

APPENDIX B.1

**FORESTHILL DIVIDE COMMUNITY PLAN (FDCP)
HERITAGE RESOURCE ELEMENT**

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PART ONE – BACKGROUND REPORT

INTRODUCTION

Placer County is preparing an update of the 1981 Foresthill General Plan. The plan, now referenced as the Foresthill Divide Community Plan (FDCP), is bounded by the North Fork American River, Shirttail Canyon, the watershed of Sugar Pine Reservoir and Elliot Ranch Road on the west and north, by the west branch of El Dorado Canyon on the east, and by the North Fork of the Middle Fork American River and the Middle Fork American River on the south. The plan area encompasses approximately 109 square miles, of which half is in public ownership (U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Bureau of Land Management, State of California Department of Parks and Recreation, etc.). The plan area covers several 7.5' USGS quadrangles (Auburn, Colfax, Dutch Flat, Foresthill, Georgetown, Greenwood, Michigan Bluff, and Westville).

The Foresthill Divide contains a rich heritage that is marked by numerous archaeological and cultural properties. Heritage resources are being lost to natural deterioration and to development-related impacts. Heritage resources are especially at risk, as the Foresthill Divide assumes an increasing role as the “bedroom” community for Auburn and Sacramento. Incoming residents and visitors, and the new construction designed to accommodate them, may compromise the rich sense of heritage and unique historical identity of the Divide. An appreciation of the heritage of the Foresthill Divide will engender the preservation and rejuvenation of old Foresthill and its surroundings and insure that both long-term and incoming residents and visitors to Foresthill can appreciate the area they have chosen to live and visit.

SETTING

The following physical and cultural background draws heavily from contexts presented in the “Historical, Architectural, and Archaeological Resources of Placer County, California (Terhorst and Gerike 1992) and in work by Baker (2000), Baker and Shoup (1992), and Baker, Shoup and Brack (1993) associated with the Highway 124 Project. Further information is taken from Carlson’s (1986) ethnographic overview and Markley and Henton’s (1985) prehistoric overview of the Tahoe National Forest. Details regarding the physical and cultural setting of the Foresthill Divide are found in these sources and will not be repeated here.

PHYSICAL SETTING

The Foresthill Divide is a long northeast-trending ridge system separating the North and Middle Forks of the American River. The ridge ranges in width from two to ten miles. As one of the major east-west ridge systems of the north-central Sierra Nevada, the Divide would have provided relatively easy access for prehistoric populations moving east and west over the crest. However, the steep canyons and rugged terrain to the north and south of the Divide may have been a barrier to travel and trade, and ultimately contributed to cultural conservatism and the development of local identities and differences, which included basic technology and economic and settlement patterns (Baker 2000:281). The Foresthill Divide has been sculpted by tectonic forces and stream erosion. During times of glacial advances, Sierran streams steepened their channels, creating steep slopes and tributary canyons and destabilizing riverside banks. It is during these times that ridgetop village

sites may have been preferable to village locales along streams. Ridges were also the preferred locales for Euroamerican settlements and ranchlands.

Rocks in the Foresthill region represent a geologic history spanning nearly 300 million years. The rocks underlying the Divide are part of the Mother Lode Belt and include slates and shales of the Mariposa Formation. The Mariposa Formation is composed of ancient seafloor sediments. These sedimentary rocks are associated with underlying volcanic rocks of the Logtown Ridge Formation. The flat ridge of the Foresthill Divide is formed by a complex system of Tertiary channels capped by lavas that are included within the Mehrten Formation and categorized as andesite mud-flows. The underlying ancient Tertiary river channels contain auriferous deposits that were the focus of hydraulic and drift mining for gold by incoming Euroamericans. Prehistoric populations also appear to have had detailed knowledge of these geological deposits (Baker 2000:10). For example, the complex geology of the Foresthill Divide region provided a variety of stone for tool manufacture, including slate and schist, chert, and igneous and metamorphic materials. In addition, basalt and obsidian were brought or traded into the area from source locations as far as the Truckee-Tahoe Basin, Bodie Hills, Napa, and locales in northeast California and northwest Nevada. Also, prehistoric populations visited salt marshes near Cool and salt springs near Lincoln and mined quartz crystal quarries in the Middle Fork Canyon for toolstone and ceremonial use and red and yellow ochre near Clipper gap for ornamentation and rock art.

The Mediterranean climate of the Foresthill Divide is characterized by hot summers and cool winters, with most precipitation falling during the winter. The FDCP area receives little snow, as the winter snow line on the Divide is around 3000 feet in elevation. The North and Middle Forks of the American River form the major hydrological features; fresh water sources are relatively abundant on top of the Divide. Rivers cut steep canyons up to 1000 feet below the top of the Divide that presented major obstacles for both prehistoric and historic populations traveling off of the Divide.

The FDCP area spans an elevation range roughly between 600 and 4800 feet and encompasses several major life zones that gradually change with increasing altitude. Mountain ridges are colonized by mixed forests, oaks, shrubs, grasslands, and meadows--habitat for diverse faunal resources. The rich array of plants and animals were of subsistence and economic importance to both aboriginal inhabitants and incoming Euroamericans.

PREHISTORY AND THE NATIVE AMERICAN PERIOD

Clear boundary determinations for Native American residents along the Foresthill Divide are confounded by the complete disruption of aboriginal cultures by early Euroamericans and of traditional practices involving inter-group trade, politics, marriage, and ritual. The Foresthill Divide lies firmly within the traditional territory of the Hill Nisenan (or Southern Maidu), a Penutian speaking group that inhabited the west-central Sierra Nevada. The Divide is peripheral land used by the Washoe, Hokan language speakers who chiefly occupied the west-central Great Basin along the eastern Sierran flank and its crest (Beales 1933; d'Azevedo 1966; Levey 1978; Littlejohn 1928). After historic contact, Northern Miwok, also Penutian speakers, may have resided here; Northern Miwok currently reside on the Divide. The Hill Nisenan held territory in the foothill and mountainous portions of the Yuba, Bear and American rivers, and the lower drainages of the Feather

River. The Hill Nisenan recognized three divisions within their group based on slight linguistic and cultural differences. The Foresthill people belonged to one of the subgroups with its "center of influence" at Auburn (Littlejohn 1928:15). Nuclear Washoe tribal lands were about 2000 square miles surrounding Lake Tahoe, with much larger peripheral lands having flexible, undefended boundaries. The area between snowline on the west Sierra slope and the Sierran crest was shared between the Nisenan and Washoe. Tradition holds that the Washoe and Nisenan had contact at Westville, east and upslope of the FDCP area, and that encounters were not always friendly.

Environmental phenomena such as springs and drainages, unique geological outcrops, and different land surface exposures with variable slopes created extreme variety in the accompanying plant and animal communities upon which aboriginal populations depended. Like most hunters and gatherers, vegetable foods formed the subsistence baseline, although they used a wide range of plant and animal species. Generally, the least productive time of the year for both the Hill Nisenan and Washoe was late winter-early spring. Hill Nisenan caught salmon during spring runs up the North and Middle Forks of the American Rivers and their tributaries. Throughout the summer, both groups gathered nuts and seeds, roots, berries, fungi, and greens. Expeditions to hunt large game took place within the higher elevations during the fall. Acorns became available in massive quantities in the autumn. Acorn eating is the hallmark of California Indians and they were the primary staple for those groups who inhabited the western foothills of the Sierra. The Washoe went to great lengths to obtain acorns in trade from their western neighbors.

Lower elevations encompassed by the FDCP area, were occupied on a permanent or semi-permanent basis, with higher elevations being inhabited at various times of the year by smaller groups that made seasonal movements in order to procure economic resources as they became available. The archaeological imprint of these ancient subsistence activities are distinctive, with diverse environmental zones closely corresponding to a variety of specific site types, such as villages, multi-task camps, task-specific locales, and special use areas.

Hill Nisenan villages and year-round encampments were clustered in the lower elevations of the FDCP area. Villages were usually placed on ridge tops and on large flats along major streams. Permanent villages are represented archaeologically by culturally enriched and darkened soils (or "midden") which contain artifacts, charcoal, organic debris, and/or house pit and dance house depressions. Villages hosted important social gatherings and religious ceremonies. Dances to celebrate seasonal events and honor ancestors and deities were held in large semi-subterranean dance houses. (The Todds Valley Miwok-Maidu Cultural Foundation is currently planning construction of a new dance house near Foresthill.) Hill Nisenan villages consisted of from four to 12 separate dwellings, housing a nuclear or polygamous family. Larger social organizations, called "tribelets", were formed by several villages uniting under a single chief. Tribelet boundaries were marked by natural ridges between streams. No permanent Nisenan winter village occupation is reported above approximately 4000 feet elevation on the western slope.

The Washoe generally wintered in the Truckee Meadows area on the east slope of the Sierra and spent summers in the higher elevations in and around the Truckee-Tahoe Basin and west of the crest. Compared to the Hill Nisenan, the Washoe were a relatively informal and flexible political collectivity. While semi-permanent villages were maintained along the eastern Sierran front, the

Washoe as a whole were more mobile than the Nisenan and the Washoe have a tradition of making long treks across the Sierran passes to hunt and gather acorns and to trade with Maidu and Miwok neighbors.

At seasonal base camps, the occupation by fewer people for briefer periods of time precluded the build up of deep midden deposits. Such seasonal camps are manifest archaeologically by a wide range of cultural items (including stone tools, waste flakes from the manufacture of stone tools, and milling equipment such as bedrock mortars and pestles and hand stones and portable milling slabs). This artifact inventory indicates that multiple tasks were pursued.

Single-task specific sites were located throughout Washoe and Nisenan territory and were used at variable times of the year as satellite locales aimed at a specific function. Task sites were often located away from camps or villages and near concentrations of plant, animal or fish resources. For example, bedrock mortar stations were positioned in oak groves, fishing stations were established near productive spawning streams, and hunting stations were placed in proximity to deer migration routes. Aboriginal trek routes were patterned after game trails, were later used by the emigrants, and are often the precursors of our modern transportation systems.

