

From: Richard Schwartz
To: [Allen, Shannon](#); [Zoning Adjustments Board \(ZAB\)](#); [Berkeley Mayor's Office](#); [Crane, Fatema](#); [Maio, Linda](#); [Davila, Cheryl](#); [Hahn, Sophie](#); [Wengraf, Susan](#); [Worthington, Kriss](#); [Droste, Lori](#)
Subject: Records of 100s of Native American burials at the West Berkeley Shellmound
Date: Saturday, January 28, 2017 7:55:02 AM
Attachments: [RichardSchwartzAla-307BerkeleySites012617FINAL.docx](#)

Dear Mayor, City Council members, Zoning Adjustment Board members, Landmark Commissioners, Shannon Allen, and others;

Please see attachment.

I am respectfully submitting to you the records of all the Native American burials and cultural remains (estimated to be over 400) within and surrounding the West Berkeley Shellmound site (Ala-307) that I have discovered in historic data (mostly old newspapers from 1876- the 1980s) and that are recorded with the state historic/archeological archive (CHRIS, NW Info Center) within the site records of Ala-307, the West Berkeley Shellmound Site.

With these records you can evaluate firsthand the reality of the scope of cultural resources in that area and compare the significance of that site recorded in this attached document to the DEIR and 1900 Fourth project evaluations of Ala-307, the West Berkeley Shellmound Site and the proposed project of 1900 Fourth St., which sits within the larger Ala-307 site.

Please also consider this a submission to the public comments to the DEIR for the 1900 Fourth St. proposed project as well. I will be submitting further public comments before February 9, 2017, but I believe getting you this record, spanning over 140 years, is essential to your task of evaluating the significance and resources that the 1900 Fourth site has or may have. Thank you for allowing me this chance to contribute to the city-wide responsibility of evaluating these resources and DEIR report.

Please forward this email to Councilman Ben Bartlett as I could not locate his email on his city webpage. Thank you all very much.

Respectfully,

Richard Schwartz, Historian
Berkeley, CA

Richard Schwartz Recorded Sites/Historical Data (on file at C.H.R.I.S. and personally handed over to Archeo-Tech at the beginning of their 2014 dig at 1900 Fourth St.) within and around Ala-307

[NOTE: I have given only generalized locations for this public report. The detailed reports and actual articles are on file at CHRIS, NW Info Center, Sonoma State University within the site records for Ala-307.]

1. A French scientist, A. Pinart, comes to Berkeley and joins an excavation of the "mound at Strawberry Creek." It continues, "on making an excavation he found 300 skeletons, and quite a variety of stone implements." The article notes mortars, pestles, arrow-heads and traces of fire, below human remains. Some found near top of mound and were believed to be "the most recent interments." They found many skulls to be "in a good state of preservation." (*Oakland Evening Tribune*, 1876)

2. A follow-up study from the accounts of this newspaper article was done by Richard Schwartz at the Bancroft Library, UC Berkeley, where Pinart's field notes were found. Pinart states that the work of "removing part of the mound is in order to improve the condition of the streets of Berkeley." Mussels the most common shell found. Shells are more deteriorated the deeper one went into the mound. He notes "a considerable number of bodies appear to have been buried... Found skeletal remains of a child near summit. Close to the head were some things of stone, a spearhead and two arrowheads. Other burials had "numerous ornaments of abalone." There appears to be some kind of fabric or skin in which a child was buried, red paint was placed next to him. To the left of the child was what Pinart thought was an adult female with some shells around the neck thought to have been a necklace. Pinart took ("collected") some pieces of her skull and the some shells of the necklace and abalone ornaments- all shells were pierced as if in a necklace. A pestle was placed next to her. Pinart mentions how students or Berkeley people "borrowed" several pestles and mortars. He notes further skeletons, "all incomplete and in bad condition. "It appears fire had been made there [untranslated work or section] because underneath each skeleton we found the remains of firepits, the ashes being [untranslated word or section]. Page 6 was too illegible to translate accurately but maybe some else can attempt that task. [RS sent info to CHRIS]

3. About six years after Pinart's field notes were found, Richard Schwartz found and contacted the museum in France where some of human remains and artifacts Pinart removed from the West Berkeley Shellmound were sent about 150 years ago. The museum confirmed they still curated human remains and artifacts Pinart took from the West Berkeley Shellmound in 1875 or 1876. Schwartz received museum records of the collections of Pinart, which confirmed his previous finds about Pinart and West Berkeley.

