

4.5 CULTURAL RESOURCES

This chapter discusses cultural resources in Butte County and evaluates the potential cultural resource impacts resulting from the spatial location of development that would be allowed by General Plan 2030. The following evaluation assesses historical, archaeological and paleontological resources, as well as potential impacts associated with the disturbance of human remains.

A. Regulatory Framework

This section summarizes key federal and State regulations and policies that apply to historical, archaeological and paleontological resources and human remains.

1. National Historic Preservation Act

The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) is the most influential federal law dealing with historic preservation. Under the NHPA, Congress has enacted numerous statutes that affect historic properties. One of the most important provisions of the NHPA is the establishment of the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), the official designation of historical resources. Districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects are eligible for listing in the Register. The NRHP is administered by the National Park Service. To be eligible for the NRHP, a property must be significant under criterion A (history), B (persons), or C (design/construction); possess integrity; and ordinarily be 50 years of age or more.

Listing in the NRHP does not entail specific protection or assistance for a property, but it does guarantee recognition in planning for federal or federally-assisted projects (see Section 106), eligibility for federal tax benefits and qualification for federal historic preservation assistance.¹ The NRHP is influential beyond its statutory role because it achieves uniform standards of

¹ The National Parks Service's website. <http://www.nps.gov/history/local-law/nhpa1966.htm>, accessed on September 3, 2009.

documentation and evaluation. Additionally, project effects on properties listed in the NRHP must be evaluated under CEQA.²

2. California Register of Historic Resources

The California Register of Historical Resources (CRHR) is restricted to properties that are to be protected from substantial adverse change (Public Resources Code Section 5024.1). A historical resource may be listed in the CRHR if it meets any of the following criteria:

- ◆ It is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage.
- ◆ It is associated with the lives of persons important in California's past.
- ◆ It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, region, or method of construction, or represents the work of an important creative individual, or possesses high artistic value.
- ◆ It has yielded or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

The CRHR includes properties that are listed or have been formally determined to be eligible for listing in the NRHP, State Historical Landmarks and eligible Points of Historical Interest. Other resources require nomination for inclusion in the Register. These may include resources contributing to the significance of a local historic district, individual historical resources, historical resources identified in historic resource surveys conducted in accordance with State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) procedures, historic resources or districts designated under a local ordinance consistent with State Historic Resources Commission procedures, and local landmarks or historic properties designated under local ordinance.³

² 2009 CEQA Guidelines. 15064.5(c), page 126.

³ The California Environmental Resources Evaluation System's website. <http://ceres.ca.gov/ceqa/more/tas/page2.html>, accessed on September 3, 2009.

3. California Public Resources Code

Section 5097 of the Public Resources Code specifies the procedures to be followed in the event of the unexpected discovery of human remains on nonfederal land. The disposition of Native American burial falls within the jurisdiction of the California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). Section 5097.5 of the Code states the following:

No person shall knowingly and willfully excavate upon, or remove, destroy, injure or deface any historic or prehistoric ruins, burial grounds, archaeological or vertebrate paleontological site, including fossilized footprints, inscriptions made by human agency, or any other archaeological, paleontological or historical feature, situated on public lands, except with the express permission of the public agency having jurisdiction over such lands. Violation of this section is a misdemeanor.

As used in this section, “public lands” means lands owned by, or under the jurisdiction of, the State or any city, county, district, authority or public corporation, or any agency thereof. Consequently, Butte County is required to comply with Public Resource Code Section 5097.5 for its activities on publicly-owned land.⁴

4. California State Health and Safety Code

Section 7052 of the California State Health and Safety Code states that the disturbance of Native American cemeteries is a felony. Section 7050.5 requires that construction or excavation be stopped in the vicinity of discovered human remains until the coroner determines whether the remains are those of a Native American. If determined to be Native American, the coroner must contact the NAHC.⁵

⁴ California Department of Transportation’s website. <http://www.dot.ca.gov/ser/vol1/sec3/physical/Ch08Paleo/chap08paleo.htm#statelaws>, accessed September 3, 2009.

⁵ The California Environmental Resources Evaluation System’s website. <http://ceres.ca.gov/nahc/statepres.html>, accessed on September 3, 2009.

