



Historic Bakersfield & Kern County, California
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Kern County City Limit Signs

1961-2

By Sidney Allen, with Gilbert Gia
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Both my father and my grandfather were serious amateur photographers with their own darkrooms. I started following suit in the late 1950s and early 1960s. Although my father had a couple of nice cameras, which I used, I bought my own Kodak during the summer of 1960 when I worked for Western Geophysical Company out of Colusa, California.

I photographed these city limit signs in 1961 and 1962 while I was a student at Oregon State University in Corvallis, Oregon. That was

when I got my first car and was able to drive around and sight-see.

The signs were easy to do, and they represented where I had traveled. I know the period I took them because the pictures were date-stamped by the photography store, which for most of these shots was Henley Studio in Bakersfield.

They are but a subset of the many city limit signs I did in those early years. The complete collection includes other towns in California, Oregon, Arizona, and Colorado, but particularly in Alabama, where I've been residing for the past 43 years.

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--Sidney Allen, May 9, 2010





