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The Proceedings was established by the Society for California Archaeology in 1988 to promote public dissemination of recent archaeological investigations in California. The Proceedings provide a publication outlet for the papers presented at the SCA Annual Meetings. All papers presented at the Annual Meeting are eligible for publication. The Proceedings are published annually, thus ensuring prompt publication and dissemination of research results and commentary relating to California archaeology. Individual papers are published as received, without formal peer review, except as required by the Proceedings editors to ensure conformance with the established style requirements.

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Nearly 20 years have passed since the Ridge Project conducted for the first time. A preserved house floor associated with a structure was dated through obsidian hydration dating. Recently an AMS radiocarbon date determined the Early Borax Lake Pattern dates to about 2000 cal. B.C. This provides a chronology of this early pattern in the High Sierra and the Wasit Sierra.

In August of 1982 a collection of young archaeologists began an ambitious data-recovery program for a time capsule that was to be opened in the Six Rivers National Forest. The endeavor was named the Pilot Archaeological Project. Lead by a team of archaeologists, the project entailed the excavation of 10 sites along a ridge spine that included Pilot, Whiting, Chance, and South Fork ridges. The sites ranged in elevation from 1,830 to over 3,000 meters, and most were located within the rather dense montane forest that separated the sites. Even so, the crew of 17 managed to excavate over 325 cubic meters of soil in 11 weeks.

Of the 10 sites excavated that year, more important than HUM-5 was HUM-7, located within one kilometer of Pilot Ridge. This site, at an elevation of about 1,370 meters, offered spectacular views to the north, south, east, and west. Situated within a mixed-deciduous forest, it covered approximately 120,000 square meters of the south end of Pilot Ridge. Over 30 cubic meters of deposits were removed from the site, providing a glimpse into the lives of the ancient people who lived there. The excavations revealed a rich assemblage of artifacts, including tools, baskets, and food remains, providing a window into the prehistoric world.