4. In the 1870s, human remains (almost intact skeletal remains) were found "in the shellmound at West Berkeley" along with shell "money," mortars and pestles, and other stone implements which they had no idea of what their purpose might be. The men digging were connected with the University Museum and the remains and artifacts were taken to that museum. (*Oakland Tribune*, 1877)

5. A stone mortar approximately three feet in diameter was excavated from the shellmound "near West Berkeley" and donated to the University at Berkeley. (*Berkeley Advocate*, 1877)

6. It is reported that some of the "new made streets of West Berkeley" were "covered with the shell mound deposit which the rain has the effect of hardening almost like a cement." (*Berkeley Advocate*, 1877)

7. In 1878, an article states that between 2-3d Streets on Bristol (now called Hearst St.) the street was in "very dangerous condition caused by injudicious shell mound digging." It mentions a local business owner fenced in the dangerous portion and left the future sidewalk section open for travel. (*Berkeley Advocate* 1878)

[SCHWARTZ NOTES: THIS DOCUMENTS THAT THE SHELLMOUND WAS ORIGINALLY COVERING HEARST ST. THE ARTICLE DID NOT STATE WITH ANY MORE DETAIL WHERE ON NORTH SIDE OF HEARST ST (THEN CALLED BRISTOL) THE MOUND TERMINATED OR IF THEY EVEN KNEW AS IT MIGHT HAVE SLOPED INTO THE GRADE AND CONTINUED NORTH. ONE WOULD LOGICALLY CONCLUDE THAT A SHELLMOUND WOULD BE SHAPED LIKE AN UPSIDE-DOWN CONE AND END IN A THIN INDETERMINATE LAYER AND THAT THERE WOULD MOST LIKELY, ALMOST INEVITABLY, CONTINUE UNDER THE MODERN SOIL LEVELS BEYOND THE DISTANCE SEEN ON THE SURFACE AT THE TIME.]

8. It was reported that Bristol Street (now Hearst) was damaged by the hauling of bricks for the Mechanics Art College and was just repaired with "shell mound" which the rains would turn solid. (*Berkeley Advocate*, 1879)

9. It was stated that there was "abundance of materials not surpassed by any for road making in the State" in Berkeley and vicinity. They state, "In the western portion of the town, the material from the shell-mounds has been utilize with good effect, as, after wetting, it forms a compact cement." (*Berkeley Advocate*, 1879)

10. A Berkeley news article in reveals that ten burials, covered in petrified wood and decayed shell was unearthed at a boarding house adjacent to and just southwest of the 1900 Fourth St. lot and train tracks. (*Berkeley Advocate*, 1884)
[RICHARD SCHWARTZ NOTES: THE OLD HOTEL LOCATION WHERE THE REMAINS WERE FOUND WAS IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF 1900 FOURTH ST. OR POSSIBLY ON THE 1900 FOURTH ST. LOT AS ARCHEOLOGISTS WILLIAM SELF AND ASSOCIATES NOTE IN THEIR 2008 REPORT TITLED, "GEOARCHAEOLOGICAL TESTING REPORT FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY STUDENT ATHLETE HIGH PERFORMANCE CENTER, ALAMEDA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA" STATE, "FINDS FROM THE SITE ARE FIRST NOTED IN A NEWSPAPER CLIPPING FROM 1884 (SCHWARTZ 2002). TEN BURIALS AND A QUANTITY OF PETRIFIED WOOD AND SHELL WERE RECOVERED DURING DIGGING AT THE BACK OF THE FRANKLIN HOUSE, POSSIBLY TO CONNECT THE HOUSE TO A NEW SEWER SYSTEM. THE FRANKLIN HOUSE WAS LOCATED ON THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF UNIVERSITY AVENUE BETWEEN 3RD AND 4TH STREETS. THE MAIN BODY OF THE SITE WAS BETWEEN 2ND AND 4TH STREET AND BETWEEN HEARST AND UNIVERSITY AVENUE, WITH THE MOUND FEATURE APPROXIMATELY ONE BLOCK IN EXTENT (CA-ALA-307 SITE CARD)."

