

6.# Cultural Resources

#.1 Introduction

There is no State requirement that mandates the Town to have a Cultural Resource Element in its General Plan; however, the Town wishes to address the cultural resources within the Town so that these valuable resources may be protected to enhance the history and character of Loomis. This section addresses cultural resources specifically, and does not address recreation, community gatherings, or social events, that may be associated with the Parks and Recreation Element (Chapter 8).

The Town's purposes for including goals, objectives, policies, and implementation measures for cultural resources in its General Plan include the following:

- To encourage and facilitate public knowledge, understanding and appreciation of the Town's historic past and unique sense of place;
- To foster civic and neighborhood pride and a sense of identity based on the recognition and use of cultural resources;
- To promote the enjoyment, celebration, and use of cultural resources appropriate for the education and recreation of the people of the Town;
- To protect and enhance the City's attraction to tourists and visitors, stimulating business and industry;
- To identify as early as possible and resolve conflicts between preservation of cultural resources and alternative land uses;
- To integrate the preservation and enhancement of cultural resources into public and private land use management and development process; and
- To encourage public participation in identifying and preserving historical and architectural resources.

Issues

- ~~• A number of historical structures, primarily in the downtown area, have potential for adaptive reuse and enhancing the Town's rural, small town image.~~

Goals

- ~~1. To preserve and where appropriate replicate historic areas, such as the Downtown district and fruit sheds that contribute to Loomis' distinct character.~~
- ~~2. To encourage cultural facilities and events in Town, such as live theater and music programs.~~

Policies

- 1 ~~1. Loomis shall encourage the reuse and revitalization of historic buildings. Whenever~~
- 2 ~~possible, flexibility in development standards allowed by the Historic Building Code~~
- 3 ~~shall be offered to developers working with historic properties.~~
- 4 ~~2. The demolition of buildings deemed by the Town to be historically or aesthetically~~
- 5 ~~valuable shall be prohibited in cases where alternatives for reuse are found to be feasible.~~
- 6 ~~3. Loomis shall support the expansion and development of cultural facilities and programs,~~
- 7 ~~as a draw for visitors and residents to the downtown core.~~
- 8 ~~4. When feasible, and on public property, Loomis shall prohibit recreational activities that~~
- 9 ~~could damage or destroy archaeological sites in areas where archaeological sites have~~
- 10 ~~been identified.~~
- 11 ~~5. As part of the environmental review process, the Town shall review all development~~
- 12 ~~proposals for their potential to disturb cultural Resources. In areas where cultural~~
- 13 ~~resources are known to occur, give special consideration to development of facilities that~~
- 14 ~~enhance the operation, enjoyment, and maintenance of these areas.~~

15 **## Goals, Objectives, Policies, and Implementation Measures**

16 **### Goals**

17 **Goal H-1:** The goal of the Loomis General Plan Cultural Resource Element is to preserve the
18 historic character of the town.

19 **### Objectives, Policies, and Implementation Measures**

20 **Objective H-1.1:** The preservation of the historic character of the Town through the
21 preservation of significant historic buildings, structures, sites and districts, as well as prehistoric
22 archeological resources.

23 **Policy H-1.1.1:** The Town shall actively encourage the maintenance and preservation of
24 significant cultural resources.

25 **Implementation Measure H-1.1.1.1:** The Town shall encourage the maintenance of significant
26 cultural resources when it is feasible. Identification and evaluation of cultural resources and their
27 significance should take place early in the planning process by qualified professionals, and
28 alternatives for preservation should be considered in the decision-making process. Guidance for
29 the Town for both requirements for required types of reports and also for Town report review
30 will be provided for consultant studies related to the identification and evaluation of any
31 resources, helping in the decision making regarding any actions proposed.

32 **Implementation Measure H-1.1.1.2:** The Town shall require projects to minimize impacts,
33 should a prehistoric or historic archeological site be found during construction, through a
34 resource protection plan, developed and included in the approvals for every project that could
35 encounter subsurface finds.

36 **Policy H-1.1.2:** Loomis shall encourage the reuse and revitalization of historic buildings.

1 **Implementation Measure H-1.1.2.1:** Whenever possible, flexibility in development standards
2 allowed by the California Historic Building Code shall be offered to developers working with
3 historic properties.

4 **Implementation Measure H-1.1.2.2:** The demolition of buildings deemed by the Town to be
5 historically or aesthetically valuable shall be prohibited in cases where alternatives for reuse are
6 found to be feasible.

7 **Objective H-1.2:** To share the rich history of the Town with residents and tourists to the
8 community.

9 **Policy H-1.2.1:** The Town shall use their history ~~from the 1850s to present day~~ to create
10 programs with concerned groups to help share historical information with the local residents and
11 visitors. This shall include information on the under-represented populations historically
12 associated with the Town, such as the Asian individuals and groups who came to work and settle
13 in the Town.

14 **Implementation Measure H-1.1.2.1** As funding is available, the Town shall consider
15 coordination with the Loomis Basin Historical Society, school groups, local historians, and
16 others in the community to prepare a cultural resource inventory of the Town. A set of local
17 standards for listing in this inventory can be devised. The survey could be completed by created
18 districts, historic themes, or any grouping desired. The inventory could be a combination of
19 archival research, field studies, oral histories, and reviews of local buildings, structures and sites.

20 Facilities with information include the following, with sources identified that may be of use in an
21 inventory include, but are not limited to:

22 Placer County Archives

23 Maps: <https://www.placer.ca.gov/2843/Online-Maps>

24 Deeds/Official Records: <https://placer.access.preservica.com/>

25 Photographs

26 Loomis Library

27 Loomis Basin Historical Society collection

28 Local History collection

29 Genealogy collection

30 California State Library

31 Sanborn Fire Insurance maps

32 Historic map collection

33 Other Sources

1 Loomis Fire Department

2 On-line newspapers

3 Methodist Church

4 **Implementation Measure H-1.1.2.2:** Develop a program to place interpretive signage in
5 locations of former sites and current locations of buildings and structures, as well as features
6 where historic events, important at any level (national, state, or local), occurred. The program
7 shall allow for on-going additions as more places are recognized as of interest or importance.
8 Signage choices may include text, a QR code system linking to on-line text in a system
9 maintained by the Town, or other appropriate method.

10 **Implementation Measure H-1.1.2.3:** A school program for local history shall be developed for
11 the third-grade students, the grade at which State educational standards require local history.
12 This unit can be coordinated with the interpretive signage, gearing the overall content for the
13 classroom to be age-appropriate.

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