Special use sites were often isolated from living areas and comprise petroglyphs (or rock writings), cemeteries, and quarries where toolstone such as chert or basalt was mined and roughly fashioned into tools.

These land use patterns, known from Washoe and Nisenan protohistoric times, are generally consistent with interpretations derived from numerous archaeological investigations within the Placer County (and a few excavations on the Foresthill Divide). The archaeological record indicates a shift from sparsely populated hunting-based societies in earlier times to growing populations with increasing reliance on plant foods by the time of historic contact. Also, paleoclimates may have been warmer and drier in the past, allowing for year-round occupation of the higher elevations. Occupation along the Divide may extend earlier than 5000 years ago and continue up to the time of historic contact. Between about 7000 and 5000 years ago, during the Early Archaic Period, climates were warmer and drier and drying lowlands may have prompted human populations to travel to upland resource zones where prehistoric economies incorporated seed processing and fishing, as well as hunting. During the Middle Archaic period, dating from about 5000 to 1300 years ago, climates became moister and, with a return to more optimal living conditions, population densities increased. More intensive prehistoric use of the Foresthill Divide by mixed-mode foragers/collectors began during this period. The Late Archaic period, about 1300 years ago to historic contact, has been equated with the Nisenan and Washoe cultures, as described in ethnographic accounts written by early anthropologists. This period is marked by an overall drying trend, with cool and moist episodes alternating with extended severe drought. Throughout the Lake Archaic, prehistoric populations continued to increase.

The largest available body of ethnographic data on the Nisenan and Washoe was collected between the 1890s to the 1930s. Most of this information was gathered after aboriginal populations had been substantially reduced and the process of acculturation was well underway. The Washoe and the Nisenan inhabited the heart of two of the most important mineral resource zones in the western

United States, the Sierra Nevada Mother Lode and the Comstock Lode of Nevada, respectively. By the 1850s Euroamericans had permanently occupied their territories and changed traditional lifeways. Mining, lumbering, grazing, commercial fishing, tourism, and the growth of settlements disrupted traditional Indian relationships to the land. As hunting, fishing, and gathering wild foods were no longer possible, they were forced into dependency upon the Euroamerican settlers.

Little is known about the period of initial contact on the Divide between Indians and Euroamericans. Resistance to white incursions occurred, mostly in the form of Indian raids upon the stock and camps in desperate attempts to find food. Disruption of subsistence patterns, starvation, disease, and violence resulted in a severe decline in Native populations and abandonment of villages. The Federal Government's Indian "relocation" policies in California were set in motion during the 1850s with the creation of rancherias and reservations. Nisenan either stayed on reservations or rancherias and married into their own or into other Indian tribes, or became assimilated into the dominant Euroamerican society. Nonetheless, reports of early anthropologists and census records indicate that some Nisenan remained in their home places. Nisenan recall place names for several village locations on the Divide (Littlejohn n.d.; 1928): Pow'oto at Damascus, To I mom at Red Point, Kil'im yan at Westville, Om'lam (meaning "tall rocks") at Mile Hill Toll House, Hem'hem near Yankee Jim's, Wa'tas near Spring Garden, O'pok pok at Todd's Valley, etc. A Nisenan cemetery is located in the Spring Garden/Todd Valley area continues to be used and maintained. Today, significant numbers of Nisenan are dispersed throughout many Sierran foothill communities. On the Foresthill Divide, interest in maintaining traditional ways is reflected in the revival of dances, basketry skills and new construction for a ceremonial roundhouse near Todd's Valley. The Todds Valley Miwok-Maidu Cultural Foundation has been established within the last five years and the group is in the process of gaining official tribal recognition from the U.S. governmental (Brown and Suehead, personal communication 2000). Members conduct monthly meetings. The group is committed to preserving their heritage and reestablishing their presence and traditional practices on the Divide. Plans are underway to build a roundhouse on BLM land near Foresthill. Miwok-Maidu plant managers are actively involved in harvesting plants of traditional importance and are concerned about the disappearance of oak stands with their prized acorn crop.

The Washoe remain as a recognized tribe by the U.S. government and have maintained an established land base. Its 1200 tribal members are governed by a tribal council that consists of members of the Carson, Dresslerville, Woodfords, and Reno-Sparks Indian colonies, as well as members from non-reservation areas.

HISTORIC PERIOD

Gold Rush Period (1848-1859)

Earliest exploration during the Spanish and Mexican periods was limited in Placer County. It wasn't until later, with the growing American interest in the Trans-Mississippi West and California, that the U.S. government dispatched expeditions, such as those led by John C. Fremont, to explore the region, produce accurate maps, and report back on the region's inhabitants and resources. Fremont's expedition of 1845-1846 traversed portions of Placer County over Donner Pass.

A similar route to that taken by Fremont, ascending the Truckee River out of Nevada, over Donner Pass, and down the west slope into the Central Valley, was opened in 1844 by members of the Stephens-Townsend-Murphy Party, the first emigrant group to cross the Sierra Nevada by wagon. Hundreds of emigrant trains soon followed, the most notable being the Donner Party. The ordeal of starvation and cannibalism, endured by their members in the winter of 1846-1847, is a well-known and tragic episode in the American settlement of the West and is now memorialized at Donner State Historic Park in adjacent Nevada County.

A few months after John Marshall's gold discovery in January of 1848 at Sutter's Mill in Coloma, Claude Chana found gold in Placer County in Auburn Ravine near Ophir. Thousands of gold seekers soon arrived and within a few years settlements were permanently established in Placer County. The first prospecting along the Foresthill Divide was confined to the shallow placers along gravel bars and the beds of running streams where younger Quaternary stream deposits eroded the gold-bearing gravels laid down in earlier times. These shallow deposits were initially mined by a variety of simple surface hand mining techniques that involved the basic principle of agitating gold-bearing gravel in water-filled containers. Early gold extraction devices include gold pan, rocker, long tom, and sluice box. These early techniques were ultimately phased out in favor of ones that processed higher volumes of gravel. However, the sluice box continued as the standard means for extracting gold from gravels. The shallower pits and excavations and mounds of hand-piled rocks associated with these old surface washings are now largely infilled by erosion and are sometimes difficult to distinguish from natural features.

Older Tertiary Gravels, such as those formed by the ancestral American River that drained the Foresthill Divide, were laid down by slower Sierra Nevada rivers with gradual slopes. These huge deposits of ancient, loosely cemented gold-bearing gravels are more deeply buried and required more sophisticated techniques in their extraction. One method, ground sluicing, employed gravity flows of water aided by pick and shovel to break up deposits. Hydraulic mining was a more powerful form of ground sluicing, using water under pressure to dislodge and direct gold-bearing deposits into sluices where gold was trapped. "Coyoting" and later, more elaborate drift mining techniques, both employed horizontal or vertical excavations sunk into the ground to reach the gold bearing gravels. The majority of mining on the Foresthill Divide was accomplished by drift mining, using an adit and/or a shaft to reach the gold-rich ancient river channel lying deep under the ridge.

To accommodate simple mining techniques and to keep pace with the innovations of increasingly more sophisticated and powerful hydraulic methods, which demanded enormous volumes of water, an elaborate system of ditches, flumes and storage reservoirs was put in place. Financial backing requiring larger capital reserves and prompted the development of ditch companies that directed their water delivery and storage facilities to major diggings. Ditches and flumes headed in high elevation reservoirs and wound their way down mountainsides.

Placer mines far outnumbered lode mines on the Foresthill Divide. In California quartz lode mining was a less important mining technique than placer mining until after the discovery and development of the Comstock silver mines in Nevada in 1859. The "Mother Lode" is the popular name for the main quartz vein that is associated with the intrusion of the Sierra Nevada batholith. This single lode is split into a number of seams that underlie the quartz lode region within western and central Placer

County. These gold-quartz veins occur along contacts between granite and metamorphosed sedimentary rocks, volcanics and deeply weathered serpentinite. These and other hardrock sources were tapped by excavating tunnels with drills and dynamite in order to follow gold bearing quartz veins. Rock was transported out of the tunnels on ore carts and then transferred to stamp mills where the rock was crushed to release the gold ores from the surrounding material. The pulverized ore was then treated to remove impurities.

After the discovery of gold along the Foresthill Divide at Birds' Store in 1850, communities quickly sprang up around the mines. Yankee Jim's, Todd's Valley, Michigan Bluff, and Foresthill, and the numerous river bars along the North and Middle Forks of the American River were active mining communities during the early 1850s. By 1850, wagons traveled up onto the Divide, following old Indian trails, and pioneered the main travelway that became today's Foresthill Road (Forest Highway 124). By 1852, Foresthill became the business and transportation center of the Divide by 1852 and survives as the only remaining viable community.

Yankee Jim's (California Historical Landmark 398) is important as the site of Placer County's first hydraulic mining operation in 1853 and the site of the first mining ditch in the county (and perhaps the state) cut in 1851. The town takes its name from Yankee Jim (whose real name was reportedly Robinson), an infamous horse thief who built a corral here in 1849 to keep his horses. Yankee Jim is credited with the first gold discovery in the area. A post office was established at Yankee Jim's in 1852. Yankee Jims is also renown as the site of the first commercial orchards in Placer County. The town became an important local supplier of fruits on the Foresthill Divide. The town declined as a commercial center with the growth of nearby Foresthill and Todd's Valley on the ridge. By 1882, with the passage of the 1882-Anti-Debris Act that curtailed hydraulic mining, the town's populace of 3000 had dwindled to only 150 permanent residents.

Michigan Bluff, another one of the region's earliest mining towns, was established in 1850 (California Historical Landmark No. 402). By 1853, miners were hydraulicking the area. The mining ditches supplied water for the mines and provided the town with a reliable water supply and the town soon became a supply center for other mining camps farther up the Divide. Leland Stanford (later to become one of the Central Pacific Railroad's "Big Four" and subsequently Governor of California) operated a clothing store at Michigan Bluff from 1853 to 1855. The town fell into decline in 1882 when hydraulic mining was restricted.

