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Fresno, California
This issue of the *Proceedings*, my last as editor, is dedicated to Ruth “Dee” Simpson, who left us this year. Dee was a colleague, one who paved the way for women in my chosen profession, a fellow lover of felines in need, and a friend. Dee devoted her life to archaeology, and if she could have changed anything about her life she’d have wanted more time to do more archaeology. Dee was also possessed of a truly great spirit. She lived at the center of a whirlwind, the fluctuating debate and criticism over the Calico Early Man Site. It swirled around her for years, sometimes difficult and sometimes probably painful. You’d never have known she was at the center of a whirlwind by her demeanor. She decided what path she would walk and walked it with a quiet, calm, gentle determination and strength that fills me with admiration and envy. I can imagine this same demeanor seeing her through other challenges, when she was one of the first women to enter the profession of archaeology. Having known Dee for years as a colleague and a friend, I know her now as a role model. I hope I can be more like Dee.
FORWARD

This issue marks my fifth and final year as Editor of the Proceedings. I leave it with mixed feelings. It's a lot of work and I look forward with some relief to not having to do it again. Nevertheless, it has been an interesting and challenging experience and one that I am glad I accepted. I feel a sense of accomplishment at having made a contribution, however small, to the Society for California Archaeology and to the discipline. I have enjoyed working with the many authors who contributed papers to the Proceedings. I thank them all, commend their dedication, and deeply appreciate their understanding and assistance over the last five years. To Greg Greenway and Kevin McCormick, my editorial committee, goes my deepest gratitude. Without them the Proceedings could not have happened. Greg, who shared the task of reading and editing each paper, proved the adage that two heads are better than one. Kevin took the individual papers and formatted them into a final document, a task that would have defeated me. Both contributed long hours and high standard of professionalism. Greg is moving into politics and running for SCA office; Kevin is going to work toward publishing the last five years of Proceedings onto the internet for greater access to the professional community. I wish them both success in their endeavors and know that the SCA will be better for their efforts. Special thanks go to Russ, who encouraged me to take up the task of editing the Proceedings and supported me in many ways (like delivering meals to me at my computer) throughout the five years. Finally, I thank all the members of the SCA who support the organization and the Proceedings. Without all of you there would be nothing.

JUDYTH REED
Editor
CONTENTS

Plenary Session

Treasure or "Tyranny"? The Use of Ethnography in California Archaeology

THE UNIQUENESS OF CALIFORNIA'S ETHNOHISTORIC RECORD
John Johnson ................................................................. 1

REMODELING CALIFORNIA PREHISTORY: NOTES ON THE CHANGING ROLES OF ETHNOHISTORY IN ARCHAEOLOGY
L. Mark Raab .............................................................. 11

Symposium 3: Coaster Lost: Underwater Archaeological Investigations at the Site of the S.S. Pomona, Ft. Ross Cove

DEVIL-FISH TO ARCHAEOLOGY: AN OVERVIEW OF DIVING AND RESEARCH AT THE SITE OF THE S.S. POMONA
John W. Foster ............................................................. 27

THE S.S. POMONA, A WEST COAST INNOVATION
Brent Rudmann ............................................................. 31

THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE STEAM SHIP POMONA: THE 1998 UNDERWATER SURVEY
Marianne Simoulin ....................................................... 38

COMPARISON, ANALYSIS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR STEAM SHIP POMONA ESTABLISHMENT AS AN UNDERWATER HISTORIC SHIPWRECK PARK
Charles D. Beeker ...................................................... 44

Symposium 4: The Gold Rush and Beyond, a Symposium on the California Gold Rush

"BURY MY BONES IN CALIFORNIA;" HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY OF YEE AH TYE
Lani Ah Tye Farkas and Adrian Praetzellis .......................... 49

HISTORIC MINING DITCHES OF EL DORADO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
Jean E. Starns .............................................................. 54

CHASING YOUR TAILINGS: A REVIEW OF PLACER MINING TECHNOLOGY
Susan Lindstrom, John Wells, and Norman Wilson ................. 59
Symposium 5: California State Park Archaeology

THE SCIENCE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE RESPONSE FROM WITHIN NATIVE CALIFORNIA: THE ARCHAEOLOGY AND ETHNOHISTORY OF ME?TINI VILLAGE IN THE FORT ROSS STATE HISTORIC PARK
Otis Parrish, Dan Murley, Roberta Jewett, and Kent Lightfoot.................................84