IF SELF AND ASSOCIATES ARE CORRECT, THIS FIND OF TEN HUMAN REMAINS WOULD HAVE LIKELY BEEN ON THE 1900 FOURTH ST. LOT)

11. In the late nineteenth century, a skeleton of a male was discovered just west of the 1900 Fourth lot by its northern sector. The skeleton was uncovered by men digging to remove soil from the lot. "The skeleton is supposed to be that of an Indian many of which have been found in the neighborhood." (*Berkeley Herald*, 1892)[article found by the late historian Jerry Sulliger and presented to Schwartz]

12. A follow-up article to the above finding of an Indian skeleton, notes that it was found at a depth of about ten feet, when a skull was struck by the shovel. (*Berkeley Herald*, 1892) [article found by the late historian Jerry Sulliger and presented to Schwartz]

13. An article states the need for Berkeley streets to be improved with macadam, gravel or "shelled, or in some way made more passable than they are now are-paved with native sod." (*Berkeley Advocate* 1893)

14. In 1895, a man discovered a human skull ten feet below the surface of the soil on a property at Bristol St., west of Second St., possibly at the Bay Shore. Another man revealed two complete and well-preserved human skeletons at the eight-foot depth. It was stated that those found at such a depth were whiter and better preserved than the one found the day before, which was discovered at a depth two feet below

the surface of the ground. The article revealed that under each of the skeletal remains was “a heap of ashes” and the paper speculated if those ashes had anything to do with the high level of preservation of the bones. It is also noted that several years prior to the article’s printing, the same mound was a “favorite resort of Indian relic-hunters; but until recently it has remained unnoticed and apparently forgotten.” The article went on to say that an occasional arrowhead or “tomahawk” was found. The article stated that Indian relics were much more numerous prior to the time “the historic place was infested by the souvenir-seeking globe-trotters. Abalone and mussel shells similar to those discovered at the shell mound, near Emeryville were also in abundance. Many of those are still to be found, but few in such a state as to permit the handling. There has been some talk of setting aside the property upon which the mound is located as a public ground. “ (San Francisco Call, 1895)

RICHARD SCHWARTZ COMMENTS: FROM THIS INTRIGUING ARTICLE, IF THE REMAINS FOUND AROUND THE BAY SHORE, NORTH OF HEARST ST., TOWARDS DELAWARE ST. THEN THE EXTENT OF ALA-307 APPEAR TO BE MUCH LARGER AND BURIED DEEPER THAN WAS SEEN BY EARLY SETTLERS AND THE ARCHEOLOGISTS OF THE 20TH AND 21ST CENTURY WHO SOLELY CONCENTRATED THEIR ATTENTION AND EFFORTS ON THE MOUND SITE SOUTH OF HEARST BETWEEN 2ND AND 3^D STREETS. IT HAS NEVER BEEN EXPLORED OR STUDIED IF THIS ARTICLE OF THE MOUND AND THE RELICS ARE A SEPARATE SATELLITE MOUND OR THE LARGER BURIED EXTENSION OF THE KNOWN MOUND COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE WEST BERKELEY SHELLMOUND, ALA-307 WHICH WOULD EXTEND THE KNOWN BOUNDARY OF THIS SITE.