5. California State Senate Bill 18

Senate Bill (SB) 18, which went into effect January 1, 2005, requires local governments (cities and counties) to consult with Native American tribes in order to better protect traditional tribal culture through local land use planning.⁶ SB 18 provides California Native American tribes an opportunity to participate in local land use decisions in the early stages of planning before individual site-specific, project-level land use designations are made by a local government.

Butte County invited all Native American Tribes listed by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) to consult on General Plan 2030, as required by SB 18. The NAHC identified six tribes in Butte County for consultation under SB 18:

- Berry Creek Rancheria of Maidu Indians
- Enterprise Rancheria of Maidu Indians
- Greenville Rancheria of Maidu Indians
- Maidu Nation
- Mechoopda Indian Tribe of Chico Rancheria
- Mooretown Rancheria of Maidu Indians.

In addition to inviting these Tribes to consult, the County provided periodic Tribal Update Meetings and written updates throughout the planning process. These meetings and updates described the status, progress, and products of the General Plan 2030 process to tribes listed for consultation.

⁶ SB 18 is codified by California Government Code (GC) Section 65352.4 and amends GC Sections 65040.2, 65092, 65351 and 65560, while adding GC Sections 65352.3, 65352.4 and 65562.5.

B. Existing Conditions

This section discusses the existing conditions pertaining to cultural resources within Butte County.

1. Archaeological Resources

To prepare this report, the Northeast Information Center (NEIC) of the California Historical Resources Information System at California State University, Chico, conducted a general countywide cultural resources record search. The NEIC is part of the California Historical Resources Information System, which maintains an inventory of the State's historical resources. Specifically, the NEIC keeps records of known archaeological and architectural sites and studies on US Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle maps. All of the USGS maps covering Butte County were consulted. This information provided the basis for the archaeological-sensitivity assessment of Butte County, discussed later in this report. Information about cultural resources is variable and ranges from reported locations with no attached map or poorly drawn maps, which were prevalent through the 1970s, to precisely recorded site information with associated detailed mapping. Early methods for identifying, recording, and evaluating sites would not meet current standards for identifying and evaluating cultural resources. Although the NEIC inventory provides the best available information about archaeological sites, there are likely many undiscovered cultural resources in Butte County.

Of the 2,982 archaeological sites recorded in Butte County, 1,519 sites are either prehistoric archaeological resources or include a prehistoric archaeological component. There are 1,552 sites that are historic period sites or contain a historical archaeological component. According to the California Office of Historic Preservation, a total of 129 archaeological sites are listed on, or have been formally recommended eligible for, listing on the National Register of Historic Places, and therefore by default on the California Register of Historical Resources. Of these, 98 are prehistoric archaeological sites, 25 are historic period archaeological sites, and six are archaeological sites that contain both prehistoric and historic period components.

a. Prehistoric Archaeological Resources

The Native Americans were the first inhabitants of the Butte County area. The county included the territories of four groups of Native American peoples: the Maidu (mountain Maidu), the Nisenan (southern Maidu), the Konkow (northwestern Maidu), and the Yana. Many Native Americans continue to reside in the area. The northern county was Maidu territory. They inhabited the mountain valleys from Honey Lake to Lassen Peak, generally at altitudes higher than 4,000 feet. The Nisenan territory was generally bounded by the Sacramento River to the west, the lower Feather River to the south, and the crest of the Sierra Nevada mountains to the east. The Konkow people inhabited the Feather River area, from west of Richbar almost to the Sutter Buttes, and the Sacramento River area from Butte City in the south to Butte Meadows in the north. The Yana people occupied a wide range of the county, from the edge of the Sacramento Valley to the crests of the Cascade and Sierra Nevada mountains.⁷ The last member of the Yana tribe was a man called Ishi. Ishi was also the last Native American in northern California to live the majority of his life outside of European American influence. Ishi and his ancestors occupied the foothill region near Mount Lassen, which is modern-day Butte County.

Previous studies in the general region provide reasonable expectations for the range of archaeological property types likely to occur in Butte County. Prehistoric site types include habitation sites, limited occupation sites, hunting/processing camps, lithic reduction stations,⁸ milling stations, quarries,

⁷ Johnson, J.J., 1978. Yana. In R.F. Heizer, ed., *Handbook of North American Indians*. Vol. 8, *California*:361-369. (W.C. Sturtevant, general ed.) Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution.