Foresthill (California Historical Landmark No. 399), was established in the fall of 1850 by M. Fannan, James Fannan and R.S. Johnson. as a small trading post. The trading post later became the town's first "Forest House." A post office was established here in 1859. Located on the main route along the Divide, Foresthill quickly became a center for trade and traffic to and from Michigan Bluff, Yankee Jim's, Deadwood, Last Chance, and Westville. Gold was "accidentally" discovered within the deep river gravels below Foresthill after a landslide exposed nuggets of gold in the debris. By 1857, there were 25 drift operations in the area, most tunnels entering into the gravel deposits from the east side of the Divide. Prosperous mining companies around Foresthill included: the Dardanelles, Jenny Lind, Northwood & Fast, the Rough and Ready, the Jersey, the Alabama, the Eagle, and the India Rubber.

Throughout this early gold rush period, logging, agriculture, and transportation were adjuncts in support of the mining industry. Many migrants who flocked to the county had no intention of working the mines, but rather of working the miners, an equally lucrative prospect with burgeoning populations needing shops and services, food and clothing, transportation and building materials. California was almost completely dependent on imported food, most coming from Oregon, Hawaii, Chile, and other Pacific-rim countries. To fill this subsistence need, disenchanting or opportunistic ex-miners secured the best farming lands in the lower foothills in Placer County to produce food for miners. Ranching of both sheep and cattle was encouraged by the increased demand for meat during the gold rush.

Sawmills immediately sprang up around mining camps to supply lumber for mine timbering and building materials for the growing settlements. The mills at Foresthill and Todd's Valley were in operation in the 1850s.

The growth of gold rush era camps and towns stimulated the development of transportation systems based on supplying mines and camps with needed mail, express and provisions. Mining camps located along the present-day Foresthill Divide were difficult to reach by foot or by wagon. Miners traveled early roads to the mines using crude wagons, pack animals, or backpacks. Freightage with wagons or transport by major express companies out of valley supply centers was not undertaken until larger-scale hydraulic developed in the late 1850s. With the permanence of the mining settlements insured, heavy expenditures commonly required for road building were justified. As government was unable or unwilling to finance road building, individuals or companies undertook the task and operated the thoroughfares as toll roads for profit and as a means to attract freight business into a community. As teaming became more important, the number and permanency of roadside inns increased. By the 1850s, the route along the current Forest Highway 124 was established as the main travelway between Auburn and the Foresthill Divide. The original road undoubtedly followed an earlier Native American trail.

A heterogeneous population composed of people from every corner of the world crowded into the Sierra mining districts, as reflected in the ethnic names assigned to some of the earliest camps in along the Foresthill Divide. Native Americans played an important and little acknowledged part in the earliest period of the gold rush. Immigrants from Hawaii, Latin America, Europe, Asia, and elsewhere were initially welcomed because of their knowledge of mining techniques, but anti-foreign feelings hampered their economic opportunities in Placer County and many groups were gradually forced out of the mines altogether into other economic pursuits. The mingling of these different ethnic groups and nationalities has produced a unique cultural collage from which the heritage of the Foresthill Divide is drawn.

Post-Gold Rush Period (1859-present)

The years following 1859 are marked by technological changes that prompted a shift in the organization and financial arrangements of the mines. Lode mining and large-scale placer mining within the county required considerable technical skill, which was dependent upon scientific knowledge and a trained work force. The era of the self-sufficient, itinerant prospector with pick and shovel gave way to a system based increasingly on cooperation between groups of miners and

ultimately to the miner as wage earner employed by large multidivisional corporations tied to the national and world economy. National and foreign capitalists, initially investing only in mining, now poured their money into logging, transportation and water development, enterprises that paralleled mining interests. The period after 1859 can also be characterized by a change in settlement patterns, away from the "boom-bust" camp structure common to the early mining frontier, and the growth of a more mature, stable, and diversified economy and social structure that was not based on mining alone.

The beginning of this period was heralded by a down-turn in the county's mining economy, as mining in the American River basins was curtailed by the exodus of miners and capitalists to the Comstock rush of 1859-1865. By the late 1860s, the Placer County mines were again productive. Until 1884, when the hydraulic mines were restrained from dumping their tailings into the streams, the largest hydraulic mines in the world were operated here, providing the county's largest source of gold.

From the turn of the century to 1917, statewide gold production statewide rose. With the restrictions imposed on hydraulic mining, lode mining, drift mining and gold dredging supplied the principal sources of gold. Inflation following World War I caused the continual decline of gold production until the early 1930s when the prices increased during the depression years; gold output in the state was nearly as high as it had been during the gold rush. Thousands of urban unemployed rushed to the Sierran gold fields to prospect with pan and rocker. The revival of mining infused communities along the Foresthill Divide with new life and stimulated non-mining industries such as logging and agriculture. Many mines were shut down during World War II and reopened soon afterward, but with decreasing productivity. Gradually outside investment capital was funneled away from mining into California agriculture and real estate. The Placer County gold mining industry has not since recovered. Cement mining operations during the 1920s revived the local economy.

After the discovery of gold and silver in the Comstock in 1859, traffic was sufficiently heavy to warrant major improvements on the trans-Sierra routes. Towns in the western part of the county, in an effort to position themselves at trans-mountain road termini and obtain a share of the rapidly growing Comstock trade, established connecting roads to the major trans-Sierran routes through Placer County. The present route of Highway 124 emerged as the main travelway connecting the Foresthill Divide to Auburn and beyond. By the 1860s, Butcher Ranch became an important stage and wagon stop along this road. The community grew, with a school being established in 1878. Other way stations/ranching communities within this main travelway are the Grizzly Bear House and the 1853 United States Ranch/U.S. House (also called the "Mile Hill Toll House" and "North Star Toll House" and currently near the site of the Monte Verde Inn). These communities ceased to exist as way stations, as the automobile and truck gradually replaced the stagecoach and freight wagon.

Lumbermen commenced cutting pine to meet the needs of the western mines for timbering and flume construction. On the Foresthill Divide, sawmills date back to the early gold rush period. They tended to be smaller, generally produced for local consumption, and usually operated on a seasonal basis. The men who worked in the mill and forest were usually settled members of the community in nearby towns. Foresthill's timber industry sustained the community after the decline of mining

operations. However, the local timber industry was unable to compete with similar operations along the route of the transcontinental railroad. The onset of World War II prompted an increase in lumber production on the Foresthill Divide, as wartime demand stimulated the harvest of remaining large stands along the Divide. After the war, stands on nearby Mosquito Ridge were opened for harvest, with logs being milled in Foresthill.

As with lumber and other county industries, farm production for outside markets came after 1859 and was dependent on the development of better transportation systems. During the 1860s settled agriculture continued in the western part of the county on farms of varying sizes. Along the Foresthill Divide, agriculture/ranching centered on the ridge tops and on orchard crops and the production of hay and seasonal stocking of cattle.

The late 19th century brought a surge of interest and appreciation of wilderness recreation and forest lands increasingly became the relocation focus for retirees during the 20th century. The Tahoe National Forest promoted the recreational potential of its lands, which were enhanced by Civilian Conservation Corps crews between 1933 and 1943. Within the last few decades, recreational interest in the region has dramatically increased. This interest is accompanied by a rise in incoming residents who desire to live in an aesthetically pleasing and historically rich area. The enhancement and interpretation of selected historic sites and buildings have boosted community economies throughout Placer County and the Foresthill Divide in the form of recreational tourism.

The Foresthill Divide Historical Society is committed to preserving the history of the Foresthill Divide, which it believes to be a strong point for the community (Moffet, personal communication 2000). The unique history of the Divide, along with its recreational potential, are viewed as critical elements in the economic well being of the community and quality of life for its residents. In so doing, there is concern that future developments on the Divide are careful not to alter the historic “flavor” of old townsites. The group wishes to be consulted regarding future development issues on the Divide in order to insure preservation of remaining heritage resources and monitor new development (Percival, personal communication 2000). The group has an active membership and conducts regular meetings and has established an Internet web site ([HTTP://mmoffet.newworld.net](http://mmoffet.newworld.net)). Their web site averages from 20 to 40 “hits” a day, with inquiries throughout the U.S. and the world, especially from school districts. Greatest interest lies in topics involving gold mining, the gold rush, mining history, and Miwok-Maidu heritage. The society has a collection of over 800 historic photos, which are variously shown on their web site. The society is committed to sharing information regarding Foresthill Divide’s past within the medium of the future, the Internet, and in so doing they provide a model for other local historical organizations to also go on-line.

The “Foresthill Divide Historic Resources Survey” (4/20/1991) was a volunteer project sponsored in part by the Foresthill Divide Historical Society. The group compiled the survey of pre-1945 structures, objects and sites as part of a community awareness program and necessary first step for the economic rejuvenation of the old commercial core of Foresthill and to assist county planning in drafting a historic preservation component for the general plan update. The survey compiles the major historic sites and structures located on publicly owned lands of the Foresthill Divide, with a focus on the historic townsites of Foresthill, Michigan Bluff and Yankee Jim’s. Historic properties were evaluated for architectural, historical and/or cultural

significance according to the guidelines set forth in the “California Historic Resources Inventory Survey Workbook.” The historical society is prepared to take a position involving the preservation of certain historic structures and may consider expanding the current historic designations within the Foresthill townsite (Percival, personal communication 2000).

REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

SUMMARY OF CALIFORNIA LAWS AND LOCAL ORDINANCES PROTECTING HERITAGE RESOURCES

The integrity of the unique and varied heritage resources of Foresthill Divide is being diminished daily by natural deterioration and the processes and the pressures of growth. A variety of California laws and local ordinances have been passed in the last few decades that are designed to protect archaeological resources. Key legislation is summarized below. Several California public resource codes make it illegal to damage objects of historical or archaeological interest on public or private lands or to disturb human remains, including those in archaeological sites. It is illegal to possess remains or artifacts taken from Native American graves and the Native American Heritage Commission must be consulted whenever Native American graves are found.

California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA")

The act requires that all private and public activities not specifically exempted be evaluated against the potential for environmental damage, including effects to historical resources

Health and Safety Code, Section 7052 (Stats. 1939, C.60:672)

This code establishes a felony penalty for mutilating, disinterring, or otherwise disturbing human remains, except by relatives.

