

## Recommendations

This section offers recommendations for additional research and further study to advance a more thorough understanding of the County's historic built environment. The following topics are identified as priorities for future study:

### Supplementary and Focused Historical Contexts

To ensure historical resources in the County are properly identified, evaluated, and preserved, the existing historic context framework must be updated and extended to include topics that were not addressed in the 1994 Context Statement or this study. Additional focused historic context statements will help capture the County's evolution and will support informed decisions about its architectural and cultural heritage, as well as any new themes that may broaden the interpretive framework for evaluating resources. Future research should explore themes including but not limited to the suggestions outlined below:

- Post-World War II suburbanization and commercial development
- Education
- Additional ethnic and cultural groups
- Civil rights movements, including local activism and community organizing
- Environmental conservation efforts
- Agricultural innovation
- Public infrastructure

### Update the Santa Cruz County Historic Resources Inventory

A systematic update of the County's existing Historic Resources Inventory is recommended. An update offers an opportunity to document historical resources that were not previously identified or that have since reached historic age in the County. The process should include the identification and evaluation of properties in remote or underrepresented areas of the County, as well as those associated with communities whose contributions were not explored in earlier surveys. This update effort should also include a reexamination of previously documented properties through updated fieldwork and documentation that will provide current information about their integrity, significance, and eligibility.

### Oral Histories: Existing and New Generational Narratives

Oral histories containing firsthand accounts provide valuable insights for community members, researchers, and historians trying to understand a place and its history. Recommendations for future research could include additional oral interview efforts with descendants of previously documented individuals to record perspectives across generations, especially concerning immigrant experiences and their changing role in the region's cultural landscape.