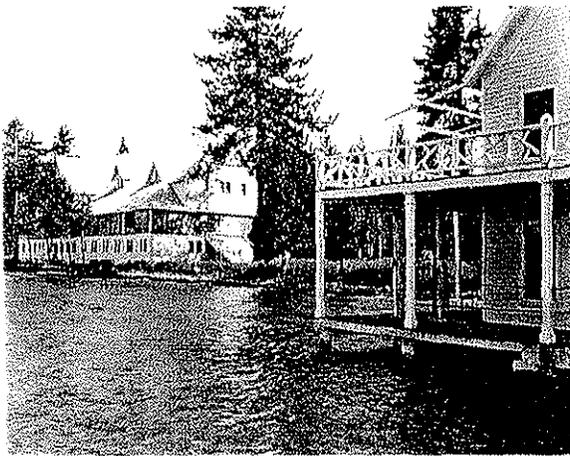
The Bliss family remained actively involved in business on the eastern side of Lake Tahoe, but by 1925 had sold most if its interests on the western side (Scott 1957:45). In 1929, the family donated 744-acres of land north of Emerald Bay to the State of California. This property, which Duane considered too beautiful to log, became D.L. Bliss State Park (Wheeler 1992:37).

### OTHER BUILDINGS FROM TAHOE'S "GOLDEN AGE"

During the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, the Lake Tahoe basin became a retreat for San Francisco and Sacramento area residents. Early accommodations were rather rough, usually taking the form of fishing or hunting camps, some of which offered nothing more than canvas tents for shelter. As the logging industry petered out, enterprising hoteliers moved in to the region and began advertising the attractions of the lake. Hot springs resorts abounded at the turn of the century, as did "luxury" hotels that competed for trade by making never-ending improvements to their facilities. Those individuals who had the resources constructed private vacation homes, some of which were quite grand by the day's standards.

John McKinney was one of the first men to offer accommodations at the lake when he established Hunter’s Retreat (a.k.a. “McKinney’s”) north of Sugar Pine Point in 1863. By 1869, the retreat had 20 cabins and tents. In the following years, McKinney added a boathouse (1874), five cottages (1880), and a dance pavilion (1889) (Scott 1957:82-87). In 1920, the former proprietor of Brockway Hot Springs, David Henry Chambers, purchased the compound and renamed it “Chambers’ Lodge” (Scott 1957:89).

In c. 1875, Empraim “Yank” Clement constructed a small settlement at the south end of the lake, consisting of a two-story hotel, cabins and tents, store, livery, barns, and a saloon (Scott 1957:151). After “Lucky” Baldwin purchased the property in 1880, he constructed a new, two



Tallac House and Casino, 1916. Photo: Special Collections Department, University of Nevada, Reno

and one-half-story hotel (1898-99) to the east of “Yanks” and renamed the improved resort “Tallac House.” With accommodations for up to 250 guests, a three and one-half-story Casino added 1901, a vegetable garden, 200 dairy cows, 45 riding horses, 3 barns, and a stable, Tallac House set the standard for plush accommodations at the lake (Scott 1957:152, 156, 159, 161). Although fire destroyed the old hotel in 1914, the resort continued to operate into the 1920s. Baldwin’s daughter commissioned the demolition of the remaining buildings c. 1927 (Scott 1957:165).

Private estates were not as numerous at the lake as hotels and hot springs resorts; however, many wealthy Sacramento and San Francisco residents constructed vacation “cabins” along its shores. Isaias William Hellman, “a prominent Pacific Coast capitalist,” commissioned a design by Walter Danforth Bliss “who had just completed plans for the Tahoe Tavern,” for a luxurious residence on his 1,016 acres on Sugar Pine Point (Scott 1957:107). Completed in 1903, the Hellman property comprised the three-story residence, “servants’ quarters, tennis court, boathouses, and water tower,” a private dairy, vegetable and flower gardens and was considered “the finest High Sierra summer home in California” (Scott 1957:107). In 1965, Sydney and Florence Hellman Ehrman sold the property to the State of California. The mansion is now open to the public in Sugar Pine Point State Park (California State Parks website). Another San



Hellman-Ehrman Mansion. Photo: Tahoe Country Web site, 2003.

Francisco-based businessman, Frederick Kohl, constructed a large, two-story vacation house in 1905 adjacent to "Idlewild," the former Edwin B. Crocker house. In her time, Mrs. Crocker was the social matriarch during summers at the lake (Scott 1957:63-65).