Levy, R., 1978. *The Linguistic Prehistory of Central California: A Processual View*. Tucson, AZ: Paper presented at the annual meeting for the Society for American Archaeology.

⁸ A location used for the manufacture of stone tools.

rock-art sites, bedrock milling features,⁹ and burial locations. Sites may fall into more than one category. For example, habitation sites may be associated with rock art. Therefore, sites may be classified as more than one site type. The most common prehistoric sites found in the Butte County area are temporary occupation sites.

Habitation sites are locations of long-term occupation. These sites were typically located near streams and springs, which are abundant in Butte County. Habitation sites are characterized by midden deposits¹⁰ and a variety of artifacts, such as flaked-stone tools, ground-stone implements and fire-affected rock.

Temporary camps are distinguished from habitation sites by the absence or limited development of midden deposits. Archaeological deposits at temporary camps are typically shallow or restricted to the surface and are limited principally to ground-stone tools, flaked-stone tools, and debitage,¹¹ in approximate descending order of frequency.

Lithic scatters are collections of flaked- or ground-stone debris, including tools and debitage that relate to post-quarry reduction and tool manufacturing efforts. They are perceived primarily as daily or overnight task-oriented camps where a limited range of activities was conducted.

The overall prehistoric archaeological sensitivity of Butte County is generally considered high, particularly in areas near water sources or on terraces along watercourses. In particular, the Sacramento River and Feather River watersheds within the Sierra Nevada foothills possess river terraces that are rich in archaeological resources. In the area of Oroville where the forks of the

⁹ Rock outcrops with human-made shallow slicks or circular depressions, often appearing in clusters used for the purpose of grinding or pulverizing food resources.

¹⁰ A mound or deposit containing shell, bone, and other domestic refuse that indicates the site of human settlement.

¹¹ The sharp-edged debris generated during the manufacture of a stone tool.

Feather River converge, the archaeological site density is one of the highest in California. Between 2005 and 2006 alone, at least 500 sites were recorded in this area and reported to the NEIC.

In general, the lands on the margins of the Sacramento River and other major waterways are rich in prehistoric archaeological resources. Prehistoric archaeological sites often are located along riverbanks in the Sacramento Valley, although they are usually found on natural rises that protected the inhabitants from frequent floods. Sites along the Sacramento River and other major drainages in Butte County do exist, and additional prehistoric deposits may be buried in similar locations, in natural buried contexts such as under alluvial deposits, and in cultural buried contexts such as below constructed levees, or mixed in as a portion of levee fill material.

b. Historic-Period Archaeological Resources

Historic site types include old transportation corridors and alignments, and remnants of activities associated with historic homesteading, ranching and agriculture, mining and commerce. The overall historic archaeological sensitivity of Butte County area is generally considered moderately high, especially in those areas where historic records indicate transportation routes, agricultural settlements, and mining.

2. Historical Resources

Spaniards explored parts of the area now known as Butte County as early as 1808, in search of mission sites. Hunters and trappers, such as Jedediah Strong Smith and a group of Hudson's Bay Company trappers, explored present-day Butte County prior to the California gold rush of 1848. At that time, the region was outside the mainstream of both Mexican and American settlement and was scattered with just a handful of ranches on Mexican land grants.¹²

¹² McGie, J.F., 1982a. *History of Butte County, Volume I: 1840–1919*. Oroville, CA: Butte County Board of Education.

The discovery of gold in 1848 brought an influx of gold seekers to the region. Thousands of miners descended upon the area and set up transitory encampments, such as Bidwell Bar, Long Bar, and Hamilton on the Feather River, and others along Butte Creek, where some gold was discovered. Mining camps established during the Gold Rush gradually developed into trading centers for mining and then for lumbering and agricultural goods.

In the latter part of the 19th century, the Gold Rush waned and the population steadied. The county's economic emphasis shifted back towards agriculture, with many lucrative crops including rice, almonds, walnuts, and peaches. In 1850, Butte County was incorporated into the State of California as one of the original 27 counties. In 1856, the county's boundaries were redrawn to their current configuration. The county's first municipality, the City of Chico, was incorporated in 1860. Biggs was incorporated in 1903, Gridley in 1905, Oroville in 1906, and Paradise in 1979.

