

**2026 Historic Resources
Certificate of Appreciation
Nominations**

Nominee's Name	Nomination Category	Address	Description of work	Meets Criteria in Guidelines (Yes/No)
Steinbeck House	Programs and activities	132 Central Ave	We are striving to keep the childhood home of John Steinbeck alive, open and thriving in this community	Yes
Steinbeck House	Programs and activities	132 Central Ave	<p>As the birthplace of the Nobel Prize winning author, the House draws readers from around the world, from 92 countries in the past 20 years. It is a place where visitors can learn about the man, his works, his family and childhood and so much more. Tours of the House are very popular, beginning in the room in which Steinbeck was born and then moving through the century-old home, learning more in each room. School groups are regular visitors, some coming from as far away as Minnesota and Hawaii. Regular tours for locals and travelers are offered throughout the Spring and Summer at no charge.</p> <p>The restaurant is quite popular with locals as well as out-of-state visitors who enjoy their lunch in one of three main floor rooms.</p>	Yes

Steinbeck House	Programs and activities	132 Central Ave	<p>1. Historic preservation</p> <p>a. Since 1974, the Vally Guild has maintained and preserved the 1897 Queen Anne Victorian birthplace and childhood home of John Steinbeck</p> <p>b. Protects a local historic treasure and John Steinbeck's legacy</p> <p>2. Community Engagement & Volunteerism</p> <p>a. 108 volunteers</p> <p>b. Volunteers contribute over 8,000 hours annually to support operations, tours, events, and historic preservation</p> <p>c. Supports the local senior community by providing volunteer opportunities and lunch specials.</p> <p>d. All proceeds and gratuities from the restaurant and Best Cellar directly benefit the Steinbeck House</p> <p>e. Partners with local organizations such as Salinas Valley Health and their Live Well program to introduce vegetarian and vegan menu options</p>	Yes
Christian and Lucille Bengard	Project	36 Los Laureles Ave	This home has not been lived in for seventy years. It suffered neglect and maintenance issues. It now shows pride of ownership and returns as a fine contributor to the block.	Yes
Grower-Shipper Association	Project	512 Pajaro St	An attractive & complementary fence & gate were designed & installed.	Yes
Debra Reid and Mark Gurley	Project	54 Harvest St	New fence and gate that is a terrific complement to the homes design.	Yes