Arguably the best-known private residence at the lake, Vikingsholm is a Scandinavian style home constructed in 1929 by Mrs. Lora Josephine Moore Knight at Emerald Bay (Scott 1957:133). Mrs. Knight constructed the residence at the site of the old Emerald Bay Resort, a complex of a hotel, cottages, tents, and a landing begun in 1884 by Dr. & Mrs. Paul T. Kirby of Carson City (Scott 1957:127). Mrs. Knight purchased the property, which included Fannette Island, in 1928 for \$250,000 (California State Parks website; Scott 1957:131). The State of California purchased the property in 1953, eight years after Mrs. Knight's death (Scott 1957:131, 135). Vikingsholm is now located within Emerald Bay State Park and is open for tours during the summer.

The Great Depression had its effects on Lake Tahoe resort hotels and private estates alike. Further, the outdoor recreation movement, the growing popularity of the automobile and the changing needs of the traveling public made the large hotels obsolete. In order to accommodate this new generation of tourists, Tahoe property owners began constructing auto camps, such as Camp Richardson on the south shore, using building materials and styles that would blend with the natural surroundings (Roland 2001:3). The advent of legalized gambling in Nevada in 1931 attracted yet another type of clientele to the Tahoe basin. During this period, the region experienced an increase in the construction of modest cottages constructed by middle class vacationers. As with the auto camps, the vacation cottages of the inter-war years typically reflect a rustic vernacular design tradition commonly used around the lake. The U.S. Forest Service helped to encourage the tradition by stipulating the use of local natural materials in buildings constructed within their summer home tracts (Roland 2001:4). Residences built during this time were typically one or one and one-half story, wood frame structures with wood siding, including "log cabin" siding, with fieldstone chimneys and, less commonly, fieldstone wainscots. The project area contains six residences designed in this tradition.

Deferred maintenance at the old resorts took its toll on some of the structures, and others were demolished as their owners sold their estates either to developers or public entities such as the United States Forest Service (Goodwin 1971:16). Most of the "golden age" hotels and residences that remained by the mid-1940s, however, stood little chance of surviving post-war development in the Lake Tahoe basin.

## POST-WORLD WAR II DEVELOPMENT

Enhancements made to U.S. 50 during the 1920s and 1930s, which improved accessibility to the southern end of the lake, and the construction of large casinos across the Nevada state line combined to facilitate construction of the neon-signed strip of motels, restaurants, and wedding chapels now found in South Lake Tahoe. Access to the northern end of the lake, however, was more difficult and served to inhibit development. Nevertheless, tourists arrived in their automobiles, and motor courts sprang up to accommodate them. By 1956, more than 300 motels existed in the Lake Tahoe basin (Kostura 1998:3). One such property exists in the project area at the eastern end of Kings Beach (Map Reference #16). Although it has been drastically modified over the years, the small cabins placed in a U-shaped configuration are typical of the property type.

The VIII Olympic Winter Games held in Squaw Valley in 1960 affected the project area in two ways. First, the Department of Transportation engaged in a large-scale effort to upgrade the existing highway to the northern end of the lake. Secondly, the Olympic games served to draw more visitors and attention to Lake Tahoe, after which construction in the area increased (Kyle 1990:258). The new generation of visitor came with a different set of expectations and interests. Further, the old property owners were not able to compete with modern facilities and skyrocketing property values.

As Sessions Wheeler notes in his book, *Tahoe Heritage: The Bliss Family of Glenbrook, Nevada*,

Gradually, old-time summer resorts on Lake Tahoe were closing – the Tahoe Tavern in 1964 and Brockway in 1967. The reasons varied. Real estate developers converged on the lake in the 1960s, with no practical building or planning restrictions, condominiums were built and sold by the hundreds. Motels, heretofore a rarity, sprang up along with many restaurants and dinner houses. Most, if not all, of the old Tahoe summer resorts operated on the American plan, the daily rate including three meals. With increasing opportunities for visitors to take some meals elsewhere, the American plan was gradually losing its appeal.

Perhaps the single most important factor in the loss of the old resorts was the increase in property values caused by development. Most resorts were not “winterized” and depended on a short summer season to make ends meet—which became increasingly impossible (Wheeler 1992:133).

Evidence of the large-scale impact of development that continues to the present day is obvious to anyone traveling along State Route 28. Although it is a long way from the “neon jungle” of South Lake Tahoe, small vacation cottages are becoming the exception rather than the norm. The heirs of family properties are often taxed out of the market, or wish to maximize the use of their land through new construction. Currently, large condominium complexes jostle with multi-

million-dollar residences on their lakeshore parcels. Planned developments now constructed for year-round residents are virtually identical to those found in other suburban environments. Fortunately, public lands and a few surviving structures allow us an impression of earlier days at northern Lake Tahoe.