Historic cultural resources generally include buildings, roads, trails, bridges, canals and railroads usually associated with the time period beginning with the first Euro-American contact. Because Euro-American settlement of Butte County dates to the 1840s, the county is rich in historic cultural resources. In general, historic resources in the county are expected to occur in concentrations: adjacent to transportation corridors (historic highways, railroads, navigable waterways); on historic ranches; in areas of historic rock, soil, mineral and timber extraction; and within historic neighborhoods and business districts.

a. Historic Properties in State Database

The Historic Property Data File Historic Resources Inventory (HRI), which is maintained by the SHPO, identifies properties that have been recorded and whether those properties are considered eligible or ineligible for listing in the NRHP. The listing for Butte County, including the incorporated municipalities, indicates that 846 properties have been inventoried at some level. This includes several hundred properties that are listed or appear to meet the criteria for listing in the National Register. In general, listing a property in the

NRHP involves submission of a formal nomination form that requires concurrence from the SHPO, State Historical Resources Commission, and the Keeper of the National Register. Properties that are evaluated and found eligible for listing under one or more of the NRHP criteria, but are never nominated, are afforded the same protections for federally funded projects as listed properties. As noted previously, properties listed or found eligible for listing in the NRHP are also automatically eligible for the CRHR. The HRI also includes buildings that have been identified as historically significant by local government agencies. The numbers and types of properties in Butte County are discussed briefly below.

i. Oroville Area

Surveys have identified 184 buildings and structures in the Oroville area that meet the criteria for listing in the NRHP and CRHR or that have local designation. Among these are buildings that comprise the Berkeley Olive Association Historic District, located in the vicinity of Coal Canyon Road and Rocky Lane, which was listed in the National Register in 2000.

ii. Chico Area

Chico includes some of the most important cultural resources in the entire county. Surveys have identified 511 buildings and structures in the Chico area that have been surveyed, evaluated and found to meet the criteria for listing in the NRHP and CRHR or that have local designation. Of these, 124 structures and buildings are listed or determined eligible for listing in the NRHP or CRHR.

iii. Paradise Area

The HRI contains 23 buildings and structures in and around Paradise that have been surveyed, evaluated and found to meet the criteria for listing in the NRHP and CRHR or that have a local designation. Among these, the Honey Run Covered Bridge near Paradise and the Centerville Schoolhouse northeast of Chico have been nominated and are listed in the National Register.

iv. Gridley Area

The Gridley area includes 42 properties that have been surveyed, evaluated and found to meet the criteria for listing in the NRHP and CRHR or that have local designation.

v. Biggs Area

Ten buildings and structures in the vicinity of Biggs have been surveyed, evaluated and found to meet the criteria for listing in the NRHP and CRHR or have local designation. None have been formally nominated and listed in the National Register.

vi. Other Areas

Throughout the rest of Butte County, 76 buildings and structures have been surveyed, evaluated and found to meet the criteria for listing in the NRHP and CRHR or have local designation. Of these, eight have been formally nominated and listed in the NRHP.

b. California State Historical Landmarks

The State of California officially began commemorating sites important to the history of the State in 1932. Originally, the California Historical Landmarks program emphasized well-known places and events including the missions, early settlements and the Gold Rush. Over the years, the program has been refined to include only those sites that are of statewide historical importance and must be the first, last, only, or most significant of a type in a large geographical area. Nine resources in Butte County have been designated as California Historical Landmarks.

c. California Points of Historical Interest

California Points of Historical Interest are sites, buildings, features or events that are of local (city or county) significance and have anthropological, cultural, military, political, architectural, economic, scientific, technical, religious, experimental or other value. No historical resource may be designated as both a Landmark and a Point of Historical Interest. If a Point of Historical Interest is subsequently granted status as a Landmark, the Point designation

will be retired. To be eligible for designation as a Point of Historical Interest, a resource must meet at least one of the following criteria:

- ◆ The first, last, only, or most significant of its type in the state or within the local geographic region (city or county).
- ◆ Association with an individual or group having a profound influence on the history of the local area.
- ◆ A prototype of, or an outstanding example of, a period, style, architectural movement or construction.
- ◆ Is one of the more notable works or the best surviving work in the local region of a pioneer architect, designer or master builder.

