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Park Hall on county's historical building list

Historic Buildings
Ben Lomond's Park Hall has been included on the county's list of historic properties, complicating the debate over the future of the hall, the town's community meeting place

Ron Clements, owner of Ben Lomond Super Market, wishes to expand onto the Park Hall site and has proposed either moving or rebuilding the present hall.

Designation as a historic property means that the owner will have to get approval from the Historic Resources Commission prior to alteration, relocation or demolition of the structure. This was accomplished by rezoning the properties to the "L" (Landmark) combining zone district.

Park Hall is among a total of 90 properties in Ben Lomond, Boulder Creek, Felton, Brookdale and the Carbonera area near Scotts Valley

included on the county's list of historic properties by action of the Board of Supervisors Dec. 6.

The San Lorenzo Valley area had a high proportion of the total 200 properties included by the board on the county's historic resources inventory. Its action was based on a historic resources survey prepared with the assistance of historic consultant Bonnie Barnburg under contract to the county. The survey rates each survey property from 1 to 6 according to the National Park Service system of classifying historic properties based on their level of significance. Properties rated between 1 and 5 are considered historically significant.

Following a series of public hearings, the Historic Resources Commission recommended 220 of the more than 350 surveyed

Please see back page

Historical buildings

From page 1

properties be designated for historic preservation through listing on the Historic Resources Inventory. The board eliminated 20 of them following protests by property owners.

The Hall House in Felton was left on the list despite a protest by owner Marie Hall Griffiths. Also left on the list, despite protests by their boards of directors, were the Faye G. Belardi Memorial in Felton (home of the Felton library) and the Christian Science Church in Boulder Creek. Both are on the list of historic properties in the county general plan. All properties in that category were left on the historic resources inventory despite any protests.

Highest rated historic properties on the list, with a top "1" rating, are the Belardi building, the Blake Hammond Manor, and the Felton Covered Bridge, which is on the National Register of Historic Places.

A complete list of historic properties in the San Lorenzo Valley and Carbonera areas follows:

Carbonera — Camp Redwood Glen, Ezekial Elliot Farmhouse, Gregory House, Villa Fontenay, Beulah Park Auditorium, 382 Granite Creek Road, Powder House, Paradise Park Covered Bridge, Glenwood Magnetic Springs Barn, Pogonip Club House.

Pasatiempo residential subdivision — 2 Hollins Drive, 23 Hollins Drive, 51 Hollins Drive, 70 Hollins Drive, 80 Hollins Drive, 5 Club House Road, 20 Club House Road and 34 Club House Road.

Ben Lomond — Alba School, Hammond Home, Wee Kirk Presbyterian Church, Ben Lomond Hotel Club House; Weatherly-Howden Castle, Chateau Des Fleurs, Jones House, Cody House, Blake-Hammond Manor, Park Hall, Ben Lomond Library, Hessey House, Wilder Recreation Hall, St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Triplett House, Highlands Park Center.

Boulder Creek — Wilcox Residence, Locatelli Barn, Old General Store, Boulder Creek Fire Hall, Pesenti House, Christian Science Church, Creddiford House, I.O.O.F. Lodge Hall, Boulder Club, Horstman Residence; Frederick Johnson House, Hilton Residence, Stagg/Cunningham House, J. H. Pickle House, Cress House, Billy Dool Residence, Boulder Creek Methodist Church.

Brookdale — Los Osos, Judge Logan House, Irwin Estate, Fernwood, At Last (8 Huckleberry Island), Grover Family Cabin.

Felton — 687 Brookside Way, Felton Covered Bridge, Blacksmith Shop, Hall House, 345 Felton Empire Road, Bennett House, Clement House, Faye Belardi Memorial Library, Felton Community Hall, Toll House Resort Motel, Cremer Hotel, Dew Drop Inn, Sunny Castle, Donaldson House, Felton Railroad Station, Stebbins Farm, 365 Felton Empire Road, Fall Creek Lime Kilns, Hihn St. Lime Kilns, Felton Cemetery.

Mt. Hermon — Historical Center, Administration Building, Southern Pacific Depot, Pioneer Day Camp, Auditorium, Forest Hall.