

CHAPTER SEVEN



CULTURAL RESOURCES

7. Cultural Resources

The Granite Bay area has a rich history. It began with the initial inhabitation by the Maidu Indians and continued through the Gold Rush era when miners, farmers and business moved into the area to seek their fortune. The Granite Bay name and area were officially recognized by the Board of Supervisors on July 28, 1987.

Cultural resources are defined as buildings, structures, sites, features, or other artifacts that may have archaeological, historical, architectural, and/or scientific importance. A number of laws, regulations, and statutes have been instituted at the federal and state levels to provide for the protection and management of cultural resources.



Figure 7.0.1: A 1992 survey identified 9022 Barton Road as potentially having historical significance.

Placer County has inherited a rich legacy of cultural heritage resources. Much of the county's heritage is linked to its historical railroad and gold mining roots.

The preservation of Placer's heritage is important for many reasons. Heritage resources are non-renewable and once lost, can never be regained. A well preserved heritage contributes to a sense of permanence and continuity. The preservation of heritage resources provides a vital link with the past and a foundation for planning the future, enabling these important assets to continue to contribute to the identity, character, vitality, economic prosperity and quality of life of the community as a whole.

Heritage is more than just old buildings and monuments. It also includes heritage trees, natural features and traditions that define the culture of a place. The definition of heritage has indeed been broadened in recent years to include a diversity of resources, including tangible and intangible.

Today, heritage resources are defined as structures, sites, environments, artifacts and traditions which are of historical, architectural, archaeological, cultural and contextual values, significance or interest. These include, but are not necessarily restricted to, structures such as buildings, groups of buildings, monuments, bridges, fences and gates; sites associated with an historic event; natural heritage features such as landscapes, woodlands, and riparian areas, streetscapes, flora and fauna within a defined area, parks, scenic roadways and historic corridors; artifacts and assemblages from an archaeological site or a museum; and traditions reflecting the social, cultural or ethnic heritage of the community. The adoption of the term "cultural resources" reflects this evolution and promotes the need for a more holistic approach to heritage planning.

Built heritage is the most common and most recognizable type of heritage resources. Built heritage resources refer to one or more significant buildings, structures, monuments, installations, or remains associated with architectural, cultural, social, political, economic, or military history, and identified as being important to a community.

7.1 GOAL AND POLICIES

The goal and policies which follow are intended to assure that future generations will have the opportunity to form a sense of community pride and identify from the achievements of the people that lived before them.

GOAL

1. Preserve all significant cultural resource sites and features.

POLICIES

1. Emphasize protection and stabilization of existing cultural resource sites and features over removal or replacement.
2. Encourage retention, integration and adaptive reuse of significant historical resources.

History

Indigenous people occupied the Sacramento Valley region and foothills of the Sierra Nevada for thousands of years prior to the arrival of Euro-American settlers in the mid-1800s. The earliest evidence of prehistoric human occupation of the area comes from a single, deeply buried site in the bank of Arcade Creek, north of Sacramento, containing grinding tools and large, stemmed projectile points. The points and grinding implements suggest an occupation date of sometime between 6000 and 3000 B.C.

Granite Bay is within the ethnographic territory of the Penutian-speaking Nisenan, one of three Maiduan-speaking tribelets inhabiting the northeastern half of the Sacramento Valley and the adjoining western slopes of the Sierra Nevada. The Nisenan, also known as the Southern Maidu, lived along the main stems and tributaries of the American, Yuba, and Bear Rivers, as well as the lower reaches of the Feather River. Their territory extended from above the junction of the Feather and Sacramento rivers on the north to a few miles south of the American River in the south. The Sacramento River bounded the territory on the west and extended close to Lake Tahoe in the east. The Valley Nisenan lived mainly along the Sacramento River in large villages with populations of several hundred each. Between there and the foothills, the grassy plains were largely unsettled, used mainly as a foraging ground by both valley and hill groups. Individual and extended families maintained possession over specific hunting and gathering grounds, and trespassing was discouraged.