Penal Code, Section 622.5 (Stats. 1939, D.90:1605, 5.1)

This code provides misdemeanor penalties for injuring or destroying objects of historical or archaeological interest located on public or private lands. It specifically excludes the landowner.

Public Resources Code, Section 5097.5 (Stats. 1965, C.11362792)

An additional code defines as a misdemeanor the unauthorized disturbance or removal of archaeological, historical, or paleontological resources located on public lands.

Public Resources Code S5097.9

It is contrary to the free expression and exercise of Native American religion to interfere with or cause severe or irreparable damage to any Native American cemetery, place of worship, religious or ceremonial site or sacred shrine.

Health and Safety Code, Ch. 1492 (SB 297)

The health and safety code requires that the Governor's Native American Heritage Commission be consulted whenever Native American graves are found. It makes it illegal to possess remains or artifacts taken from Native American graves. If human remains are discovered, all work should stop in the immediate vicinity of the find and the county coroner must be notified, according to Section 7050.5 of California's Health and Safety Code. If the remains are Native American, the coroner should notify the Native American Heritage Commission, which in turn will inform a most likely descendant. The descendant will then recommend to the landowner appropriate disposition of the remains.

Public Resources Code Sec. 5024 and 5024.5

This code requires State Government agencies to inventory and protect historical structures and objects under their jurisdiction. The State Historic Preservation Officer must be consulted before any such structure or object is altered or sold.

Confidentiality

In order to prevent vandalism and unauthorized artifact collecting and to protect landowners from trespass, the locations of cultural resources are kept confidential. California Code Section 6254.10 exempts archaeological site information from the California Public Records Act, which requires that public records be open to public inspection. Location information is restricted and is not circulated as part of public documents but is used for planning purposes only.

HERITAGE RESOURCE EVALUATION CRITERIA

Evaluation of Significance

CEQA criteria of significance [Section 15064.5] are one means of determining whether a site is a historical resource. The criteria are modeled upon guidelines established by the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). For the purposes of CEQA, a significant heritage resource is one which:

- Is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of California's history and cultural heritage;
- Is associated with the lives of persons important in our past;
- 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 values;
or
- Has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

In general, CEQA provides protection to "historical resources" and to "archaeological resources" that are "important" and/or "unique." An "important archaeological resource" must meet one or more of the above CEQA criteria. A "unique archaeological resource" must qualify under one of the first three CEQA criteria [Public Resources Code Section 21083.2(g)]. Public Resources Code

Section 21084.1, which is part of CEQA, provides additional guidelines for the designation and additional protection of heritage resources classified as "historical resources." Resources that must be treated as "historical" are:

- Those resources listed in, or determined to be eligible for listing in, the California Register of Historical Resources;
- Those resources presumed to be historical in the absence of a preponderance of evidence indicating otherwise and that may be included in a local register of historical resources, as defined in Public Resources Code section 5020.1(k);
- Those resources deemed significant pursuant to criteria set forth in Public Resources Code Section 5024.1(g); and/or
- Those heritage resources that an agency, going beyond the minimum call of statutory duty, has freely chosen to consider "historical."

Significant heritage resources are also acknowledged on a number of local registers. Eligibility criteria for these heritage registers generally incorporate the basic tenants of criteria established in the National Register and CEQA. However, these criteria have been modified in order to include a broader range of resources that better reflect the history of California at the local level. For example, the State Historic Landmark Program and the Point of Historic Interest Program also recognize buildings, sites, and objects of local or statewide importance.

In the case of linear features, significance evaluations are typically made in terms of a particular segment that may qualify for listing as a contributing or non-contributing part of a contiguous or noncontiguous district. While all segments may be united by a single theme - for example, the building and operation of a particular roadway - certain segments may not be individually eligible due to lack of integrity and age. According to National Register Criteria, a contributing property is defined as "being present during the period of significance, and possesses historic integrity reflecting its character at that time or is capable of yielding important information about the period, or it independently meets National Register criteria" (National Parks Service 1986:42). A non-contributing historic property is defined as "not being present during the period of significance, or due to alterations, disturbances, additions, or other changes, it no longer possesses historic integrity reflecting its character at that time or is incapable of yielding important information about the period, or it does not independently meet National Register criteria" (National Park Service 1986:42).

In an effort to expand upon the generalized National Register criteria for evaluating small segments of larger linear features, engineering and construction methods are more specifically defined in terms of size and length, presence of distinctive engineering features and associated properties, structural integrity, and setting (Mikesell 1990; Owen 1991; Supernowicz 1991). The highest probability for National Register eligibility exists within the intact, longer segments, where multiple criteria coincide.

IMPACTS

If a heritage resource is determined significant, effects of a project on the heritage property should be assessed. A property is said to be impacted (or effected) if the project will diminish the integrity of a property's location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, association, or the quality of data suitable for scientific analysis. In particular, the archaeological remains left by region's ancestral Native Americans require respectful treatment, along with the continued incorporation of contemporary Native American opinions, knowledge and sentiments into the planning process.

Several potential project-related effects are most likely to occur within the FDCP area. These impacts result from the demolition, removal or alteration of buildings and structures to make way for new construction, the destruction of prehistoric or historic archaeological sites during any ground disturbance activities, and/or general changes in land use that may effect the integrity of the setting of heritage properties by introducing incompatible visual or audible elements into the setting of a potentially significant resource. The latter category of impact is especially critical in the case of historic structures. In addition, indirect impacts due to increased public access into an area containing a site could result in vandalism. Of further concern are potential impacts to natural resources of importance to contemporary Native Americans, such as traditional plants (e.g, acorn, bear grass, etc.).

Federal regulatory impact thresholds are contained in Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and accompanying regulations (36 CFR part 800). CEQA addresses the significance of impacts on historical and unique archaeological resources in Section 15064.5.

MITIGATION OF IMPACTS

Once it has been determined that a project may adversely effect a potentially significant heritage property, appropriate mitigation measures should be implemented and carried out. A means to monitor mitigation must also be identified. Prior to the property's modification or destruction, field-related mitigation activities should be implemented in consultation with appropriate federal, state and local agencies and Native American group. Consideration and discussion of mitigation measures proposed to minimize significant impacts are contained in CEQA Section 15126.4. Mitigation measures can include project modification designed to protect and/or avoid a site. In lieu of project modification, a data recovery program can involve archival research, photo documentation and mapping, removal of a historic structure, collection of artifacts, recordation of features, test excavations, larger scale excavations, or some combination of these tasks. Interpretive development of heritage remains is another form of impact mitigation that enhances not only public education and enjoyment, but greatly augments the local economy. A sense of local pride and solidarity is manifest in the interpretation of heritage attractions that celebrate cultural diversity and human ingenuity.

DATA SOURCES

Research entailed a general literature review of prehistoric and historic sources concerning the FDCP area. A car tour of portions of the community plan area was conducted. No on-the-ground archaeological field survey was performed.

In order to obtain a sense of the heritage resource for the FDCP area, archaeological site records, held at the Archaeological Inventory, North Central Information Center (NCIC), California State University at Sacramento (CSUS) were reviewed. The NCIC maintains records of archaeological sites inventoried in Placer County, including the Foresthill Divide. Records are available to qualified researchers for use during the land development process. Basic heritage resource inventories reviewed at this facility include: the National Register of Historic Places (through current volume), the State of California Historic Landmarks and Points of Historic Interest (through current listings), Historical, Architectural and Archaeological Resources of Placer County (12/1992), Foresthill Divide Historic Resources Survey (4/20/1991), Directory of Properties in the Historic Property Data File for Placer County (1/13/00), Survey of Surveys-A Summary of California Historical and Archaeological Research Surveys (California Department of Parks and Recreation 1989), California Office of Historic Preservation Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility for Placer County (1/28/00), and Caltrans Bridge Survey (10/31/89). Other local histories and secondary sources consulted are listed in the references cited section of this report.

To complete this survey of archaeological site records, contacts with a variety of public and private agencies were also initiated. These included the Tahoe National Forest, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, California Division of Forestry, Placer County Historical Society/Museums/Archives, Foresthill Divide Historical Society, and Placer County Planning Department. The counsel of representatives of the local Todds Valley Miwok-Maidu Cultural Foundation and the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California was sought, in order to determine known areas of Native American cultural ecology and history and management concerns over traditional tribal lands on the Divide. Field record reviews and telephone consultations with agency heritage resource personnel and local contacts for information regarding cultural/historical issues are listed below.

KEY CONTACTS

Contacts with a number of agency officials and private individuals were initiated in order to supplement the cultural resources inventory data. Key contacts include: the Archaeological Inventory at the North Central Information Center (NCIC) California State University Sacramento (CSUS), U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, California Department of Parks and Recreation, Placer County Department of Museums and Archives, Foresthill Divide Historical Society, California Division of Forestry, and the Todds Valley Miwok-Maidu Cultural Foundation.

Contact: Marianne Russo, Coordinator, NCIC-CSUS—Sacramento

Date: field records review 6/28-6/29/00

Sources: Directory of Properties in the Historic Property Data File for Placer County 12/92, California Office of Historic Preservation Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility for Placer County Determinations of National Register Eligibility 1/28/00, Points of Historical Interest for Placer County 1992, California Register of Historic Resources, base maps, backlog reports, Auburn Dam miscellany, historic quad maps, card file index of surveys with NCIC numbers.

Contact: Carmel Barry-Schweyer, Placer County Department of Museums and Archives—
Auburn

Date: telephone consultation 6/27, 7/13/00

Sources: deeds, accuser files, Placer County directories, maps, journals, newspapers, historic business and mining directories, miscellaneous diaries, letters, photographs, and maps dating from the 1850s to the 1920s, Sanborn fire insurance maps, printouts on births, deaths and marriages, the Great (voting) Register, tapes or transcriptions of oral history interviews, and indexes and accompanying documents regarding Placer County mines, personalities, historic themes, and historical newspaper clippings.

Contact: Placer County Planning Department—Auburn

Sources: 1981 Foresthill General Plan and EIR, 1994 Placer County General Plan and EIR, data incorporated into the Placer County Geographic Information System (GIS) and existing maps for the FDCP project (Base Map, Archaeology, Mines, Slope, Watersheds, Vegetation, Geology, Wildlife, Hydrology and Soils), California Department of Parks and Recreation, etc.

