

21. SITES ATTRIBUTED TO EARLY MAN IN CALIFORNIA

With this report the UCAS returns to the important subject of ancient man, a topic already discussed in some connection in earlier papers in Reports Nos. 2 (1948), 6 (1950), 7 (1950), 9 (1950), 14 (1952), 16 (1952), and 17 (1952).

The purpose of this introductory paper is to present Map 1 which shows the location of finds of artifacts or skeletal material which have been attributed to ancient man in California, and to indicate where the published information referring to these sites may be found.

The second paper (No. 22) has been especially prepared by Dr. Ernst Antevs for this series, and we feel that it is of particular importance in discussing the problem (which is partly a terminological one) of the Pleistocene- post-Pleistocene boundary.

The third paper (No. 23) is also by Dr. Antevs, and is a reprinting of part of his widely known paper on glacial and postglacial climatic changes published in 1948 in the volume entitled "The Great Basin." We are indebted to Harold W. Bentley, Director of the University of Utah Press and to the author, Dr. Antevs, for permission to reprint this portion of his original article.

The fourth and fifth papers (Nos. 24-25) constitute a brief record and discussion of an isolated human burial in Yolo County which we believe to be relatively old, its age being estimated on the basis of Harradine's pedologic investigation at about 2000 years, and by Heizer and Cook from the chemical analysis of bone at about 4000 years.

The sixth and last paper (No. 26) of the series is a further account of the Farmington Complex first identified by A. Treganza, which consists of crude chert artifacts recovered from "auriferous gravels" of the Sierra Nevadas. These finds are the first ones to be discovered, recorded and published from the Sierran gravels, all others, around which the controversy of "auriferous gravel man" once raged, having been recovered by accident between 1850 and 1900 (Holmes, 1901).

A recent general discussion of ancient man in California has been published in UCAS-R 16, and the reader is referred to this for broad orientation. In 1948 the UCAS published in its report No. 2 a bibliography of ancient man in California comprising some 185 titles. This list could be expanded by adding citations to papers published since 1948, and listing earlier articles which escaped detection when the bibliography was compiled.

On Map 1 are plotted a number of find-sites of skeletal or artifact remains which either in fact, or by claim, precede in time the bulk of archaeological remains of the later prehistoric California Indians.

Three categories of finds have been established:

1. (Indicated by number enclosed in circle). Finds attributed to Late Pleistocene or early Recent times.

2. (Indicated by number enclosed in rectangle). Finds reported to have come from the auriferous gravels of the Sierra Nevadas.

3. (Indicated by number enclosed in triangle). Oldest culture thus far recognized in local culture sequences. The known or estimated dates for these vary from one region to another.

Of the first group (finds attributed to Late Pleistocene or Early Recent times), most of the published literature is old, has been often cited, and is reasonably fully listed in UCAS-R 2. Additional bibliographic items, listed by map number, are given below:

(1) P.C. Orr. Excavations in Moaning Cave. Santa Barbara Mus. Nat. Hist., Dept. of Anthrop., Bull. No. 1, 1952. (Calculates, by estimating rate of stalagmite growth, that human remains 12,000 years old occur here).

W.J. Wallace. The Archaeological Deposits in Moaning Cave, Calaveras County. UCAS-R No. 12, Paper No. 16, 1951.

(3-6) UCAS-R 15, Paper No. 17, 1952.

(8) G.W. Brainerd. A Re-examination of the Dating Evidence for the Lake Mojave Artifact Assemblage. American Antiquity, Vol. 18, pp. 270-271, 1953.

(10) R.F. Heizer and S.F. Cook. Fluorine and Other Chemical Tests of Some North American Human and Fossil Bones. Amer. Journ. Phys. Anthrop., Vol. 10, pp. 289-304, 1952.

(13) Reference given supra (No. 10).

(16) UCAS-R 6, 1950.

(17) Rogers, M.J. Archaeological and Geological Investigations of the Cultural Levels in an Old Channel of San Dieguito Valley. Carnegie Inst. of Washington, Yearbook No. 37, pp. 344-345, 1938.

On the second group (of auriferous gravel finds), see UCAS-R 2, items No. 1-72. In the present Report, Paper No. 26 deals with the Farmington Complex (No. 16 on map).