The Spanish came to the Central Valley around 1769, and by 1776 the Miwok territory bordering the Nisenan on the south had been explored by Jose Canizares. In 1808 Gabriel Moraga crossed Nisenan territory, and in 1813 a major battle was fought between the Miwok and Spaniards near the mouth of the Cosumnes River. Though the Nisenan appear to have escaped the removal of tribes into the Spanish missions, they were not spared the ravages of diseases introduced by the Europeans. In 1833 an epidemic, probably malaria or smallpox, raged through the Sacramento Valley, killing an estimated 75 percent of the native population. When John Sutter erected his fort at the present site of Sacramento, he had no problem getting the few Nisenan survivors to settle nearby. The discovery of gold in 1848 near the Nisenan village of Colluma (and present town of Coloma) drew thousands of miners into the area and led to the widespread killing and virtual destruction of traditional Nisenan culture. By the time of the Great Depression, no Nisenan remained who could remember the days before the arrival of the whites.

Shortly after the discovery of gold in 1848, the region became heavily populated with prospectors, businessmen, and others looking to make their fortunes in the goldfields. The present day communities of Loomis, Rocklin, Newcastle, Penryn, and Auburn arose from mining camps and related centers of activity that

were established in the mid-1850s. Around this same period, Rocklin and later Roseville became established as railroad towns and local centers of commerce. Following the mining boom, many former prospectors settled in these communities and returned to the more familiar livelihoods of ranching and farming in the rich uplands and bottomlands of Dry Creek and its tributaries. Evidence of historic mining activities, including ditches, pits, small mounds, and low terraces, is still present along many of the drainages in the project area.

It is important that all historical sites are protected from destruction or demolition. Placer County routinely requires that discretionary development projects are designed to avoid potential impacts to significant paleontological or cultural resources, whenever possible. Potential impacts to cultural resources are identified by requiring cultural resource investigations and surveys as part of the approval process for projects.

Regulatory Framework

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.

Summary of California Laws Protecting Cultural Resources

California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA")

CEQA requires that all private and public activities not specifically exempted be evaluated against the potential for environmental damage, including effects on historical resources.

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

This code section 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, Section 5097.9

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 the Health and Safety Code.

Public Resources Code, Sections 5024 and 5024.5

These code sections require State 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.

7.2 CULTURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY

A Historical, Architectural and Archaeological survey of unincorporated Placer County was completed in 1992. The purpose of the survey was to identify properties that are important to the history of Placer County including Granite Bay. The information obtained by a survey provides unique insights into a community's past, and can form the basis for making sound judgments in community planning. Survey data can be used to create a preservation plan in which significant historic resources are recommended for preservation. It can lead to an increased understanding and public awareness of a community's historic landmarks and a greater commitment to preserving them.

The survey undertaken by the professional consulting firms Ogden Environmental and Energy Services, Archeological Services, Foothill Resources and Steward/Gerike Consultants was prepared for the Placer County Department of Museums. As nearly twenty years have passed since the Cultural Resources Inventory was completed, the descriptions and conditions of the properties in Tables 7.2.1 and 7.2.2 cannot be considered accurate.

Table 7.2.1

Identified Historical Resources in Granite Bay

Lindsey Ranch	6365 Cavitt-Stallman Road
Description- Residence, small cottage, and two sheds.	
Significance- Excellent example of a California shingle-style bungalow (1905-1925). Senator Lindsey owned the property in the 1950s and 60s and raised plums and cattle on the property.	
Rickey Ranch	6950 Cavitt-Stallman Road
Description- Main residence and several storage sheds.	
Significance- This property has been continuously farmed since 1863. Main residence circa-1910.	
O'Hara Home	7130 Cavitt-Stallman Road
Description- 1 ½-story structure with medium to high pitched gable roof. Exterior river rock work and gate posts are of quartz stone.	
Significance- It is one of two farmhouses built in the local area in the year 1905. It was built by Gus Stallman, one of three brothers, who first pioneered the plum industry in Placer County. This farmhouse is an example of the type of residence built by prospering pioneering farm families built during the beginning of the 20th Century.	
Stallman Home	7055 Cavitt-Stallman Road
Description- Rectangular single-story house capped by a medium pitched gable roof. Open veranda along the front of the building facing the road.	
Significance- Believed to be one of the first 1912 bungalow-style homes to be built in the local area. It is significant because it has been occupied by a pioneering family.	
7000 Laird Road	
Description- The two-story house is a wood structure with asphalt roof. The A-shaped top story has a fish scale shingle exterior while the lower story has wood plank exterior.	
Significance- This Eastern Shingle Cottage is believed to have been built in 1905. It is significant because it was built and occupied by Louis Stallman, one of three brothers who first pioneered the plum tree industry in Placer County. For the first three quarters of the 20 th Century the intersection where this home sits (Laird Road and Cavitt-Stallman) was known as Stallman Corners because of the three brothers that lived and farmed the area.	