15. Turn of the century article of how a resident who lived near the Berkeley shellmound, presented UC Berkeley artifacts he took from the mound twenty years prior. Article notes that UC Berkeley and Professor Merriam will be commencing studies at the Berkeley and Sausalito mounds. “...many skeletons and other relics have from time to time been taken from these mounds, but it is believed that archeological stores have hardly been touched.” (*San Francisco Chronicle*, 1901)

16. UC Berkeley under the leadership of J. C. Merriam and graduate students will begin studying the Bay Area shellmounds, which were used as “places of interment by the Indians who inhabited the Bay Shore. Of the many mounds to be studied, West Berkeley was specified among them. The mounds would now be studied “scientifically.” (*Berkeley Daily Gazette*, 1902)

17. Photo caption in book of Berkeley history Dr. Max Uhle is photographed by an undisturbed burial was unearthed in 1902. He “uncovered twelve burials at the foot of University Avenue.” He notes the burials were usually curled up. Another caption states the mound was dug through shell more than 20 feet deep “covering acres of ground area.” (*Berkeley: The Town and Gown of it*, by George A. Pettitt, Howell-north Books, 1973)

18. A scientist had received permission to take a “party of boys from McKinley school” to begin excavations at “very ancient prehistoric Indian mound on the bay shore near West Berkeley. The scientist was given permission to take away whatever they found and the scientist planned to donate any finds to “form a valuable museum for the McKinley school.” It was noted they found “twenty-five singers [sinkers?], a finishing stone, bone pick, serpentine ornament, stone drill, many fragments of mortars and pestles, and human remains.” (*Berkeley Advocate*, 1903)

19. Early in the twentieth century, boys from McKinley School dug in the “old Indian mounds” **[SCHWARTZ NOTES: NOTE USE OF PLURAL: “MOUNDS”]** along the “West Berkeley shore” for “aboriginal curiosities” to add to their collections in the McKinley High School museum. They “burrow in the mounds” and “acquired” human remains as well as cultural remains believed to have been associated with cooking and fishing. (*Oakland Tribune*, 1903)

20. Berkeley schoolboys led by an adult scientist dug in the “prehistoric Indian mound along the West Berkeley bay shore.” Human remains were unearthed which he brought to the Berkeley McKinley High School’s museum. His students had been “borrowing into the old pile of shells and rubbish.” to secure a “collection of aboriginal curiosities for the museum of the McKinley School.” They had uncovered domestic items and tools and items used for fishing. The article also reveals the boys also “unearthed” human remains while digging in the mound. (*San Francisco Chronicle*, 1903)

21. Remains of a “prehistoric aboriginal giant” were found while excavating in the West Berkeley shellmound. Though the skeleton was not complete, it was complete enough and “well preserved” and was thought by the “scientist” who discovered the remains to be over 7 feet tall. The remains were to be presented to the Berkeley High School Museum by the ex-teacher/scientist who did the excavations. (*Oakland Tribune*, 1903)

22. An early twentieth century article reported that the students from McKinley High School would level the Indian mound “at the Bay front” that they had been working on. As the “official” West Berkeley Shellmound was on private property- at least its core and remaining peak- this article seems to indicate a portion of it was on Second St. or further west. **[SCHWARTZ NOTES: THIS EVIDENCE AS A WHOLE, WITH ALL THE ARTICLES, POINT TO DATA TO REQUEST A LARGER BOUNDARY FOR ALA-307].**

23. A 1903 article documents the Shellmound on Everding’s mill **[NOW TRUITT AND WHITE LUMBER YARD]** was being “hailed away for use in street building and repairing and on account of these inroads is rapidly disappearing.” They note

the skulls, arrow heads and “other articles of curious anthropological interest have been found by digging in the mound.” The article ends with, “there are several residents of West Berkeley who advocate its preservation as a relic of a bygone epoch.” (*Oakland Tribune*, 1903)

24. In 1903, “Old Indian Burying Ground is Being Hauled Away for Street Purposes” it was reported that the shellmound “in the rear of Everding’s feed store and mill” ***[THIS IS WITHIN THE LOT OF THE CURRENT BUSINESS TRUITT AND WHITE LUMBER, SECOND-THIRD STS. AND HEARST ST., SOUTH SIDE]***, being hauled off and being used for street building and repair and that because of that, the mound was rapidly disappearing.

25. Two news articles note the West Berkeley mound “from which many skulls and other articles of value have been found during the past years, is disappearing rapidly. The historic mound is being hauled away for street purposes. It was the burying ground of Indians a century or more ago, and many are advocating that it should be preserved as a relic of by-gone days.”