## FIELD METHODS

Gail St. John, Caltrans District 3 architectural historian, conducted a windshield survey of the proposed project's Area of Potential Effects (APE) in April 2003 (Map 3). During the pedestrian survey conducted during the Summer and Fall of 2003, Ms. St. John took field notes and photographs of properties constructed prior to 1957 in order to complete a formal evaluation using State of California Historical Resource Inventory forms, DPR 523 series (Appendix A).

## DESCRIPTION OF CULTURAL RESOURCES

### THE C.T. BLISS/C.W. MERRILL HOUSE, 2000 N. LAKE BOULEVARD, MAP REFERENCE #1

The two-story residence at 2000 N. Lake Boulevard was constructed c. 1910 in the Shingle style. The building has an 'L'-shaped plan and a shingle-clad gambrel roof with numerous shed dormers containing eight-over-one, double hung, wood sash windows. Fenestration on the lower level consists of double hung, wood sash units with various configurations and sizes. The east-facing elevation contains three 18-light French doors with three-light transoms, and the south-facing façade of the projecting bay contains multi-light, wood sash windows and doors. A picture window with a 16-light transom and flanking glazed doors with eight-light transoms appears on the eastern façade of the projecting bay. The resource is located on a large, wooded parcel overlooking the lake.

### 3800 N. LAKE BOULEVARD, MAP REFERENCE #2

The 1956 residence at 3800 N. Lake Boulevard is a one-story, Ranch style building with a wood shake, hipped roof, lap siding, and one-over-one, double hung, wood sash windows with decorative shutters. The resource is located in a residential area of Carnelian Bay and is in good condition.



The NCIC records search identified a 27 previous cultural resource studies completed within ½ mile of the Project area (see Table 1). The 27 surveys included 10 studies completed within or intersecting the project area (Jackson, 1977; Munns, 1997; Peak & Associates, 1985, 1987, and 2007; Mead and Hunt, 2007; EDAW, 2007; URS, 2008; and USACOE, 2010).

<b>Previous Investigations done within ½ mile of the project area</b>		
<b>CCIC Report #</b>	<b>Author (Date), Title</b>	<b>Within/Adjacent to Project Area (Y/N)</b>
348	LSA (1987), A Cultural Resources Assessment Proposed Placer County Administration Center, Count of Placer.	Yes
1013	Greg Kostick (1993), Archaeological and Historical Resources Survey and Impact Assessment for Lowell Hill.	No
1901	Susan Lindstrom (1997), Fulton Water Company Cedar Flat Well and Distribution System Heritage Resource Inventory, Placer County.	No
1920	Caltrans (1991), Negative Archaeological Survey Report: State Route 28 at Dollar Grade.	No
1979	William Banka (1998) Confidential Archaeological Addendum For Timber Operations on Non-Federal Lands in California.	No
4380	Susan Lindstrom (1989) A Cultural Resources Overview for the Tahoe City Community Plan, Placer County California.	Yes
4389	Caltrans (1991) Archaeological Inventory Surveys of Tahoe State Recreation Area.	Yes
4381	Susan Lindstrom (1986), A Cultural Resources Reconnaissance of the North Shore Transit Maintenance Facility Environmental Impact Report.	No
7216	S. Dexter (1994) Urban Fringe Management Heritage Resource Report.	No
7313	Stephen Windward (2005) An Archaeological Survey Report for the Highlands Village Conversion Timber Harvesting Plan, Placer County, California.	No
7418	Geotrans, Inc (2002) Proposed Cedar Flat Project.	No
7420	USFS (1997), Basalt Quarrying on Watson Creek: An Archaeological and Ethnographic Study in the Northern Lake Tahoe Basin.	No
7582	Herschel Davis (1994), Cultural Reconnaissance Report OHV Road and Spur Improvements and Obliteration: Placer and El Dorado Counties, California.	No
7725	John Furry (2006), Archaeological/Historical Property Survey of the Chinquapin Property.	No
7791	USFS (2006), North Short Trail ATM Environmental Assessment.	No
8072	Caltrans (2004), Historic Property Survey Report For the Proposed Roadway Rehabilitation and Drainage System Project on State Route 28 From Tahoe City to the Nevada State Line, Placer County, California.	Yes
9326	Caltrans (2008), Cultural Resources Inventory of Caltrans District 3Rural Conventional Highways in Butte, Colusa, El Dorado, Glenn, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, Sierra, Sutter, Yolo and Yuba Counties.	Yes
9506	Susan Lindstrom (9506) Highlands Forest Clearing Project Heritage Resources Inventory, Placer County, California	No
9606	USFS (2003), Proposed Mechanical Treatment of North Shore Units 13-3 and 13-4. LTBMU, Placer County, California.	Yes
9654	USFS (1996), North Shore Ecosystems Project Heritage Resources Inventory.	No
10005	Chambers Group, Inc (2007), Cultural Resources Inventory of Area B for the Lake Forest Erosion Control Project, Placer County, California.	No
10138	USFS (2007), An Archaeological Survey Report for the Dollar Point Fuel Reduction 2007, Placer County, California.	Yes
10139	USFS (2007), An Archaeological Survey Report for the Dollar Point Fuel Reduction 2009 Forest Fire Prevention Exemption, Placer County, California.	No

