This Heritage Walk Map was an Eagle Scout Project completed by Ryan Andersen, Troop 66 in April, 2000

Take a walk through the historic heart of Lompoc on a self-guided tour and learn about the sites that date back to the 1870’s.

Lompoc Valley Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau
www.lompoc.com

Old Town Lompoc Heritage Walk

MAP NOT TO SCALE

THE WALK IS APPROXIMATELY 1 MILE, ALLOW 1 HOUR
The Lompoc Museum, pictured above, was built in 1911 as a Carnegie Library. It was used as a library until 1969. The Museum focuses on the archeology and history of the Lompoc Valley. The Lompoc Museum is open 6 afternoons a week, providing local tourist information and brochures along with its exhibits. Be sure to check out the Monument to World War I soldiers erected as a flagpole in 1925 by the Civic Club and originally located in the intersection of H Street and Ocean Avenue.

The First Baptist Church is an 1888 church, typical of the small churches constructed in early Lompoc. It is the oldest church in town still owned and operated by the same denomination that built it.

Sissy’s Uptown Café is the site of the former Post Office from 1942 until 1962. Before 1942, the Post Office was housed in several downtown storefront locations.

The Sppane Chalkrock building is constructed with blocks of locally mined diatomaceous earth (DE), also known as “chalkrock.” The building was completed in 1892. Originally, it served as the Sppane Agricultural Implement store, selling farm tools and implements. The building has also served as a dance hall, skating rink, mortuary, grocery store, meat locker and print shop. Check out the abstract mural on the exterior north wall celebrating the long history of DE mining in the Lompoc Valley.

Across the street from the Sppane Building is Better Beds building. Note the peaked roof that projects above the building. This is a former Christian Church building that was located one block south and moved to this location in 1927 and made part of the retail complex.

Horse hitching rings are still evident embedded in the curbs on West Ocean Avenue.

The Anderson Recreation Center was built in 1942 as one of Lompoc’s three USO’s. It served the military personnel stationed at Camp Cooke Army Base during WWII. It later served as City Hall from the 1930’s until 1979. After a new City Hall was constructed, the building was renovated into a recreation center.

The Artesia School Museum was built in 1876 and is Lompoc’s first one room country school. Originally, it was located on Artesia Avenue, about 5 miles west of Lompoc. In 1972 it was moved into town and renovated. It is open on the 4th Saturday of each month from 2-4 p.m. and is staffed by docents of the Lompoc Museum.

The Guadalupe Rojas Harness Shop, located behind the Lompoc Theatre building, was the original land office building that stood at the front of the lot. It was built in the 1890’s and was moved to where it stands today when the theatre was built.

The Lompoc Theatre was built in 1927 by the Knights of Pythias. It was home to movies, plays and concerts over the years. When it was first opened, it was considered one of the most technologically advanced movie theatres on the West Coast. Efforts are currently underway to renovate the facility.

The Lilley Building was built in 1890 by George Roberts, one of the original shareholders of the Lompoc Valley Land Company. The building housed the Bank of Lompoc, the town’s first bank. The red brick used for its construction was manufactured locally.

The IOOF (Independent Order of Odd Fellows) building was constructed in 1905. Three of the four walls are made of diatomaceous earth.

The Lompoc Furniture Mart was constructed in 1911 and has always been a furniture store. J.C. Long also operated a mortuary from the same location, with his coffin room located upstairs.

The Sleep Shop was the site of Lompoc’s first bowling alley, complete with 6 lanes and manual pin spotting equipment. Built in the early 1940’s it served Lompoc until the early 1960’s when a new facility was built. Before the bowling alley was constructed, this was the site of Lompoc’s Opera House, which was the cultural center of the town.

The Cypress Gallery, pictured above, is operated by the Lompoc Valley Art Association, featuring works of art by local artists. The gallery features many items for sale and also provides tourist information.

The Lost Mission mural, behind the Lompoc Museum, was painted by local artist, Vicki Andersen. This mural represents the original La Purisima Mission which was destroyed in 1812 by a massive earthquake. Starting in 1813, the Mission was rebuilt across the Santa Ynez River to the north where it retains its rural setting.

Please be sure to also visit:
• The Lost Mission (the original La Purisima site) at the end of South F Street. Map and brochure available at the Chamber.
• The Fabing-McKay-Spanne House, 207 North L Street. Lompoc’s first story wooden residence, which was constructed in 1875. It has been fully renovated and furnished in Victorian style. It is the home of the Lompoc Valley Historical Society. Hours: Mondays and Thursdays 8:30-11 a.m. and the fourth Saturday of the month from 10 am to 1 pm. Visit them online at www.lompochistory.org

Be sure to pick up a mural brochure before the walk!