There are 20 California Points of Historical Interest in Butte County including the following resources in unincorporated Butte County:

- ◆ Honey Run Covered Bridge, near Paradise
- ◆ Manzanita School, east of Gridley
- ◆ Centerville Schoolhouse, northeast of Chico
- ◆ Old Chinese Cemetery, vicinity of Oroville
- ◆ Townsite of Cherokee and Spring Valley Mine, near Oroville
- ◆ Long's Bar, near Oroville
- ◆ Oroville Cemetery, vicinity of Oroville
- ◆ Jewish Cemetery, vicinity of Oroville
- ◆ Site of 14-Mile House, Toll Station and Wayside Inn, vicinity of Chico
- ◆ Richardson Springs Resort, northeast of Chico
- ◆ Odd Fellows Home (Bella Vista Hotel) Site, vicinity of Thermalito
- ◆ The Fagan House, east of Gridley

C. Standards of Significance

General Plan 2030 and the ALUCP override would have a significant cultural resource impact if they would:

- ◆ Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

- ◆ Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource.
- ◆ Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature.
- ◆ Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries.

D. Impact Discussion

The following discussion provides an analysis of potential project and cumulative cultural resource impacts that could occur as a result of implementation General Plan 2030. Implementation of the ALUCP override would have no cultural resource impact in Butte County, and is not discussed further in this section.

1. Project Impacts

- a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource.

Section 15064.5 (b)(1) of the CEQA Guidelines defines a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historic resource to be the “physical demolition, destruction, relocation, or alteration of the resource or its immediate surroundings such that the significance of an historical resource would be materially impaired.”

Development allowed by General Plan 2030 could cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource. Specifically, direct impacts could occur if buildings determined to be historic were demolished or significantly altered as a result of development allowed by General Plan 2030.

However, General Plan 2030 includes goals, policies and actions that would address potential historic resource impacts and propose mitigation, if applicable. Conservation and Open Space Element Goal COS-15 and its associated policies and actions address potential impacts of new development on cultural

resources. Specifically, Policy COS-P15.1 requires examination by a qualified consulting archaeologist or historian and appropriate protection and preservation when significant historic resources are found during construction. Policy COS-P15.3 requires a discretionary review of demolition permit applications on potentially important historic sites. In addition, Action COS-A15.1 directs the County to create guidelines for evaluating and mitigating project impacts to cultural resources, in consultation with the NEIC.

General Plan 2030 also seeks to preserve important historical resources through Conservation and Open Space Element Goal COS-14 and its associated policies and actions. In particular, Policy COS-P14.2 requires that evaluations of cultural resources be conducted as part of the review process under CEQA and the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA). Policy COS-P14.3 requires consultation with the NEIC and appropriate historic and preservation professionals when considering re-use of historic sites. In addition, Actions COS-A14.1 through COS-A14.3 direct the County to seek funding for and conduct studies that would define the types and categories of historic and cultural resources in the county, and to inventory known cultural resources.

Together, the goals, policies and actions in General Plan 2030 would reduce potential historical resource impacts to a *less-than-significant* level.

- b. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource.

Development allowed by General Plan 2030 could result in direct or indirect impacts to archaeological resources. Construction activities, such as grading and excavation, may result in the accidental destruction or disturbance of archaeological sites.

However, General Plan 2030 includes goals, policies and actions that would mitigate potential archaeological resource impacts. As discussed in Section D.1.a, Conservation and Open Space Element Goal COS-15 and its associated policies and actions address the potential adverse impacts of new development

on cultural resources. In particular, Policy COS-P15.1 requires examination and appropriate protection and preservation of prehistoric archaeological artifacts found during construction, and Action COS-A15.1 directs the County to create guidelines for evaluating and mitigating impacts to surface and subsurface cultural resources. Furthermore, Policy COS-P15.2 requires that any archaeological resources on a project site be either preserved in their sites or adequately documented as a condition of removal, and directs that, when a project has sufficient flexibility, avoidance and preservation of the resource be the primary mitigation measure.

In addition, as discussed in Section D.1.a, Conservation and Open Space Element Goal COS-14 and its associated policies and actions aim to preserve important archaeological resources. In particular, Policy COS-P14.2 requires that evaluations of surface and subsurface cultural resources be conducted as part of the review process under CEQA and NEPA, and Actions COS-A14.1 through COS-A14.3 direct the County to seek funding for and conduct studies that would define the types of cultural resources in the county and inventory known cultural resources.