LINKING PASTS AND PARKS: ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE PETALUMA ADOBE STATE HISTORIC PARK
Stephen Silliman...........................................................................................................88

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE VASILI KHLEBNIKOV RANCH
Mark D. Selverston.................................................................................................96

ARCHITECTURE AS MATERIAL CULTURE: A SURVEY OF RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL STRUCTURES IN A WESTERN GHOST TOWN
Peter D. Schulz and Andrea Sue Morrison.........................................................103

FUEL FOR THE FIRE: CHARCOAL MAKING IN SONOMA COUNTY: AN OVERVIEW OF THE ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY OF A LOCAL INDUSTRY
J. Charles Whatford...............................................................................................112

RECONCILING RECREATION AND HERITAGE IN THE CULTURAL LANDSCAPES OF ANNADEL STATE PARK
Annita Waghom.........................................................................................................121

THE CHINESE BUNKHOUSE IN MILLER GULCH: PRELIMINARY RESULTS FROM THE EXCAVATION OF AN OVERSEAS CHINESE SITE AT A SONOMA COAST SAWMILL
Robert G. Douglass.................................................................................................126

FROM 19TH CENTURY VICTORIAN TO THE CHOSEN FAMILY COMMUNE: A STUDY OF THE BURDELL TWO- STORY FRAME HOUSE AT RANCHO OLOMPALI
Glenn J. Farris...........................................................................................................136


GEOARCHAEOLOGY AT THE ARCO BURIAL SITE, CARSON, CALIFORNIA
Diane F. Bonner........................................................................................................142

HUMAN BURIALS
Wayne H. Bonner.....................................................................................................154
ARCOfacts: Interpreting a Late Transitional Burial Assemblage
at the ARCO Site, Carson, CA.
Glennda Gene Luhnow ................................................................. 162

Protohistoric Burial Practices of the Gabrielino as Evidenced by the
Comparison of Funerary Objects from Three Southern California Sites
Sara Frazier .................................................................................. 169

The ARCO Bead Assemblage: A Glimpse at Exchange in Relation to
Environmental Variability
Juliet Christy ................................................................................ 177

Vertebrate Fauna Remains
Wayne H. Bonner ...................................................................... 182

General Session 1: Holocene Coastal Adaptations in the Santa Barbara Region
and Greater Pacific

Fishing Practices of Early Holocene Coastal California: Preliminary
Evidence from Daisy Cave (CA-SMI-261)
Torben C. Rick and Jon M. Erlandson .............................................. 194

Cultural Transformations During the Pleistocene-Holocene
Transition in the Russian Far East.
Dr. Nina Kononenko and Jim Cassidy ............................................. 202

General Session 6: Methodological Issues in Field, Laboratory,
and Archival Research

Digging in Desert Dune Fields: Methodological Considerations
James Brock and Brenda D. Smith .................................................. 211

General Session 8: Historical Archaeology

Prohibition and Patron-Client Relations: Old World Strategies
in a New World Environment
Michael David Newland ............................................................... 217

"What We Didn't Understand...": Chinese-American Death Ritual
in 19th-Century California
Wendy L. Rouse .......................................................................... 226
General Session 9:  Artifact Representation, Function, and Chronology

CHARMSTONES: A SUMMARY OF THE ETHNOGRAPHIC RECORD
John Sharp...............................................................................................233

MODIFIED LITHIC SPECIMENS FROM LOWER MEMBER B OF THE MANIX 
TYPE SECTION, CENTRAL MOJAVE DESERT, CALIFORNIA
Fred E. Budinger, Jr.................................................................................244

Forum 2:  California's Indian Heritage into the 21st Century:
Walking the Road to Collaboration

``GETTING RID OF THE BULL AND GETTING DOWN TO BUSINESS" OR 
``IT WAS JUST THE OTHER DAY"
Russell L. Kaldenberg.............................................................................255

Paper Contributed From the 1996 Annual Meeting

RECOGNITION OF CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE AT RED ROCK CANYON, 
KERN COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
Mark R. Faull..........................................................................................259

Paper Contributed From the 1995 Annual Meeting

AJUMAWI FISH TRAPS: HARVESTING AND MANAGING SUCKERS 
IN THE SPRINGS OF THE PIT RIVER DRAINAGE
John W. Foster........................................................................................266