Of the third group (basement cultures of recent sequences), citation will be of some utility. Reference is to map number:

(1) W.R. Wedel. Archaeological Investigations at Buena Vista Lake, Kern County, California. Bur. Amer. Ethnol., Bull. 130, 1941.

(2-3) J.B. Lillard, R.F. Heizer, and F. Fenenga. An Introduction to the Archaeology of Central California. Sacramento Junior College, Dept. of Anthrop., Bull. 2, 1939.

R.F. Heizer. The Archaeology of Central California, I: The Early Horizon. Univ. Calif. Anthrop. Records, Vol. 12, No. 1, 1949.

R.E. Belous. The Central California Chronological Sequence Re-examined. American Antiquity. Vol. 18: 4, 1953.

(4) Unpublished manuscript by J.A. Bennyhoff and A. Mohr on excavations in SBa-7, an Oak Grove culture site. For further data on Oak Grove culture see D.B. Rogers. Prehistoric Man of the Santa Barbara Coast. Santa Barbara Mus. Nat. Hist., 1929.

(5) Excavation data unpublished; now in form of partially completed manuscript, "Archaeology of site Hum-169." For mention of site in relation to other local items, see UCAS-R 7, Paper No. 5, 1950.

(6) A.E. Treganza and C.G. Malamud. The Topanga Culture; First Season's Excavation of the Tank Site, 1947. Univ. Calif. Anthropol. Records, Vol. 12, No. 4, 1950.

(7) UCAS-R 21, 1953.

(8) E.F. Walker. Five Prehistoric Archaeological Sites in Los Angeles County, California. Publs. F. W. Hodge Anniversary Publ. Fund, Vol. 6, Los Angeles, 1951 (pp. 27-69).

(9) Memoirs of the Society for American Archaeology, Number 8, 1951. (p. 19).