Contact: Nolan Smith, District Archaeologist, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Foresthill Ranger District--Foresthill

Date: field consultation 6/29-6/30/00

Sources: Heritage Resource Atlas (GIS data base with overlays showing archaeological coverage and site locations), heritage resource site records, Fire History of the Foresthill Divide Burn Atlas (1931 to date), historic rolled maps (historic quads/USFS maps/grazing allotments), aerial photos (coverage since 1939), USFS Timber Compartments and Cutting Atlas, historic photo binders (recreation/timber/fire/storm damage/erosion control/miscellaneous history), State Mineralogist Reports (complete collection for Foresthill Divide), local historical vignettes by avocational historians.

Contact: Fern Brown and Livina Suehead, Todds Valley Miwok-Maidu Cultural Foundation

Date: field consultation 6/30/00, telephone consultation 7/13/00

Contact: Gerda Percival, President, Foresthill Divide Historical Society--Foresthill

Date: telephone consultation 7/14/00

Contact: Mike Moffit, Past President, Foresthill Divide Historical Society—Foresthill

Date: telephone consultation 7/13/00

Contact: Dean Decker, District Archaeologist, U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management—Folsom

Date: telephone consultation 7/13/00

Contact: John Foster, Senior Archaeologist, State of California Department of Parks and Recreation--Sacramento

Date: telephone consultation 7/13/00

Contact: Dan Foster, Archaeologist, State of California Division of Forestry—Sacramento

Date: telephone consultation 7/13/00

Contact: Norman Wilson, Historian/Archaeologist (pioneer family of Foresthill Divide)—
Auburn

Date: field consultation 6/29/00

KEY REFERENCES

County and Local Histories

Plimpton (V1 and V2 North Fork American River; V1 and V2 Middle Fork American River)

History of Placer County (Angell 1882)

History of Nevada and Placer County (Lardner and Brock 1924)

Mining Claims on the Foresthill Divide 1851-1902 (Rebok n.d.)

U.S. Post Offices and Postmasters of the Foresthill Divide 1851-1955 (n.d.)

Mining Town Cemeteries of the Foresthill Divide (n.d.)

Foresthill Divide Historic Resources Survey Committee (1991)

Placer County Directories (1861+)

California Place Names (Gudde 1974)

California Gold Camps (Gudde 1975)

Historic Spots in California (Hoover, Rensch and Rensch 1966)

Historical vignettes written by local avocational historians (DeMaria 1969; Henderson n.d.; G.

Markley, 1976, 1977, 1979, 1980; Merz n.d.; Parker 1995)

Government Reports

Geographical Land Office survey plats and notes

State Mineralogist Reports (all volumes)

Historic Ditches of the Tahoe National Forest (Meisenbach 1989)

History of Tahoe National Forest: 1840-1940 (Jackson Research Projects 1982)

Gold Districts of California (Clark 1970)

Other reports by mining engineers, surveyors, geologists, mineralogists, and forest service officials

Prehistory and the Native American Period

Tahoe National Forest Cultural Resources Overview Part II: Ethnography (Carlson 1986)

Tahoe National Forest Cultural Resources Overview Part I: Prehistory (Markley and Henton 1985)

The Washoe (d'Azevedo 1986)

The Nisenan (Wilson and Towne 1978)

Selected Bibliography of Maidu Ethnography and Archaeology as Related to the Auburn Dam Project (Wilson and Towne 1972)

Handbook of the Indians of California (Kroeber 1925)

PRIOR HERITAGE RESOURCE INVESTIGATIONS

Archaeological investigations on the Foresthill Divide, or in western Placer County in general, are limited. Important archaeological sites have been studied within the Highway 124 corridor and the proposed Auburn Dam Project area. Other minor excavations have been conducted in the Tahoe National Forest at elevations generally above 3500 feet. Recorded sites on the Divide indicate a long time sequence of use; however, there have been few excavations to provide details and in-depth information. Work by Ritter (1970) in Spring Garden Ravine for the Auburn Dam Project and by Baker (2000), Baker and Shoup (1992) and Baker et al. (1993) along Highway 124 provide important archaeological references as they are the only excavations conducted within the FDCP.

While numerous prehistoric sites were recorded during the series of archaeological surveys for the Auburn Dam during the 1960s-1970s, all that remains are bedrock milling features, with more portable prehistoric artifacts being obliterated by gold-mining activities and natural flooding of the river canyon. A review and reorganization of the Cultural Resource Inventory for the Auburn Dam Project was undertaken for the Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District, in response to the newly proposed Auburn Dam alternatives requiring reassessment of the database (McCarthy 1989). Previous research efforts by Rackerby (1965), Ritter (1971), and True (1975-1980) disclosed 493 sites, of which 460 are historic and 33 are prehistoric. Findings suggest that the most important site types are ones that represent a cluster of activities and are found at settlements or named locations. Sites have been heavily impacted by flooding and mining activities. The Spring Garden Ravine site (4-Pla-S101, as referenced by Baker 2000) was investigated in 1970 as part of the heritage resource studies for the Auburn Dam. Here, a rich artifact assemblage was radiocarbon dated to approximately 3500 years ago. Middle Archaic populations may have used the site as a base camp for embarking eastward into the higher Sierra, with Late Archaic populations using the site as a seasonal hunting camp.

The California Forest Highway 124 Project, located on the Foresthill Divide between Auburn Ravine and the community of Foresthill, generated a protracted period of archaeological fieldwork conducted intermittently between 1991 and 1997 (Baker and Shoup 1992; Baker et al. 1993). The work included archaeological excavations at two sites, CA-Pla-695/H, the Monte Verde site, and CA-Pla-728/H, the Old Joe site (Baker 2000). The project provided an opportunity for some of the first in-depth archaeological investigations on the Foresthill Divide. CA-Pla-725H is the location of the 1936 Monte Verde Inn and the former site of the 1875 Mile Hill Toll House (also known as the North Star Toll House and the U.S. Ranch). Site CA-Pla-728/H is the location of a historic marker at the south side of Foresthill Road, commemorating the location of the grave of "Old Joe," a stage horse killed during a robbery in 1901. Excavations at the Monte Verde site, CA-Pla-695/H, revealed a well-developed midden deposit that contained numerous artifacts. Site use dates from the Early Archaic Period (prior to 3000 B.C.), but the bulk of the evidence suggests that most intensive site use occurred during the Middle Archaic Period, beginning about 2500 B.C. to 2000 B.C. and continuing to sometime between 500 B.C. and 100 B.C. The site was probably a small, permanent or semi-permanent village occupied by 40 to 70 people. Site occupation ended about A.D. 600. Excavations at CA-Pla-728/H disclosed human remains, which were removed with the approval of a Native American observer.

The Tahoe National Forest tested three prehistoric archaeological sites farther up on the Divide and

outside the FDCP area: the Sailor Flat Site (CA-Pla-500, Wohlgemuth 1984), the Sunflower Timber Sale Site (CA-Pla-664, Waechter 1989), and the Robinson's Flat site (USFS 05-17-54-176, Smith 1995). These sites are located in close proximity at the 6200 to 6500 foot elevation and appear to be seasonal base camps from which occasional hunting and gathering forays were made into nearby parts of the region during the Middle and Late Archaic periods.

Other excavations of relevance to the FDCP area are at Bullards Bar Reservoir (Humphreys 1969), approximately 30 miles north of the Foresthill Divide, which yielded artifacts from the Middle Archaic Period. Large-scale excavations at CA-Nev-407, near Grass Valley, revealed site occupation from at least 1110 B.C. to A.D. 1500 (Clewlow et al. 1984:213).

ARCHAEOLOGICAL COVERAGE

No exact information on archaeological coverage is currently available. Coverage strategies, which range from complete to cursory examinations, have not been consistently presented in archaeological reports. Beyond this, archaeological coverage figures are not always reported to the North Central Information Center, unless a report was prepared by a professional archaeologist. The FDCP area contains 109 square miles or approximately 69,760 acres, about half of which is on public land. It appears that nearly 100 separate archaeological surveys have been conducted on land within the FDCP area. Survey has been accomplished using mixed reconnaissance strategies. The total survey area is approximately 17,067 acres, or about 25% of the FDCP. This coverage figure does not include work done as part of the Auburn Dam Project, where coverage area is unclear. Most of the archaeological coverage occurs on the USGS 7.5' Foresthill Quadrangle.

Number of Surveys	Acreage	USGS Quad
7	25	Auburn
5	800	Colfax
9 + UCD Sugar Pine Reservoir study	1600	Dutch Flat
5	212	Georgetown
8	560	Greenwood
49	7760	Foresthill
11	4590	Michigan Bluff
0	1520	Westville

The USFS has conducted archaeological surveys on approximately 50,000 acres; this comprises about one-third of the land under jurisdiction of the Foresthill Ranger District. Most of this coverage is outside the FDCP area.

BLM manages large blocks of land in proximity to the North Fork American River. Here, archaeological coverage has been sparse. While dozens of small inventory surveys have been completed, few large and comprehensive studies have been completed (Decker, personal communication 2000).

Most archaeological work within the FDCP area has been accomplished by register professional

foresters (RPF) as part of timber harvest plans (THP). The California Division of Forestry (CDF) forest practice rules require RPFs to submit archaeological reports within 30 days of a THP approval (D. Foster, personal communication 2000). These reports are then reviewed and field inspected by CDF archaeologists and copies of the final report are filed with the appropriate information centers (e.g., NCIC-CSUS). Prior to 1991, RPFs may not have fully complied with the rule. Between 1995 and 1999 compliance improved. After May 1999 compliance has been complete, as CDF archaeologists send copies of approved reports directly to the information centers. RPFs are para-professional archaeologists and conduct archaeological surveys during the course of their timber stand evaluations. Consequently, the thoroughness of the ground surface inspection and the quality of reporting are variable and reports should be evaluated on an individual basis.