Human skulls and cultural artifacts were again mentioned as found in the mound and the article states the mound “a century or more ago” was the “burying ground of some of the aboriginal races...” (*Oakland Tribune*, 1903, *Berkeley Advocate* 1903)

26. ***SATELLITE MOUND.*** At the turn of the century, the local newspaper notes the “old Indian mound, an ancient burying ground was rapidly disappearing in being used for street purposes. Those that were interested in preservation of this mound (a satellite mound of Ala-307) “have evidently failed in their efforts.” (*Oakland Tribune*, 1903) ***[RICHARD SCHWARTZ NOTES: THIS ARTICLE REVEALS THE PRESENCE OF A NOW-DESTROYED MOUND, AT LEAST ON THE SURFACE SOIL, WITHIN A COUPLE OF BLOCKS EAST THE 1900 FOURTH ST. LOT. THIS IS SIGNIFICANT AS IT SHOWS CULTURAL REMAINS EVEN FURTHER EAST BY SOME HUNDREDS OF FEET THAN EVEN THE HUMAN REMAINS FOUND IN FRONT OF 1919 FOURTH ST., JUST EAST AND ACROSS THE STREET FROM 1900 FOURTH ST.]***

27. An early twentieth century article tells of the occurrence of the rapid hauling of the shellmound at 2nd and Hearst Sts. for “street purposes” and tells of the many “skulls” and other artifacts taken from the mound. There is mention that “many” people were advocating the saving of this shellmound instead of its destruction.”

28. Another article on the same activity recorded the unearthing of human remains and the discovery of 25 fishing net sinkers, a finishing stone, a bone awl, a serpentine ornament a stone drill and a number of fragments of mortars and pestles.

29. Duplicate deleted

30. Excavations for a sidewalk reveal Indian skeleton at a depth of three feet down. Scientists thought it “may be ten thousand years old” due to the fact the shape of the skull did not conform with the “skulls of Indians known to be of Drake’s time. **[THE REFERENCE WAS TO SIR FRANCIS DRAKE WHO VISITED THE AREA IN 1579.]** The remains were dug out of shellmound behind Everdings mill at Second and Bristol **[NOW NAMED HEARST]**. The remains were lying on their right side “in a bed of ashes.” Everding said the mound was an Indian burial ground and “several skeletons had been taken from it before.” (*Oakland Tribune*, 1907)

31. In the mid-20th century, a burial with “tiny sea shells” in proximity is found within blocks of the 1900 Fourth St. lot to the northwest. Police said it was an Indian burial mound.

32. Duplicate deleted

33. AROUND THE TURN OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY A BERKELEY RESIDENT WHO LIVED AROUND SACRAMENTO AND UNIVERSITY AVES. WOULD TAKE HIS FAMILY FOR WALKS TOWARD THE SHELLMOUND ON THE WEEKENDS. OVER THE YEARS THEY COLLECTED SCORES AND SCORES OF INDIAN CULTURAL REMAINS FROM THESE WALKS. FROM THE HUGE NUMBER OF THEM- SOME OF THE TYPES OF ARTIFACTS NOTED AS NOT PRESENT IN THE SHELLMOUND WHEN ARCHEOLOGISTS LATER STUDIED THE MOUND (MAYBE BECAUSE OF MANY PEOPLE JUST LIKE THIS TAKING ARTIFACTS AND CULTURAL REMAINS WITHOUT THINKING OR REALIZING THE IMPLICATIONS OF SUCH ACTIONS) IT IS ONLY LOGICAL THEY CAME FROM THE VICINITY OR UPON THE SHELLMOUND- THE ONLY PLACE WHERE SUCH A CONCENTRATION OF A LARGE NUMBER OF REMAINS WERE NOTED BE FOUND IN HISTORIC ACCOUNTS OF THAT AREA. THE MAN EVENTUALLY PASSED ON AND AT SOME TIME HIS NEPHEW SOLD THE COLLECTION TO A BERKELEY RESIDENT WHO ALLOWED SCHWARTZ TO PHOTOGRAPH, WEIGH, AND MEASURE THEM AND HAVE A GEOLOGIST (STEVE EDWARDS) TRY AND IDENTIFY THE KIND OF ROCKS THAT WERE IN THE COLLECTION. THE PHOTOGRAPHS, JOURNAL AND DATA WERE FILED WITH C.H.R.I.S. IN 2004 BY RICHARD SCHWARTZ.

