

A COLLABORATIVE PROJECT OF



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# restore

A PEOPLE'S HISTORY OF THE CACHE CREEK NATURE PRESERVE

# restory

AUDIO TOUR INTERVIEW WITH

*Wyatt Cline*

STOP 6:

*The Barn*





## Stop 6: The Barn

**What do you think we can learn from the history of this place from a Native American perspective?**

From this preserve?

**Yeah, from the history of this preserve; what it's gone through and what it is today. What can we learn from it all?**

I think when you look at this Cache Creek Nature Preserve from an American, Eurocentric or Native American perspective, it's pretty much all the same. It was a beautiful live place one time, pristine. It was devastated. It was mined. Whether we knew it was good for it or not at the time it did happen, but just like the people who collaborate now and get along and live and thrive, so has this place. And as we look out upon it it's thriving and all these plants are living together and the flora and the fauna and that's what we're doing as people and this place can represent that and I think it does.

**Why do feel Native American history is important to share with other area residents? Why is important to share Native American history with other area residents?**

I think it's important to share Native American history with other residents of the community that we all live in here because you can't forget a people and you can't forget a people who took care of this place where we live because if you forget about the people, you can forget about the place and then you turn it into something that it's not and it's hard for a place to thrive and survive and it's hard for people as a community to do that and it is part of our history and they're still here today and it's all about collaboration and communication. Unless you know one's history, the first peoples, you lose an important part of the chain.

**Yeah. Something that's been said to me and you brought it up to, you brought up the word "collaboration" and I've heard a lot of people say and it's been written that the preserve itself is a good model when it comes to tribal involvement and not just one tribe but many tribes.**

Right.

**What do you think makes this preserve a model for other communities when it comes to tribal involvement?**

You know I don't know that this preserve when it comes to tribal involvement and community involvement is unique and it may be so if it is it could be a model for tribal involvement and not just the local tribe that funds a lot of this and the Tending and Gathering Garden for the basket weavers but the reality is that many different tribes come and participate and take care of the garden, the basket weavers, so it's a collaboration. It's really a celebration of first peoples and the community coming to be able to share it and see it and walk upon it and that's really what's unique.

*The Barn, continued (p.2 of 3)*

**Do you think it's important for tribes to be involved in restoration efforts like a preserve?**

I think it's important for all community members if they can, it's tough times, but to be involved in restoration efforts in our environment because it's the only one we have and I think it's important for tribal members if they can, for the first peoples as I would like to say, to be involved because the ones that don't know what it's about can learn and the ones that do know can teach and share and that's important.

**Thinking back over all we've talked about, what do you appreciate most about the Cache Creek Nature Preserve?**

If I look at this Cache Creek Preserve as a whole and I look over at my – that rock there, the picture of my old dear friend Jan Lowry who I spend a good amount of time in the hills with talking, is that it's a wonderful, wonderful place to reflect and enjoy some peace and quiet if you want to and for me, as a person that spends a lot of time outdoors in the hills, I realize the beauty of it and it's just a wonderful place to be and spend some time. It's a good peaceful place.

**How do you think the residents of Yolo County benefit by having this preserve here?**

This preserve is obviously a great benefit to Yolo County. I don't know how many of the citizens in Yolo County know about it, but it's – if you want to call it a park in that sense, it's a beautiful natural park. They can see what a lot of the county looked like before it was paved over and urbanized and they can learn. They can learn. They can look and learn why you don't destroy things and why you have to give back and nurture and keep things that belong here that are native. It's important.

**What are your hopes for the preserve going into the future?**

I look around at this preserve and you can start to see it's getting a patina on it. You know, it's got a little age on it and I hope that it continues to patina and grow and die and live and change because that's what nature is all about and get more support from people and people enjoy it and school children can come out here and learn from it because if they learn how to take care of what we have in the natural world, it will be a better world.

**How do you square up in your mind being in this beautiful nature spot and having this place to have peace and all the incredible noise we're hearing around us?**

You know this – I've said in conversation how unique this place is and what's unique and crazy about it is as I sit here and talk I hear helicopters in the background, gravel mining equipment, dirt bike motorcycles, somebody hollering once in a while, but that said, it's an oasis and everybody goes to bed or leaves or goes home from work and then it gets really quiet and then the animals and the birds and bugs take over and we listen to them.

**JESIKAH MARIA ROSS INTERVIEWS WYATT CLINE**  
*Cache Creek Nature Preserve • October 12, 2011*

*The Barn, continued (p.3 of 3)*

**What kind of animals and birds and bugs have you seen at this place?**

Oh I've seen jackrabbits, coyotes, squirrels. I've seen some beautiful deer, of course all kinds of birds and frogs and lots of different spiders and red ants and beetles. You name it, they're here; beautiful butterflies. It's quite a diverse group.

**Yeah, it's beautiful. Is there anything else that you'd like to say about this preserve or about your experience here or about any aspect of your family history that I haven't asked you about?**

No I think I'm fine actually. I think I've said a lot.