KNOWN HERITAGE RESOURCE INVENTORY

Heritage Resource Types

The varied environmental zones, geological characteristics, and geographical position of the Foresthill Divide account for a heritage resource base that is exceedingly rich and complex. This explains the wide array of prehistoric and historic site types. Prehistoric site types that have been inventoried include villages, multi-task camps, single task-specific locales, and special use sites.

1. Village sites typically contain: (a) flaked stone tools; (b) portable milling implements such as mortars and pestles and manos and metates; (c) stationary features like bedrock mortars, which are sometimes accompanied by small-diameter pitted boulders (or "cupules") that appear as miniature mortar cups; (d) discolored soil or "midden" which is usually deep and may contain animal bone, charcoal and organic residues; (e) house pit or dance house depressions; and (d) cemeteries.
2. Multi-task camps are not permanently occupied. They are characterized by: (a) both flaked stone and (b) ground stone tools and (c) sometimes bedrock mortars which may be associated with shallow middens or cupules.
3. Single task-specific locales are places where a single task is performed once or intermittently (seasonally) over successive years. They exhibit either flaked stone or ground stone tools. Isolated bedrock mortars with shallow middens and quarries, where rock sources were quarried and roughly fashioned into tool preforms, also fall into this category.
4. Special use sites involve: (a) petroglyphs (or rock writings); (b) hunting blinds; (c) cemeteries, (d) traditional plant collecting areas, etc.

Historic themes within the FDCP area are manifest archaeologically by site types related to mining, water management, logging, transportation, and ranching/agriculture. Those sites containing evidence of habitation structures, but which cannot be directly related to any identifiable historic activity, are classed as settlement site types. These often occur in association with trash dumps and sometimes cemeteries. Historic site types that share multiple activities have been categorized according to their dominant historic theme. For example, a mining site that contains water ditches, dirt roads, remains of a habitation structure, livestock corral, garden, trash dump, and small cemetery

is classified solely as a mining site.

Inventory of Heritage Resources

Little of the plan area has been subjected to systematic survey and many more sites are likely to exist than are summarized here. To best interpret the approximate tally of the numbers and types and statuses of sites recorded within the FDCP area to date, certain limitations and problems inherent in the data base need clarification. While the inventory of National Register sites and State Landmark and Points of Historical Interest designations is complete and up to date, data on the total number of sites recorded and their breakdown according to site type represents only a rough estimate of the actual extent of heritage resources inventoried. Total site numbers presented below may be underestimated. No concise database exists for Placer County. The master archaeological site inventory for the county is housed with NCIC-CSUS. Only about half of the total number of archaeological site records have been processed and received official Smithsonian numbers. The many site records that are still assigned temporary site numbers have been recorded by a number of private and public archaeologists with varying philosophies regarding what constitutes a "site." Consequently, some submitted site records may not ultimately qualify for site status. On the other hand, some resources, which should be considered sites, are treated as isolated artifacts or features and are therefore never assigned a site number. There are a large number of informally reported isolated finds that fall into this latter category. Also, some sites, containing both a prehistoric and historic component, have not been uniformly assigned a single number, as is current practice. Consequently, some have been treated as two separate sites and have been counted twice in the tabulations presented here. Furthermore, for archaeological surveys completed decades ago, sites were not always formally reported. In addition, ground visibility on the Divide is often obscured by brush/slash, natural conditions of the landscape, fire, etc., and these physical changes can greatly hinder the detection of surface artifacts and features. For these and other reasons, the figures presented below should be considered as very rough estimates for planning purposes.

About 85 archaeological sites recorded within the FDCP area have been assigned formal state trinomials by the NCIC and/or USFS. This number does not necessarily include sites inventoried on lands under the jurisdiction of the BLM . In addition, sites inventoried as part of THPs have been assigned primary numbers but most have not been formally entered into the NCIC inventory. Sites with state trinomials and their corresponding USGS quadrangles are listed below:

Number of Sites	USGS Quad
11	Auburn
6	Colfax
10	Dutch Flat
5	Foresthill
2	Georgetown
43	Greenwood
8	Michigan Bluff

These numbers do not include the 493 sites recorded as part of the Auburn Dam project, of which

460 are historic and 33 are prehistoric. Many of these sites are within the FDCP area but have not been assigned state trinomial numbers.

On adjoining USFS land, 422 sites have been recorded within the Foresthill Ranger District; most of these sites are located outside the FDCP area, with only 14 falling within the plan area. Approximately one-third of the USFS site total is prehistoric and two-thirds are historic and, within the latter category, 95% are associated with mining. Sites recorded on USFS lands within the FDCP area and their corresponding USGS quadrangles are listed below:

The following heritage resources located within the FDCP area are included in federal, state and/or local listings and inventories. Source numbers 1 through 10 are keyed to heritage property status.

1. National Register of Historic Places,
2. Archaeological Sites Determined Eligible for Inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places-California Office of Historic Preservation,
3. California Historical Landmarks,
4. California Points of Historical Interest,
5. Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record,
6. Historic Highway Bridges of California-California Department of Transportation,
7. Historic Properties Directory-California Office of Historic Preservation,
8. Historic Sites Listing of the Placer County General Plan Recreation Element,
9. Five Views-California Office of Historic Preservation,
10. National Historic Civil Engineering Landmarks-American Society for Civil Engineers Sacramento Chapter.

Yankee Jim's (3,4,9)

Town of Forest Hill (3,4,9)

Town of Michigan Bluff (3,4,9)

Butcher Ranch (3,4,9)

Grizzly Bear House (3,4,9)

Spring Garden School (3,4,)

Todd's Valley (3,4,9)

U.S. Ranch (3,4,9)

Baker Ranch (9)

Bird's Valley

Sunny South ((9)

Forks House (9)

National Historic Trail – Michigan Bluff to Last Chance (Western States Trail)

Bridges for historical consideration within or near FDCP area as evaluated by Caltrans (Caltrans Bridge Survey 1989) include:

Bridge No.	Features Intersected	Facility Carried	Historical Significance
19C0001	North Fork American River	Old Auburn Foresthill Rd	no

19C0002	North Fork American River	Yankee Jim's Rd	yes
19C0100	Shirtail Creek	Shirtail Cny Cr Rd	no
19C0175	Sugar Pine Dam Spillway	Iowa Hill Rd	no
19C0176	North Fork American River	Iowa Hill Rd	no

California Historical Landmarks (CHL) with the FDCP area include:

Yankee Jim's Townsite	CHL No. 398
Foresthill Townsite	CHL No. 399
Michigan Bluff Townsite	CHL. No. 402

The Directory of Properties in the Historic Property Data File for Placer County within the FDCP Area (Office of Historic Preservation 1/13/00) lists the following properties for consideration of eligibility to the National Register. Most of the properties have not been formally evaluated.

Address	Name	City	Date	*Status
Auburn Foresthills	Luster House	Foresthill	-	7
6100 Church St	Finning House	Foresthill	1860	7J
Foresthill Rd	Town of Forest Hill	Foresthill	1850	7J
24469 Foresthill Rd		Foresthill	1880	7J/6Y2
24707 Foresthill Rd		Foresthill	1936	7J/6Y2
24825 Foresthill Rd		Foresthill	1900	7J
24442 Lowe St		Foresthill	1935	7J
24160 Main St		Foresthill	-	7J
24260 Main St	Red & White Store	Foresthill	1910	7J
24406 Main St	Schuyler House	Foresthill	1863	7J
24490 Main St		Foresthill	1910	7J
24500 Main St		Foresthill	1930	7J
24560 Main St		Foresthill	1860	7J
24580 Main St	Foresthill Community Center	Foresthill	1910	7J
24590 Main St	Forest Hill Lodge	Foresthill	1947	7J
24640 Main St		Foresthill	1940	7J
24650 Main St		Foresthill	1890	7J
24680 Main St		Foresthill	1860	7J
24690 Main St		Foresthill	1890	7J
24708 Main St		Foresthill	-	7J
24750 Main St	Albrecht Store	Foresthill	1860	7J
SR49	Old Forest Hill Ranger Station	Foresthill	1934	6Y2
Yankee Jim's Rd	Yankee Jim's Rd	Foresthill	1867	7J/7L
5865 Church St		**Foresthill	-	7J
6040 Church St		**Foresthill	1930	7J
6055 Church St		**Foresthill	1901	7J
6070 Church St		**Foresthill	1930	7J
6121 Church St		**Foresthill	1900	7J

23801 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1900	7J
24225 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1880	7J
24245 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1870	7J
24271 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1870	7J
24281 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1870	7J
24345 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1930	7J
24407 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1860	7J
24495 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1920	7J
24515 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1880	7J
24625 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1900	7J
24645 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1900	7J
24655 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1900	7J
24675 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1900	7J
24741 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1900	7J
24781 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1900	7J
24791 Foresthill Rd		**Foresthill	1900	7J
6060 Gold St		**Foresthill	1870	7J
24390 Lowe St		**Foresthill	1860	7J
24522 Lowe St		**Foresthill	1900	7J
24523 Lowe St		**Foresthill	1930	7J
8200 Michigan Bluff Rd	Michigan Bluff	**Foresthill	1850	7L
24370 Race Track St		**Foresthill	1950	7J
Yankee Jim's Rd	Suspension Bridge	**Foresthill	1930	7J
5765 Yankee Jim's Rd		**Foresthill	1880	7J
5781 Yankee Jim's Rd		**Foresthill	1920	7J
5840 Yankee Jim's Rd	Ford House	**Foresthill	1890	7J
5850 Yankee Jim's Rd		**Foresthill	1860	7J

* 6Y = determined ineligible for listing in the National Register through a consensus determination of a federal agency and the State Historic Preservation Officer; 7 = not evaluated; some properties on the above list also appear in the inventory presented in the "Historical, Architectural, and Archaeological Resources of Placer County, Volume 3" December 1992]

** = vicinity of Foresthill

EXPECTED HERITAGE RESOURCE SENSITIVITY

Some idea of expected heritage resource sensitivity can serve as a general guide to advanced planning by providing a means of estimating the probable likelihood of sites occurring within a given area proposed for development. Sensitivity ratings indicate the degree of probability of finding sites in a specific project area and the relative number and types of sites expected. In this way, project sponsors can anticipate, at the outset, the extent to which heritage resources may become an issue for consideration later on.