34. For two years in the early 1930s, a 16 year-old Berkeley high student had dug up 11 skulls and other human remains in addition to arrow heads, mortars and pestles and other artifacts of Indian presence at the foot of Hearst St. and at Windhaven, near Richmond at Pt. Molate. University experts declared them to be 1,000 years old. The boy said he had “definite information” that burial grounds might be there. An arrowhead pierced one skull. The remains and artifacts found in Berkeley were noted to be from the area at the “foot of Hearst” St. The Berkeley finds were said to be exposed at eleven feet below the surface grade. All the human remains he unearthed in Berkeley **[WHICH LIKELY WERE UNDISTURBED AND**

INTACT AT SUCH A DEPTH were found in a flexed position facing southeast with the knees up to the chins. One of the burials had grave goods resting upon its chest. Another burial was found with eight fishing artifacts. (*Oakland Tribune*, 1931)

[RICHARD SCHWARTZ NOTES: THE INFORMATION SUBMITTED TO C.H.R.I.S. WAS UTILIZED TO GENERATE PRIMARY (P-01-00084) AND TRINOMIAL NUMBER (CA-ALA-307) AS STATE HISTORIC LANDMARKS FOR THESE FINDS' LOCATION. C.H.R.I.S. INCLUDING THIS WITHIN THE CA-ALA-307 SITE, I BELIEVE, WOULD OFFICIALLY EXPAND THE BOUNDARIES OF THE SITE TO THE FOOT OF HEARST ST. INSTEAD OF AN "UNKNOWN" BOUNDARY BY SECOND ST., WHICH IS WHAT NELS NELSON WAS FORCED TO NOTATE DUE, EVIDENTLY, TO NOT HAVING ACCESS TO THE PRIVATE PROPERTY WEST OF SECOND ST.]

35. While digging for an elevator shaft for companies office expansion, a portion of a "human hip, a pelvis and other portions of a skeleton" was unearthed by workers digging in the lot at Third and University, just west of the railroad tracks and adjacent to the 1900 Fourth St. lot. The article stated that this discovery "led to speculation today by University of California scientists that an ancient Indian burial mound may have been unearthed." Police were called and a report was made. The foreman for the company "said it has been generally believed that about 50 feet east of yesterday's discovery, an extensive Indian burial mound was used long before the Spanish or American pioneers settled in California." The article goes on to report that remains found would be presented to the University of California "for examination." It was stated that no grave goods or other cultural remains were found. (*Berkeley Daily Gazette*, 1947) [article found by the late historian Jerry Sulliger and presented to Schwartz]

[RICHARD SCHWARTZ COMMENTS: THIS STATEMENT BY THE FOREMAN REVEALS THE GENERAL BELIEF THAT AN INDIAN BURIAL GROUND EXISTED FURTHER EAST THAN THE ELEVATOR SHAFT, AND THAT MEANS CLOSER TO OR ON TO THE RAIL ROAD TRACKS, JUST WEST OF THE 1900 FOURTH ST. LOT OR POSSIBLY ON 1900 FOURTH SITE ITSELF AT ITS WESTERN⁵ PERIMETER. IT IS NOT KNOWN BY SCHWARTZ EXACTLY WHERE THE ELEVATOR SHAFT WAS ON THE LOT.

