

FIELD NOTES

Berkeley October 2009 - July 2012



THE GREAT STATE OF
CALIFORNIA

From October 2009 until July 2012
I lived in Berkeley, California and
rented a studio at 1306 3rd Street.
It was busy and noisy. 3rd Street
was not actually a street but train
tracks. It was not uncommon for
people to throw themselves under
a train there, so even though
there were barriers and bells,
when the Amtrak or freight
trains came through the driver
would sound the horn very
loudly.

The studio was close to the
recycling station. All day people
would be crossing the tracks,
pulling or pushing whatever they

they had collected to earn some money. Some, maybe most, lived on the streets, their belongings in a shopping cart.

I regularly rode my bicycle to Point Isabel which was near my studio and across from Battery Point where people made their 'homes' from discarded material.

I was drawn to the beach composed almost entirely of ceramic shards, wasters, from the now demolished Tepco factory nearby.

These experiences and collected shards were combined and shown at Bowen Galleries, Wellington in October 2013.

Raewyn Atkinson





























