

Community Development
Committee Meeting
August 3, 2026

Historical Markers, Placards, and/or a QR code-based Virtual Historical Tour of Fort Bragg

This concept has been suggested
by various constituents.

Possible Community Partners?

Historical Society
Kelley House
Larry Spring Museum
Public Library
Community Members at Large
Other Suggestions?

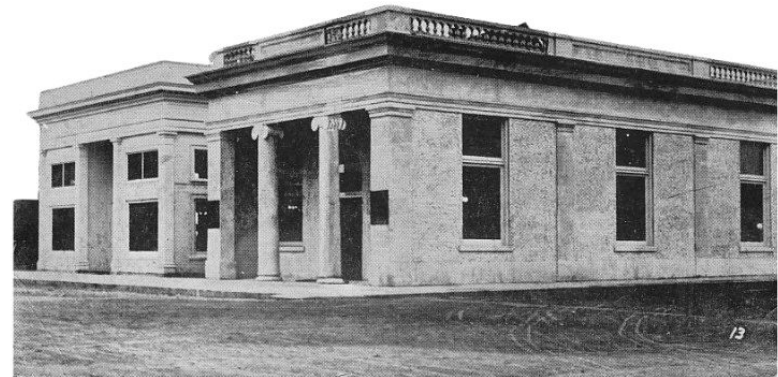
A recent proposal by Julie Parker

Historical Landmark

This is the former site of Fort Bragg's first public library. Union Lumber Company donated the lot on the condition that the lot only be used for a library. The library building was completed in October 1912.

Tragically, on September 20, 1987, the library was destroyed by arson.

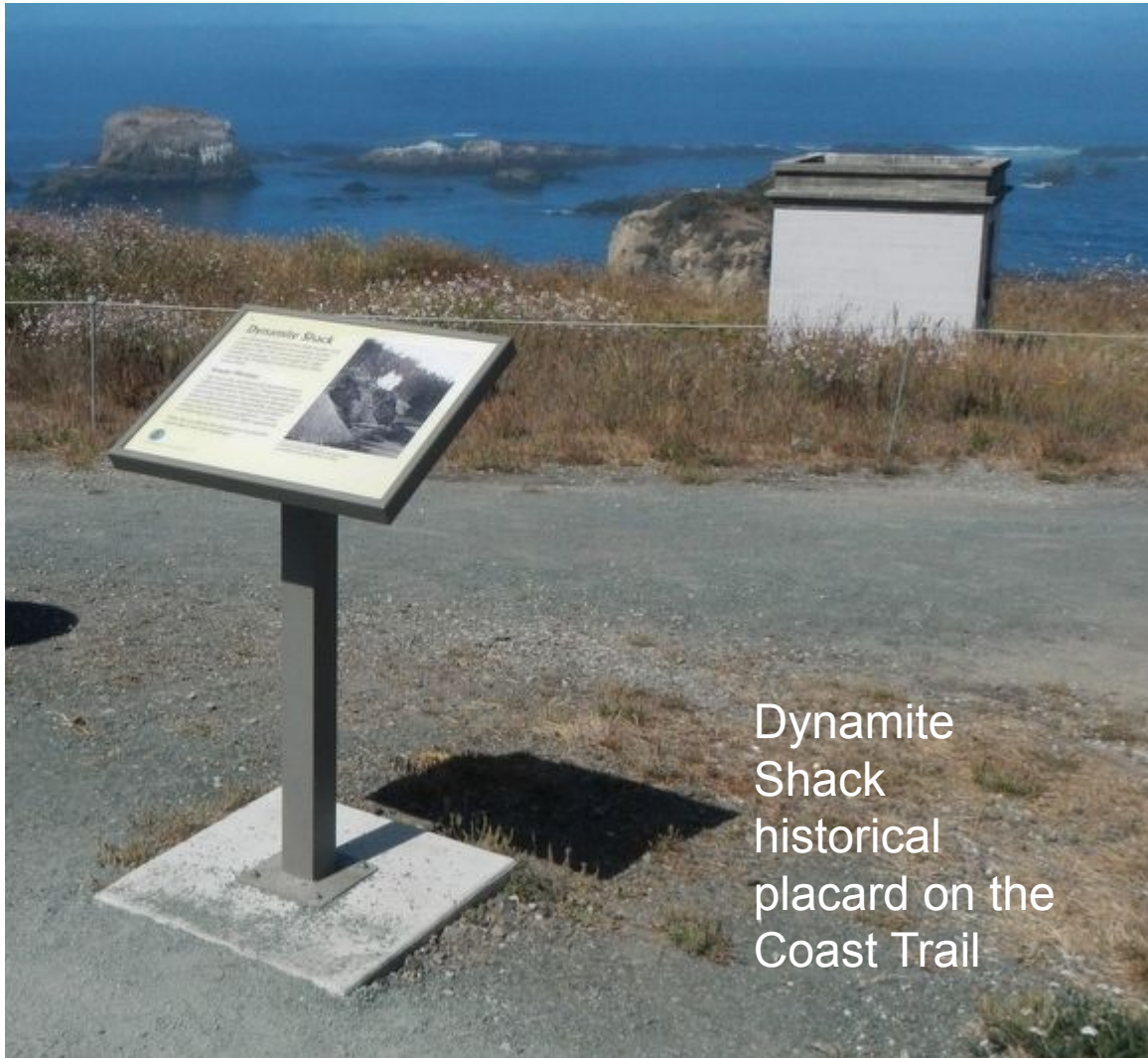
The following year, the current library opened on 499 E. Laurel Street.



Contexts:

Public right-of-way (attached to street sign posts?)

Public, City-owned spaces (free-standing placards, or stickers on buildings, as with the **Alleyway Murals Project**)



Dynamite
Shack
historical
placard on the
Coast Trail

Lauren Sinnott's *From Finland to Fort Bragg* mural
QR code links to a
historical resource.



Home
Tour Overview

Tour Stop 1
Among the First

Tour Stop 2
Rescue ends in Tragedy

Tour Stop 3
Tsunami Central

Tour Stop 4
Remembering the Victims

Tour Stop 5
Historic Downtown

Tour Stop 6
Tsunami Radio Reporting

Tour Stop 7
The Work to Rebuild

Tour Stop 8
More than a Park

Tour Stop 9
Hope Spans an Ocean

RECREATION & LEISURE

Tsunami Walking Tour

This walking tour features nine exhibits. Each kiosk features a dramatic story detailing the events and aftermath of the 1964 tsunami on one side and tsunami safety on the other side.

The QR code will link you to additional images and audio recordings from survivors who experienced the 1964 tsunami here in Crescent City. Consider listening to these as you walk from kiosk to kiosk.



One municipal example of an historical walking tour

Questions or Opportunities to consider?

The Island of Joy

The rumors about Gus West Island once swirled through Fort Bragg like tidal surges. Today, all that remains of the so-called "Island of Joy" are the splintered cable ends, remnants of two rickety bridges, rusting in the salt air. You can choose to believe any or all of tales told about this island:

- ☛ It once housed a one-room brothel but, to stop the comings and goings, the bridges were blown up by the City fathers at the behest of the City mothers.
- ☛ The island was home to a recluse, shunned by the community. She was sent to a Japanese internment camp at the start of WWII.
- ☛ The island was used for the illicit production of moon shine during prohibition. The bridges finally frayed and fell into the sea.

Draft #1



During the fiercest winter storms, people made their way to the mainland to avoid being swept off the island.

The *Advocate* reported that although no one was living in the house at the time, "a blaze of unknown origin" destroyed the building on August 4th, 1921.

Illustration: Design and Art by Greg Fisher, 2004