36. In 1947 an article states the Everding property [now Truitt and White Lumber at the south side of Hearst St. between Second and Third Streets] "was part of the extensive area of Indian burial ground which used to extend along the shoreline southerly to beyond Emeryville. Like the other mounds removed to make room for factory development, this one contains the bones of early Berkeley Indians along with their utensils and weapons, all buried partially above ground among clam shells." The article goes on to state the mound rose 25 feet to its apex and was now covered in weeds. Visitors wondered why it wasn't fenced in and the owner of the property stated she hoped the Smithsonian Institution would "make this a project on early California research." (*Berkeley Daily Gazette*, 1947) [article found by the late historian Jerry Sulliger and presented to Schwartz]

37. In the 1948 a number of burials and a shell cache were found in a residential back yard. The homeowner was digging postholes for a fence when he discovered an initial skull. A number of skeletons were exposed by police who responded to the report of the first burial. (*Berkeley Daily Gazette* and *San Francisco Chronicle*, 1948) [article found by the late historian Jerry Sulliger and presented to Schwartz]

[RICHARD SCHWARTZ COMMENTS: POSTHOLES, AS A TRADE STANDARD, ARE USUALLY DUG TO A DEPTH OF TWO FEET AND SO ONE CAN REASONABLY ASSUME THE INITIAL BURIAL WAS FOUND WITHIN THAT DEPTH. SHELL FRAGMENTS STILL EXPOSED WERE RECORDED BY PEDESTRIAN INSPECTION BY RICHARD SCHWARTZ IN 2002. IT WAS WITHIN FIVE BLOCKS EAST OF THE 1900 FOURTH PROJECT. THE SHELL SCATTER WENT ON FOR A NUMBER OF HOUSE LOTS AND ABOUT 150-200' IN EACH DIRECTION. THE AREA IS WITHIN THE AREA OF STRAWBERRY CREEK AND MAY HAVE AT ONE TIME HAVE HAD RIPARIAN VEGETATION. MAPS FROM THE 1850S REVEAL WILLOW GROVES IN THE AREA. BOTH BURIALS AND SHELL SCATTER WERE RECORDED BY RICHARD SCHWARTZ WITH CHRIS IN 2002].

38. An article covering the 1950 archeological dig at the West Berkeley Shellmound lead by Dr. William Wallace began. Wallace stated the 18-foot high mound “site had been occupied fairly continuously, and should yield valuable information of the sequence of cultures in this area.” The university archeologists had unearthed “some 70 human skeletons, over half of which were infants. The percentage of infants verified the fact that infant mortality was extremely high among early Indian populations.” There were mussel and oyster shells, arrow heads, mortars, shell beads, ashes, fishing gear and house floors. The upper half of the mound was estimated to be 3,000 years old. There was a preponderance of stone net sinkers in the lower portion of the mound which were absent in the upper portion, Wallace noted. The article states the mound once covered three city blocks. (*Berkeley Daily Gazette*, 1950)

39. Also 1950s: Remains and artifacts discovered by UC graduate research archeologist James Bennyhoff and a dozen anthropology students. Estimated about 20' high mound and inhabitants lived sedentary life for 1,000 years at the “garbage pit and burial ground.” A photo of a skeleton is captioned to be 2,000 years old and another reference was to a 2,000 old age of the mound. They thought the group was less than 100 persons, but noted there was no accurate way to “determine population.” Net sinkers found in lower portion indicate reliance upon fishing. Shell necklaces, spear points, bone awls for basketry, charms, mortars and pestles and mammal bones were noted as found. The first human remains were found 25” from then-surface, originally eight feet from the top of the mound.

40. An article in 1950s states that half of the 70 human remains uncovered by archeologists were children. Ash as well as arrow points, shell beads, mortars and

pestles, fishing gear and house floors. In lower half of mound, there were many net sinkers, which were missing from upper levels. Dr. Wallace said mound occupied nearly continuously over time. The article states the mound once covered three city blocks. (*Berkeley Daily Gazette*, 1950)

41. 70 human remains were uncovered on the Second and Hearst lot. The article refers to the mound in West Berkeley as the “last undisturbed shellmound in the San Francisco Bay region” and referred to the age of the habitation as 3,000 years from present. Scientists said more than half of the human remains were of children. Dr. Wallace said the great numbers of fishing net sinkers only in the lower portion indicated a change in life ways and that the site appeared to be occupied almost continuously. (*Oakland Tribune*, 1950)