10141	John Furry (2009) Archaeological/historical Survey for the Beverly Road Fire Reduction Project located near Tahoe City, California.	No
10148	John Furry (2009) Archaeological/historical Survey for the Collins Project Area Near Tahoe City, Placer County, California	No

The NCIC records search revealed that 13 historic and prehistoric resources have been recorded within or adjacent to the project area. Of the 13 identified resources two were located within the project alignment and two were located adjacent to the proposed pipeline alignment. Table 2 lists previously recorded cultural resources within ½ mile buffer of the APE.

<b>TABLE 2 RECORDED HISTORIC STRUCTURES WITHIN OR IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO THE PROJECT AREA</b>		
<b>Primary Number (Trinomial)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Within or Adjacent Project Area (y/n)</b>
P-31-1132 (CA-PLA-943)	Basalt Cobble Quarry, cobble core reduction and biface reduction assemblage	No
P-31-1299 (CA-PLA-1005H)	Firestone Can Dump	Yes
P-31-1300	Isolated Pipe Fragments	Yes
P-31-1301 (CA-PLA-1006H)	Dollar Dam and ice house	Yes
P-31-1302 (CA-PLA-1007H)	Lithic Scatter and Trash Dump	No
P-31-2008 (CA-PLA-1518H)	Creek Road Grade	No
P-31-2768 (CA-PLA-1934)	Basalt Biface Reduction Site	No
P-31-2771 (CA-PLA-1937)	Basalt Cobble Quarry	No
P-31-2772 (CA-PLA-1938)	Basalt Cobble Core Reduction	No
P-31-2773 (CA-PLA-1939)	Basalt Cobble Quarry	No
P-31-2774 (CA-PLA-1940)	Basalt Cobble Quarry	No
P-31-2775 (CA-PLA-1941)	Basalt Cobble Quarry	No
P-31-2776 (CA-PLA-1942)	Lithic scatter	No
P-31-2777 (CA-PLA-1943)	Basalt Cobble Quarry	No
P-31-3351 (CA-PLA-2237)	Basalt Flake projectile point	No
P-31-3394	FS Road 16N74	No
P-31-3406	Basalt Flake Isolate	No
P-31-3407	Basalt Flake Isolate	No
P-31-5355	Truro Trail	No
P-31-5356	Lanza Dump	No
P-31-5357	Dollar Water Line	No
Source: NCIC, 2011		

October 17, 2011

North Tahoe Historical Society  
PO Box 6141  
Tahoe City, CA 96145

**Subject: North Tahoe Bike Trail Project**

To Whom It May Concern:

ESA is conducting environmental studies for the North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project, Tahoe City, Placer County. The project is located on the Kings Beach USGS 7.5' Quad ; T/R: New Helvetia Land Grant (See attached map). The project would include the construction of an approximately 3 mile bike trail between Dollar Point and North Tahoe Regional Park.

In an effort to address any potential impact to historic or architectural resources, we are seeking comments from informed organizations and individuals. We would appreciate your comments identifying any concerns or issues pertinent to this project.

Sincerely,

Katherine Anderson  
Cultural Resources Associate  
[attachment]



2600 Capitol Ave  
Suite 200  
Sacramento, CA 95816  
916.564.4500 phone  
916.564.4501 fax

[www.esassoc.com](http://www.esassoc.com)

October 17, 2011

Placer County Historical Society  
P.O. Box 5643  
Auburn, California 95604

**Subject: North Tahoe Bike Trail Project**

To Whom It May Concern:

ESA is conducting environmental studies for the North Lake Tahoe Bike Trail Project, Tahoe City, Placer County. The project is located on the Kings Beach USGS 7.5' Quad ; T/R: New Helvetia Land Grant (See attached map). The project would include the construction of an approximately 3 mile bike trail between Dollar Point and North Tahoe Regional Park.

In an effort to address any potential impact to historic or architectural resources, we are seeking comments from informed organizations and individuals. We would appreciate your comments identifying any concerns or issues pertinent to this project.

Sincerely,

Katherine Anderson  
Cultural Resources Associate  
[attachment]