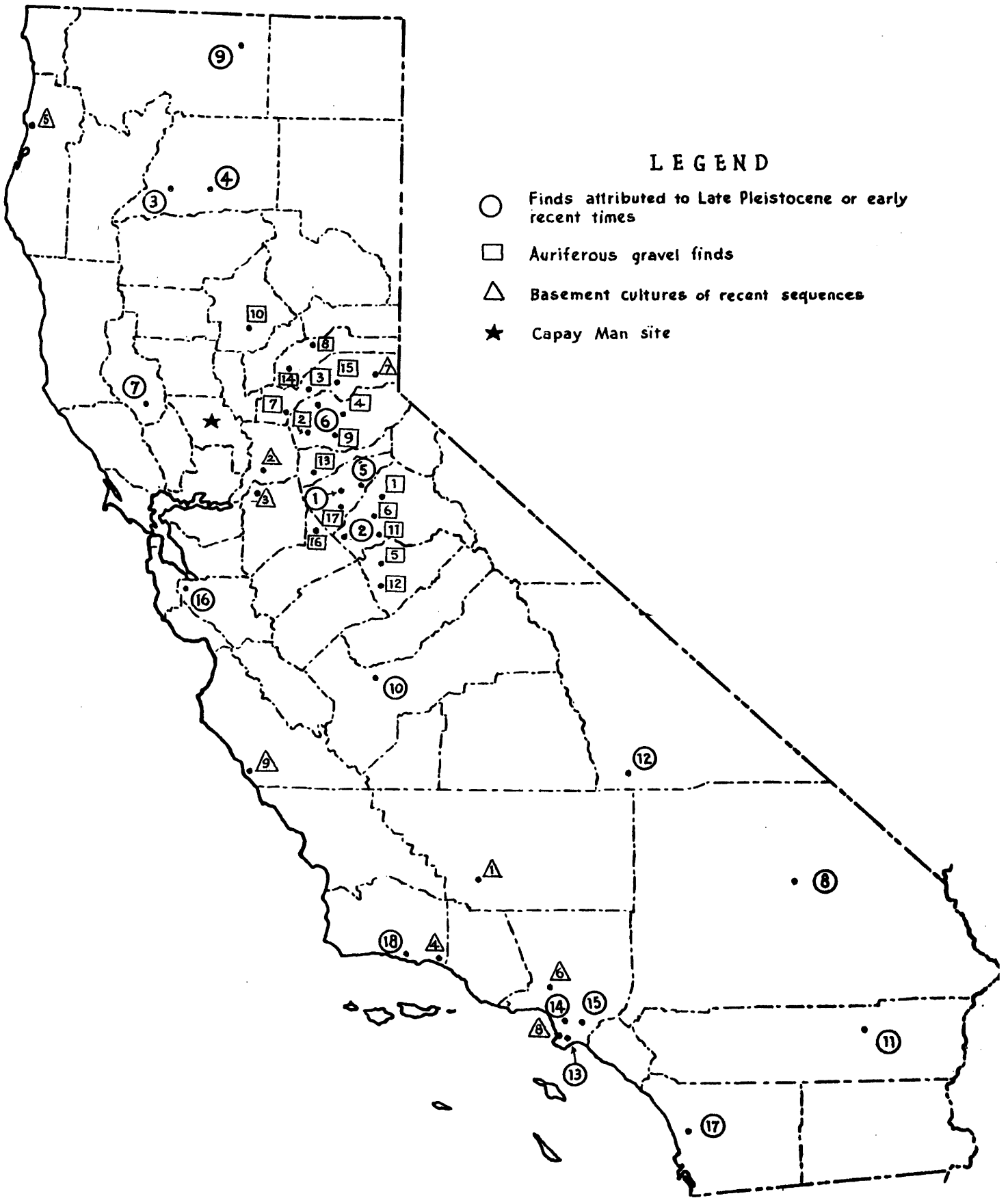
Key to Map 1

○ Finds attributed to Late Pleistocene
or Early Post-Glacial times

□ Auriferous gravel finds

△ Basement cultures of recent
sequences

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 1. Moaning Cave (Calaveras) | 1. Gold Springs Gulch (Tuolumne) | 1. Buena Vista Site 2 (Kern) |
| 2. Table Mountain Finds (Tuolumne) | 2. Shingle Springs (Eldorado) | 2. Sac-107, 168 (Sacramento) |
| 3. Potter Creek Cave (Shasta) | 3. Oregon Bar (Placer) | 3. Sjo-56, 68, and 142
(San Joaquin) |
| 4. Stone Man Cave (Shasta) | 4. Indian Gulch (Eldorado) | 4. Sba-7 (Santa Barbara) |
| 5. Mercers Cave (Calaveras) | 5. Horseshoe Bend (Tuolumne) | 5. Patrick's Point (Humboldt) |
| 6. Hawver Cave (Eldorado) | 6. Shaw's Flat (Tuolumne) | 6. Topanga Site (Los Angeles) |
| 7. Borax Lake Site (Lake) | 7. Rattlesnake Bar (Placer) | 7. (Ian-1) |
| 8. Lake Mohave (Playa)(San Bernadino) | 8. Buckeye Hill (Nevada) | 7. Martis Valley Complex
(Placer) |
| 9. Lower Klamath Lake (Siskiyou) | 9. Diamond Springs (Eldorado) | 8. Lower Malaga Cove
(Los Angeles) |
| 10. Tranguillity Site (Frenso) | 10. Butte County Gravels (Butte) | 9. Willow Creek (Monterey) |
| 11. Pinto Basin (Riverside) | 11. Kincaid Flat (Tuolumne) | |
| (Pinto Gypsum) | 12. No. 1 Gulch (Mariposa) | |
| 12. Stahl Site (Inyo) | 13. Woods Creek (Amador) | |
| 13. Los Angeles Man (Los Angeles) | 14. Grass Valley (Nevada) | |
| 14. Angeles Mesa (Los Angeles) | 15. Forest Hill (Placer) | |
| 15. La Brea (Los Angeles) | 16. Farmington Complex Sites
(Stanislaus) | |
| 16. Stanford Skull (Santa Clara) | 17. Calaveras Skull (Calaveras) | |
| 17. San Dieguito River Site (San Diego) | | |
| 18. Tecolote Road Cut (Santa Barbara) | | |



LEGEND

- Finds attributed to Late Pleistocene or early recent times
- Auriferous gravel finds
- △ Basement cultures of recent sequences
- ★ Capay Man site

Map 1

Early Man Sites in California