42. A 1954 article tells of the Director of the UC Museum of Anthropology, Professor Edward W. Gifford, testifying before the Indian Claims Commission. He described how, at what was then the foot of University Ave., there was a village discovered when the freeway overpass was constructed about three years prior. He stated that carbon-14 tests accurately dated the organic material. “In the Berkeley village...we determined the age of various bone, stone and shell artifacts to be 2,200 years old at the right-foot level, and 2,700 years old at the 12 to 13 foot levels. “ Gifford told how we can understand the thinking of a farmer sets and understand the boundaries of his land but it was difficult for us to comprehend the thinking of the hunter-gatherer in relation to the concept of land and boundaries. (*Oakland Tribune*, 1954)

43. During the 1980s, human bone, abalone pendant fragments, shell jewelry and large rectangular beads were unearthed at during city sewer repairs by city in the street intersection at the intersection of Hearst and Second Sts. Seven archeologists, a consulting physical anthropologist, and an Ohlone monitor “will analyze” everything found and intended to bury the remains at the Ohlone cemetery at Mission San Jose. David Chavz and Associates was the consulting firm hired. The article quotes archeologists from past studies of this mound as it was “of unusual significance.” (*Berkeley Voice*, 1988, two articles)

44. A 2002 pedestrian survey by Richard Schwartz revealed shell scatter site with aged bone visible at a site some few blocks east of the 1900 Fourth St. lot. Shell and bone found on lot curbside and far away by the house hose bib, well onto private property. Shell found over a roughly 25'x25' area. Shell pieces .03”-.38” and bone pieces of 2.5” x.38” and have a patina of age were noted. Recent grading for multiunit dwelling altered the grade substantially. (pedestrian survey Richard Schwartz, recorded with CHRIS, 2002)

45. A 2007 pedestrian by Richard Schwartz survey while on a construction consultation revealed a shell scatter site southeast of 1900 Fourth by some blocks and just east of San Pablo Ave., giving possible data of village sites/camps up and down Strawberry Creek. (Richard Schwartz pedestrian survey, recorded with CHRIS 2007) **[RICHARD SCHWARTZ NOTES: THERE ARE RECORDED BURIALS AND A NUMBER OF SHELL MOUND AND SHELL SCATTER SITES RECORDED BY RICHARD SCHWARTZ WITH CHRIS FURTHER EAST ON STRAWBERRY CREEK AS WELL.]**

46. A pedestrian survey by Richard Schwartz has found significant shell scatter on the north side of Hearst St. within the vicinity of 1900 Fourth.

47. Records and photographs of collections of shell beads perforated and various typologies of olliivetta beads and abalone pendants as well as a charmstone having been donated to the California Academy of Sciences from people removing these artifacts from the Berkeley Shellmound were found by Richard Schwartz. Records have the following numners: CAS 0146-0022 and CAS 0234-0037. (over 200 shell beads, Oliivetta, abalone, clam, and eight pendants and what appears to be a charmstone). Any other records or artifacts were lost in the great 1906 earthquake and fire, which destroyed much of their collections. (Surviving collection documented by Richard Schwartz with CHRIS).

SUMMERY OF FINDINGS

In this summery, I have tried to give some idea of the scope of burials in and around Ala-307, of which 1900 Fourth St. is a part of. I have tried to present the number of places they were found and the number in each place/site. The “Within 1 Block” and “Within 5 Blocks” refer to the approximate distance from the 1900 Fourth St. proposed project.

	Within 1 Block	Within 5 blocks
Number of Sites Reported	18	24
Number of Burials Reported	455	497

NOTES:

- 1. Many of the articles gave specific accounts of the number of human remains that were found and these were compiled as stated in the newspaper articles.**
- 2. Where burials were noted but not with a specific number, an estimate was made in my tallies, which amounted to from 3-8, depending on the wording and interpretation of the article.**
- 3. Care was given to not repeat burial accounts in similar articles whose dates were in close proximity and which spoke of the same finds.**
- 4. If a dig is noted as occurring over a number of weeks and different sequential articles mentioned finding burials, an interpretation was made by author to estimate what were new burials and what were not. There is an unavoidable subjective component to parts of this process.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Schwartz, Historian
Berkeley, CA