Together, the goals, policies, and actions in General Plan 2030 would reduce potential archaeological resource impacts to a *less-than-significant* level.

- c. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature.

Future development allowed by General Plan 2030 may result in impacts to paleontological resources or unique geological features. Ground-disturbing activities in sensitive areas may cause damage to or destruction of paleontological resources. Additionally, development of previous undeveloped areas may attract people and result in illicit collection of fossils, prospecting, or damage to unique geological features. If these resources were significant, this would be considered a significant impact.

However, General Plan 2030 includes goals, policies and actions that would mitigate potential paleontological resource impacts. As discussed in Sections

D.1.a and D.1.b, Conservation and Open Space Element Goal COS-15 and its associated policies and actions address the potential adverse impacts of new development on cultural resources. In particular, Policy COS-P15.1 requires examination and appropriate protection and preservation of archaeological artifacts when found during construction, and Action COS-A15.1 directs the County to create guidelines for evaluating and mitigating impacts to surface and subsurface cultural resources. Furthermore, Policy COS-P15.2 requires that any paleontological resources on a project site be either preserved in their sites or adequately documented as a condition of removal, and directs that, when a project has sufficient flexibility, avoidance, and preservation of the resource be the primary mitigation measure.

In addition, as discussed in Sections D.1.a and D.1.b, Conservation and Open Space Element Goal COS-14 and its associated policies and actions aim to preserve important cultural resources. In particular, Policy COS-P14.2 requires that evaluations of surface and subsurface cultural resources be conducted as part of the review process under CEQA and NEPA, and Actions COS-A14.1 through COS-A14.3 direct the County to seek funding for and conduct studies that would define the types of cultural resources in the county and inventory known cultural resources.

Together, the goals, policies, and actions in General Plan 2030 would reduce potential paleontological resource impacts to a *less-than-significant* level.

- d. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries.

Although General Plan 2030 would not affect any formal cemeteries or known burials outside of formal cemeteries, future development could disturb unknown human remains.

However, General Plan 2030 includes goals, policies and actions that would mitigate potential impacts associated with the disturbance of human remains. Specifically, Conservation and Open Space Element Policy COS-P16.3 requires that human remains discovered during implementation of public and

private projects be treated with dignity and respect, and that treatment of those remains fully complies with the federal Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act and other appropriate laws. Policy COS-P16.4 requires that, if human remains are located during any ground disturbing activity, work must stop until the County Coroner has been contacted. If the human remains are determined to be of Native American origin, the NAHC and the most likely descendant would need to be consulted before resuming work.

Together, the goals, policies and actions in General Plan 2030 would reduce potential impacts associated with the disturbance of human remains to a *less-than-significant* level.

2. Cumulative Impacts

In general, cumulative impacts to cultural, historical, or paleontological resource sites would occur when a series of actions leads to the loss of a substantial type of site, building or resource. For example, while the loss of a single historic building may not be significant to the character of a neighborhood or streetscape, continued loss of such resources on a project-by-project basis could constitute a significant cumulative effect. This is most obvious in historic districts, where destruction or alteration of a percentage of the contributing elements may lead to a loss of integrity of the district overall. Changes to the setting or character of an area, for example, by adding modern structures on all sides of a historically significant building, thus altering the aesthetics of the streetscape, would create a significant impact. Destruction or relocation of historic buildings would also significantly impact the setting.

However, development in the Butte County region would be subject to federal and State laws protecting cultural resources. The goals, policies and actions of General Plan 2030 that protect historical, archaeological and paleontological resources, and human remains, in combination with these other regulations, would result in a *less-than-significant* cumulative impact to cultural resources.

E. Maximum Theoretical Buildout

The maximum theoretical buildout allowed under General Plan 2030 would include significantly more development than the projected 2030 buildout analyzed in Section D in terms of both the amount and the extent of development. Therefore, the potential for impacts to cultural resources would increase. However, as discussed in Chapter 3, it is extremely unlikely that maximum theoretical buildout would ever occur under General Plan 2030. Therefore, an analysis of maximum theoretical buildout is not required by CEQA.

F. Impacts and Mitigation Measures

Since there are no significant impacts related to cultural resources as a result of General Plan 2030, no mitigation measures are required.