

6.10 HERITAGE RESOURCES

6.10.1 Introduction

The Heritage Resources Element is an optional General Plan element authorized by Section 65303 of the Government Code. This Element is intended to identify and protect sites and structures of architectural, historical, archaeological, or cultural significance. Due to an abundance of heritage resources located in Shasta County and the interest of County residents in the preservation of these resources, the General Plan includes this optional element.

6.10.2 Findings

HISTORIC RECORDS

Pre-European Contact

While much of the County's post-contact history is known, there is still much to be learned of the Native American culture in Shasta County prior to the arrival of non-native settlers. This type of information is obtainable in a variety of ways, yet those methods most commonly used are ethnography and archaeology.

As was common practice of many ancient peoples, the Native American groups in Shasta County relied on the oral tradition of record keeping. Thus, much information on these groups known to us today has been obtained through interviews with tribal elders who are able to describe the lives of their ancestors.

A second means of retrieving ancient history is through archaeology, the scientific study of material remains of human life and activities. Of these two methods, archaeology presents the greatest implications for land use planning.

Development in areas with known or suspected heritage value may result in damage to, or loss of, these fragile resources if measures to preserve them are not implemented. It is therefore important that the General Plan be used as a guideline for the protection of these resources for their inherent cultural, scientific, and aesthetic value.

A primary concern expressed by Native Americans relevant to land use planning involves the preservation of ancient villages and burial grounds. This is particularly true for descendants of the Wintu tribes whose now abandoned villages were once located in the Sacramento River Valley. Today this area is experiencing substantial development pressure. In order to satisfy the desire for cultural preservation as well as the needs and demand of future development, representatives of Native American interests, historians, and interested archaeologists should be allowed to monitor the preliminary development of sites which are known or suspected to contain significant cultural artifacts to determine their significance to cultural heritage. Provisions should also be made whereby valuable artifacts could be professionally excavated and preserved. In addition to villages and burial grounds, such artifacts include stone tool chipping sites, tools, baskets, and weapons. Several large petroglyph (rock art) sites have also been located in the SCR and Eastern Upland Planning Areas.

Post-European Contact

Post-contact artifacts consist primarily of settlement areas and structures, cemeteries, and mining sites of the gold rush era. Many of these sites are located in the Sacramento River Valley and the Eastern and Western Upland Planning Areas of the County and are usually accessible to the general public.

Opportunities to preserve post-contact historic resources are available through Federal and State government protection. The National Register of Historic Places, the California Landmark Series, and State Points of Historic Interest are all means by which resources may be enhanced and maintained. Several historic sites in Shasta County have already been included in these programs and are listed and described in Table HER-1.

TABLE HER-1 SHASTA COUNTY HERITAGE RESOURCES¹		
NAME	LOCATION	THEME
Afterthought Mine	Highway 299E	EC/IN
Archaeological Site*	Shasta Trinity National Forest	CULT
Archaeological Site*	Lassen National Forest	CULT
Balls Ferry	Balls Ferry Road	EC/IN
Bass Hill	North of Redding	EX/SE
Battle Rock	Castle Crags State Park	MIL
Bells Bridge	Highway 99, Clear Creek	EX/SE
Benton Tract Site*	Redding	CULT
Briggsville	Clear Creek Road	EC/IN
California-Oregon Road	Anderson	EX/SE
Clear Creek	Redding	EC/IN
Cottonwood Historic District*	Cottonwood	ARCH
Cow Creek Petroglyphs*	**	CULT
Dersch Homestead	Anderson	EX/SE
Dersh-Taylor Petroglyphs*	**	CULT
Fall River's First School Site	East of McArthur	SO/ED
Father Rinaldi's Foundation of 1856	Town of Shasta	REL
Fort Crook Site	10 miles NW of Fall River Mills	MIL
Fort Reading Site	Anderson	MIL

**TABLE HER-1
SHASTA COUNTY HERITAGE RESOURCES¹**

NAME	LOCATION	THEME
French Gulch Historic District	French Gulch	EC/IN
Horse Town	Clear Creek Road	EC/IN
Horseshoe Lake Ranger Station*	Lassen National Park	EX/SE
Igo	Igo	EC/IN
Iron Mountain Mine, Keswick Smelter	NW of Redding	EC/IN
Lake Britton Archaeological District *	**	CULT
Lockhart Ferry	Fall River Mills	EX/SE
Loomis Visitor Center*	Manzanita Lake- Lassen National Forest	SO/ED
McEllroy Military Road Crossing	Highway 299E	EX/SE
Millville	Old 44 Drive	EC/IN
Nobles Pass Route*	Park Highway-Lassen National Park	EX/SE
Old City Hall*	Redding	SO/ED
Olsen Petroglyphs	**	CULT
Park Entrance Station and Residence*	Mineral	EX/SE
Piety Hill	East of Igo	EC/IN
Pine Street School*	Redding	SO/ED
Pioneer Baby's Grave	West of Shasta	EX/SE
Prospect Peak Fire Lookout*	Mineral	EX/SE
Reading Adobe*	Cottonwood	EC/IN
Reading's Bar	Clear Creek Road - Igo	EC/IN
Ried Mine in Old Diggins	Summit City	EC/IN
Shasta State Historic Park	Highway 299, west of Redding	EC/IN
Shasta 47	Sacramento River - Redding	CULT
Shingletown	Highway 44	EC/IN
Southern Stage Station	Highway 99 - Castella	EC/IN
Squaw Creek Archaeological Site*	**	CULT
Summit Lake Ranger Station*	Mineral	EX/SE

**TABLE HER-1
SHASTA COUNTY HERITAGE RESOURCES¹**

NAME	LOCATION	THEME
Texas Springs	Texas Springs Road	EC/IN
Tower House District*	Whiskeytown NRA	EC/IN
Volta	Manton	EC/IN
Warner Valley Ranger Station*	Mineral	EX/SE
Whiskeytown	Whiskeytown	EX/SE

¹ The 51 heritage resources listed here include resources included in the National Register of Historic Places, the California Historical Landmarks series, or the California Points of Interest program. In addition to the resources listed there are approximately 500 known sites or areas of archaeological significance. The names and locations of these areas are not revealed in order to protect these sensitive resources. This information is on file with the Cultural Resources Section of the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

² Theme Code:

ARCH	Architecture
EX/SE	Exploration/Settlement
MIL	Military
CULT	Cultural (Aboriginal)
EC/IN	Economic/Industrial
REL	Religion
SO/ED	Social/Education

* National Register of Historic Places site.

** Information regarding the location of these resources is on file with the Cultural Resources Section of the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

Source: State of California Department of Parks and Recreation.

6.10.3 Objective

HER-1 Protection of significant prehistoric and historic cultural resources.

6.10.4 Policy

HER-a Development projects in areas of known heritage value shall be designed to minimize degradation of these resources. Where conflicts are unavoidable, mitigation measures which reduce such impacts shall be implemented. Possible mitigation measures may include clustering, buffer or nondisturbance zones, and building siting requirements.