Heritage resource sensitivity predictions for the FDCP area are derived from the collective results of

many archaeological surveys in similar environments throughout the region and incorporate the obvious correlation between archaeological site locations and basic environmental variables (water, level ground, etc.). In a study undertaken by the Tahoe National Forest, significant correlation was found for the major types of sites and basic environmental variables (Markley and Henton 1985). Lindström (1991) also incorporated these variables into her archaeological sensitivity model for the Nevada County General Plan Update. An assessment of archaeological sensitivity for the FDCP area draws directly from these two examples.

A checklist of environmental variables influencing heritage resource sensitivity assessment is presented below. Correlation with specific environmental variables is better for prehistoric site types than for historic sites. Historic activities, particularly mining, involved intensive use of specific locations with little reliance or dependence on local resources for subsistence or other economic needs.

I. Environmental Variables

A. Topography

1. Elevation (600 to 4800 feet)
2. Percent slope (0-30%; 30-50%; 50+%)
3. Aspect (north; south; east; west)
4. Proximity to water (less than 1/4 mile; greater than 1/4 mile)
5. Water Type
 - a. Stream (intermittent, permanent)
 - b. Spring
6. Soils (agriculture/timber productive)/Geology (mineral deposits; quarry sources)

B. Flora (oak-grassland; hardwood/conifer; conifer; meadow; community ecotone)

C. Fauna

1. Deer Range
2. Fishery

II. Other Considerations

- A. Ethnographic/historic data that document past land use
- B. Previously recorded sites
- C. Recent/historic land modifications and disturbance

NATIVE AMERICAN PREHISTORY AND HISTORY

For both the Nisenan and Washoe, territories encompassed wide-ranging elevations and varied environmental zones. Intense gathering was most effectively carried out in the grassland and oak woodland zone below 3000 feet, where winter villages were located. Single task-specific locales, from which a multitude of plant and animal resources were procured, are found in higher numbers in proximity to winter villages. Cemeteries are generally restricted to the winter village area. Elevations above 3000 feet on the west slope are beyond the range of permanent occupation but are moderately to highly sensitive to contain seasonal multi-task camps, single task-specific locales, petroglyphs and hunting blinds. Level ground is a basic determinant for any prehistoric habitation. Areas with greater than 30% slope may accommodate some specific short-term tasks and hunting blinds. Petroglyphs generally occur on large horizontal bedrock outcrops.

Southern and eastern exposure was generally advantageous for warmth and protection from storms.

Villages are dependent upon a permanent water source. Seasonal multi-task camps occur around springs and along intermittent streams during their periods of flow. Camps along streams are most likely to occur at the confluence of a major creek flowing down from the ridge, thereby providing an access corridor up to the ridge.

Geological variables are centered upon rock sources used in fashioning stone tools; namely, metasediments that contain chert outcrops and volcanic flows which are comprised of basalt. Granite was favored for milling equipment. Horizontal smooth surfaces of granite or metasediments were preferred for petroglyphs.

The floral component is important in the prediction of prehistoric site locations in that plant resources made up a significant percentage of the subsistence base of the aboriginal inhabitants of the county. Elevation and microenvironmental diversity enhanced the rich and varied seasonal resources that were regularly available for human use. However, past plant and animal communities were different both in make-up and distribution than those found today. Changes are due to historic impacts associated with mining, logging and grazing, to the introduction of non-native plant species, and to the cessation of regular aboriginal burning, which was practiced to improve the vigor of plant resources. The pine forests, particularly in the purely coniferous areas, were not as productive for aboriginal exploitation as were areas containing hardwoods (especially oaks) and a wide variety of brush and grass species. Ecotones, where plants were procured from the junctions of two or more vegetation communities, were the most productive and efficient zones. Areas corresponding to more diversified plant species are designated as highly sensitive.

Animal resources, including large and small mammals, a variety of avifauna, large anadromous fish (salmon and steelhead trout), and smaller suckers and minnows, were significant food items. Deer herds are migratory, wintering in the major river canyons and moving upslope in elevation in the spring (a pattern not unlike that practiced by the Nisenan and Washoe). Zones that accommodate deer migration routes and winter ranges or support productive fisheries are highly sensitive.

Disturbed areas are less likely to contain sites that are intact and may be less sensitive. Areas containing known heritage resources for which there is some type of formal record are, of course, extremely sensitive. Heritage resource sensitivity goes beyond the archaeological record. Both the Maidu/Miwok and the Washoe have expressed a concerted interest in maintaining access to traditional lands upon which important medicinal and food plants continue to thrive.

A checklist of variables influencing prehistoric resource sensitivity is presented below. Prehistoric site types are abbreviated: V=village; MT=multi-task site; ST=single task-specific site; SU=special use; C=cemetery; HB=hunting blind; and P=petroglyph.

<u>Variable</u>	<u>Predicted Site Type</u>	<u>Sensitivity Level</u>
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Elevation:

600-3000	V/MT/ST/SU-C	high
3000-4800	MT/ST/SU-P,HB	moderate
Percent slope:		
0-30%	V/MT/ST/SU-C,P	high
30-50%	ST/SU-HB	moderate
50%+	ST/SU-HB	high-low
Aspect:		
Southern	V/MT/ST	high
Eastern	V/MT/ST	high
Western	V/MT/ST	moderate
Northern	MT/ST	high-low
Proximity to water:		
less than 1/4 mile	V/MT/ST	high
greater than 1/4 mile	ST	high-low
Water type:		
Stream – permanent	V/MT/ST	high
Stream – intermittent	MT/ST	moderate
Spring	V/MT/ST	high
Geology:		
Chert/metasediment outcrops	ST	high
Large, flat granite/ metasedimentary surface	SU-P	high
Flora:		
Oak grassland	V/MT/ST/SU-C	high
Hardwood/conifer	MT/ST	high
Conifer	ST	mod-low
Meadow	V/MT/ST	high
Ecotone	V/MT/ST	high
Fauna:		
Deer range	V/MT/ST/SU-HB, P	high-mod
Fishery	V/MT/ST	high-mod
Other:		
Ethnographic/historic documented land use	V/MT/ST/SU-C, HB, P	high
Previously recorded sites	V/MT/ST/SU-C, HB, P	high
Recent land modifications		
Undisturbed	V/MT/ST/SU-C, HB, P	high

EUROAMERICAN HISTORY

Historic site locations are much less dependent upon environmental variables and correlation is less direct. Prehistoric and historic sites tend to be distributed differently, at least with regards to elevation. Lower elevations have a consistently higher than average density of historic sites, with mining sites generally located below 5000 feet.

Geological data are key to predicting historic mining sites. All areas which fall within zones containing: (1) deposits formed by hydrothermal processes, e.g. gold, silver, copper, zinc; (2) placer gold deposits; (3) industrial mineral deposits, e.g. barite, clay, and silica; (4) sand and gravel resources of alluvial and glacial origin; and (5) crushed stone resources consisting of metamorphic and volcanic rocks are highly sensitive. Other important independent variables include steep slopes and the presence of water. The positive correlation with water is to be expected, since many of the placer deposits are located near streams and rivers. The correlation with steeper slopes is also not surprising, as many of the mining sites are either located in the bottom of steep drainages or on canyon sides where rivers have cut through the gold-bearing deposits. Water management activities are initially tied to water, with sources generally at higher elevations. The correlations between ditches and flumes and environmental variables ends there, however, except for a preference for slopes with southern exposure.

Transportation routes are relatively free of environmental constraints. While more moderate terrain was favored, steep slopes were still traversed. The main road along the ridge of the Divide, along with intersecting road systems, is considered to be the major sensitive transportation corridor within the FDCP area.

Logging is tied to a forest vegetation type and the productivity of soils. More moderate slopes, sunny exposures and the presence of water are important considerations in historic logging camp locations.

Grazing—herding; sheep at higher elevations

Ranching—most intense on the Divide with smaller enterprises on lesser ridges, flats (now reservoirs)

Ranching/grazing activities are tied to elevation and soil productivity. The main constraints on historic agricultural activities were elevations below the frost zone and relatively level terrain. Although the Foresthill Divide is not considered a major agricultural area, ranches along the ridge supported localized crops of, fruits, and vegetables and hay. Ranching activities required water and sufficient feed for livestock and somewhat level terrain. Associated archaeological sites most closely conform to the combination of environmental variables requisite for prehistoric sites (level spots near water, etc.). Historic settlement is less dependent upon environmental variables than is prehistoric settlement. The need for level ground for habitation was overcome by artificial terracing.

Water was brought in by ditch or flume and foodstuffs and supplies were transported to the living

site.

Disturbed areas are less likely to contain sites that are intact and may be less sensitive. Areas containing known heritage resources for which there is some type of formal record are, of course, extremely sensitive.

A checklist of variables influencing historic resource sensitivity follows. Historic site types and their abbreviations include: M=mining; S/D=settlement site with dump; W=water management; L=logging; T=transportation; C=cemetery, R-A=ranching and agriculture; and G=grazing.

Variable	Predicted Site Type	Sensitivity Level
Elevation:		
600-4800	M/S-D/W/T/C	high
600-3000	M/S-D/W/T/C/R-A	high
3000-4800	M/S-D/W/L/T/C/G	high
Percent slope:		
0-30%	M/S-D/W/L/T/C/R-A/G/I	high
30-50%	M/W/L/T	high
50%+	M	high
50%+	W/L/T	moderate
Aspect:		
Southern	S-D/W	high
Proximity to water:		
less than 1/4 mile	M/S-D/W/L/R-A/G	high
greater than 1/4 mile	M/S-D/R-A/G	mod-low
Water type:		
Stream – permanent	M/S-D/W/R-A/G	high
Stream – intermittent	M/S-D/W/R-A/G	mod
Spring	S-D/R-A/G	high
Geology/soils:		
Mineral bearing deposits	M/S-D/W	high
Productive soils	L/S-D/R-A/G	high
Flora/Fauna:		
Oak-grassland	S-D/W/R-A/G	high
Hardwood/conifer	L	moderate
Conifer	L	high
Meadow	R-A/G	high

Other:

Historic documentation of land use	M/S-D/W/L/T/C/R-A/G	high
Previously recorded sites	M/S-D/W/L/T/C/R-A/G	high
Recent land modifications		
Undisturbed	M/S-D/W/L/T/C/R-A/G	high
Disturbed	M/S-D/W/L/T/C/R-A/G	mod-low

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PART TWO – DRAFT COMMUNITY PLAN DOCUMENT

The existing and newly proposed Placer County General Plan [Section 5 Recreational and Cultural Resources] contains goals and policies that are related to heritage resource issues. The goals and policies applicable to the proposed project are as follows.