Source: Historical, Architectural, and Archaeological Resources of Placer County, 1992

The following have physical integrity, but do not have obvious historical importance. Research is recommended to determine complete historical context and historical importance.

Table 7.2.2

Resources in Granite Bay with Potential Historical Importance

9022 Barton Road

Description- Wood-framed vernacular residence at the southwest corner of Barton and Eureka roads.

6915 Cavitt-Stallman Road

Description- Circa-1915 residence, a secondary residence, two sheds and a barn. Alterations have resulted in a substantial loss of architectural integrity but may be important through associations.

7590 Dick Cook Road

Description- One-story Craftsman house is rectangular in shape with a front-gabled roof with fascia.

6627 Eureka Road

Description- Property contains a Queen Anne residence with extensive Victorian detailing, a shop, a spring house and a garage.

6832 Eureka Road

Description- The wood-framed, circa-1910, 1 ½ story residence is composed as a side-gabled rectangular unit with a full-width, recessed front porch. The architectural integrity of this building has been compromised through alterations.

8042 Joe Rodgers Court

Description- Bungalow residence and garage. It appears to have been constructed circa-1900 as a simple, rectangular, hipped-roof building with a cutaway front porch in the southeast corner. Has poor architectural integrity.

8137 Joe Rodgers Road

Description- Circa-1909 Folk Victorian residence and two shops. The elevated, single-story residence is rectangular and has a simple hipped roof with a full-width, recessed front porch on the north elevation. Brick addition work has resulted in a partial loss of architectural integrity.

6922 Laird Road

Description- Craftsman Bungalow circa-1925 residence composed as front-gabled rectangular unit with a hip-on-gable-roofed porch on the east gable wall.

5322 Olive Ranch Road

Description- Circa-1910 two-story, front-gabled building with a full-width, recessed, ground floor front porch in the north gable wall. Remodeling and additions have resulted in a loss of architectural integrity.

7580 Quinn Place

Description- Cross-gabled, wood-frame vernacular circa-1900 residence. The 1 ½ story residence is composed as a square, cross-gabled unit with full-width front porch on the north elevation.

Source: Historical, Architectural, and Archaeological Resources of Placer County, 1992

Development has caused historical properties to be lost over time. Even though saving these properties may not be feasible, documentation will ensure that there is some record that they existed.

There is one State Landmark in the Community Plan area, the Pioneer Express Trail, listed in 1957. Between 1849 and 1854, Pioneer Express riders rode this gold rush trail to the many populous mining camps on the

American River bars now covered by Folsom Lake-Beals, Condemned, Dotons, Long, Horseshoe, Rattlesnake, and Oregon on the route to Auburn and beyond.

Archaeological Resources

In order to prevent vandalism and unauthorized artifact collecting and to protect landowners from trespass, the locations of cultural resources are kept confidential. California Government 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. No on-the-ground archaeological field survey was performed as part of the Community Plan update. Records are available to qualified researchers for use during the land development process.

The North Central Information Center (NCIC), California State University at Sacramento maintains a record of archaeological sites in Placer County including Granite Bay. 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); 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); and California Office of Historic Preservation Archaeological Determinations of Eligibility for Placer County (1/28/00).



Figure 7.2.1: Indian grinding stones are found throughout Granite Bay.