EXISTING PLACER COUNTY GENERAL PLAN GOALS AND POLICIES

Goals

5.D. To identify, protect, and enhance Placer County’s important historical, archaeological, paleontological, and cultural sites and their contributing environments.

Policies

5.D.1. The County shall assist the citizens of Placer County in becoming active guardians of their community’s cultural resources.

5.D.2. The County shall solicit the cooperation of the owners of cultural resources, encourage those owners to treat these resources as assets rather than liabilities, and encourage the support of the general public for the preservation and enhancement of these resources.

5.D.3. The County shall solicit the views of the Native American Heritage Commission and/or the local Native American community in cases where development may result in disturbance to sites containing evidence of Native American activity and/or to sites of cultural importance.

5.D.4. The County shall coordinate with the cities and municipal advisory councils in the county to promote the preservation and maintenance of Placer County’s paleontological and archaeological resources.

5.D.5. The County shall use, where feasible, incentive programs to assist private property owners in preserving and enhancing cultural resources.

5.D.6. The County shall require that discretionary development projects identify and protect from damage, destruction, and abuse, important historical, archaeological, and cultural sites and their contributing environment. Such assessments shall be incorporated into a countywide cultural resource database, to be maintained by the Department of Museums.

5.D.7. The County shall require that discretionary development projects are designated to avoid potential impacts to significant paleontological or cultural resources whenever possible. Unavoidable impacts, whenever possible, shall be reduced to a less than significant level and/or shall be mitigated by extracting maximum recoverable data. Determinations of impacts,

significance, and mitigation shall be made by qualified archaeological (in consultation with recognized local Native American groups), historical, or paleontological consultants, depending on the type of resource in question.

5.D.8. The County shall, within its power, maintain confidentiality regarding the locations of archaeological sites in order to preserve and protect these resources from vandalism and the unauthorized removal of artifacts.

5.D.9. The County shall use the State Historic Building Code to encourage the preservation of historic structures.

5.D.10. The County will use existing legislation and propose local legislation for the identification and protection of cultural resources and their contributing environment.

5.D.11. The County shall support the registration of cultural resources in appropriate landmark designations (i.e., National Register of Historic Places, California Historical Landmarks, Points of Historical Interest, or Local Landmark). The County shall assist private citizens seeking these designations for their property.

5.D.12. The County shall consider acquisition programs as a means of preserving significant cultural resources that are not suitable for private development. Organizations that could provide assistance in this area include, but are not limited to, the Archaeological Conservancy, The Nature Conservancy, and the Placer Land Trust.

Implementation Programs

5.4. The County shall prepare, adopt, and implement procedures for review and approval of all County-permitted projects involving ground disturbance and all building and/or demolition permits that will affect buildings, structures, or objects 45 years of age or older.

Responsibility:	Planning Department Department of Museums Board of Supervisors
Time Frame:	FY 94-95; ongoing
Funding:	Mitigation fees Permit fees

5.5. The county shall develop preservation incentive programs for owners of important cultural and paleontological resources, using such mechanisms as the Mills Act, the Historic Preservation Easement program, the Certified Local Government program, and the Heritage Tourism program.

Responsibility:	Planning Department Department of Museums Assessor
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Time frame: FY94-95; ongoing
Funding: Grants
General Fund

5.6. The County shall establish a formal Placer County register of Historical Properties to facilitate preservation of the locally significant historical properties that do not qualify for State or Federal listings.

Responsibility: Department of Museums
Time frame: FY 94-95; ongoing
Funding: General Fund
Grants

5.7 The County shall consider pursuing the following cultural resource management programs and shall explore possible funding sources to support these programs:

- a. Pursuit of status as a Certified Local Government to facilitate state funding and technical assistance from the State Office of Historic Preservation;
- b. B. Preparation, adoption, and implementation of a cultural resources ordinance that provides definitions and standards for identification and protection of cultural resources and provides penalties for their disturbance; and
- c. C. Establishment of the staff position of cultural resources coordinator. The coordinator would provide archaeological and architectural historian expertise to the activities outlined above and would maintain a countywide cultural resource database. The coordinator would also provide assistance to the public in understanding cultural resource concerns and in fulfilling cultural resource legislative requirements.

Responsibility: Department of Museums
Time frame: FY 94-95 and as funds become available
Funding: Grants
Permit fees
General Fund

PROPOSED PLACER COUNTY GENERAL PLAN GOALS AND POLICIES

Goals

6.R. To identify, protect, record and enhance the Divide's important historical, archaeological, and cultural sites and their contributing environment [Goal 5.D]

6.R.1. The County shall assist the residents of Foresthill in becoming active guardians of their community's cultural resources. [5.D.1.]

6.R.2. The County and the community shall preserve the historical character of the core area of Foresthill.

6.R.3. Encourage all agencies and groups (USFS, Placer County, Historical Society) to preserve, record and mark sites and artifacts of local importance (such as Startown, Damascus, Sunny South, Red Star, Miller's Defeat).

6.R.4. The County shall solicit the cooperation of the owners of cultural resources, encourage those owners to treat these resources as assets rather than liabilities, and encourage the support of the general public for the preservation and enhancement of these resources. [5.D.2.]

6.R.5. The County shall solicit the views of the Native American Heritage Commission and/or the local Native American community in cases where development may result in disturbance to sites containing evidence of Native American activity and/or to sites of cultural importance. [5.D.3.]

6.R.6. The County shall use, where feasible, incentive programs to assist private property owners in preserving and enhancing cultural resources. [5.D.5.]

6.R.7. The County shall require that discretionary development projects identify and protect from damage, destruction, and abuse, important historical, archaeological, and cultural sites and their contributing environment. Such assessments shall be incorporated into a countywide cultural resource database, to be maintained by the Department of Museums. [5.D.6.]

6.R.8. Existing large trees or groves of historic and/or cultural significance (i.e., weather tree in Michigan Bluff, cork oaks on Todd Valley Road, Finning Tree off Finning Mill Road, Fork's House Grove, Harold T. "Bizz" Johnson Tree) should be identified and protected to the best of the County's ability. Trees so identified should only be removed as a last resort.

6.R.9. Areas of potential archaeological sensitivity shall be identified on the Land Use Map. Proposed development or public works projects within this area shall be required to undertake an archaeological survey prior to project approval. Proposed projects outside this area, in locations that have not been significantly disturbed, shall be referred to the California Archaeological Inventory, Northern Information Center, California State University, Sacramento for review and comment, and shall be required to undertake an archaeological survey prior to project approval upon recommendation by the Center.

6.R.10. The County shall, within its power, maintain confidentiality regarding the locations of archaeological sites in order to preserve and protect these resources from vandalism and the unauthorized removal of artifacts. [5.D.8.]

6.R.11. The County shall use the State Historic Building Code to encourage the preservation of historic structures. [5.D.9.]

6.R.12. The County shall support the registration of cultural resources in appropriate landmark designations (i.e., National register of Historic Places, California Historical Landmarks, Points of Historical Interest, or Local Landmark). The County shall assist private citizens seeking these

designations for their property. [5.D.11.]

6.R.13. The County shall consider acquisition programs as a means of preserving significant cultural resources that are not suitable for private development. Organizations that could provide assistance in this area include, but are not limited to, the Archaeological Conservancy, The Nature Conservancy and the Placer Land Trust. [5.D.12]

6.R.14. The County shall require that the subdivision of property containing existing features of cultural or aesthetic merit be carefully designed to preserve these structures and, where appropriate, utilize them as a focal point of neighborhood design. [4.1]

6.R.15. The County shall make the protection of significant cultural resources a priority over recordation and/or destruction. [1.3]

Policies

6.S.1. The County shall encourage the development of multipurpose facilities that can function as recreational sites, open space areas and for historic, cultural, and archaeological preservation. [1.2]

6.S.2. The use of the Foresthill Museum as a repository of historical artifacts on the Divide shall be encouraged.

PART THREE – PROGRAM EIR

IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES- HERITAGE RESOURCES

Impacts

Direct impacts on terrestrial prehistoric and historic sites can occur from project related ground disturbance activities generated by any of the community plan alternatives. In addition, indirect impacts due to increased public access into an area containing a site could result in vandalism. Other indirect impacts could occur if development introduces incompatible visual or audible elements into the setting of a potentially significant resource. This is especially critical in the case of historic structures.

Mitigation

No specific impacts associated with the general FDCP; therefore, no specific mitigation measures are necessary at this time. All locales within the FDCP area destined for future development should be subjected to a detailed heritage resource analysis at the project specific stage. Such study should involve the required record search at NCIC, archival research, an archaeological field reconnaissance, pertinent architectural evaluations, and consultations with appropriate federal, state and local agencies and representatives of the Native American community.

If resources exist, the criteria for significance should be applied and, if necessary, appropriate mitigation measures developed. Mitigation measures may involve additional archaeological investigations and include incorporation of the heritage resource into the project plan as interpretive features. In particular, the archaeological remains left by ancestral Native Americans require respectful treatment, along with the continued incorporation of contemporary Native American opinions, knowledge and sentiments into the planning process.

Placer County should maintain the confidentiality of heritage site locations and provide heritage resource management guidance to development interests, so that developers can be informed of the sensitivity of the plan area and be prepared to budget for heritage resource studies at the earliest stages of project-specific planning.

A regional interpretive plan that highlights selected heritage resources and considers the costs and benefits of public interpretation and the community economy should be developed. The interpretation of heritage attractions that celebrate cultural diversity and human ingenuity enhances a community's economic base.