Recommendations:

(1)   When repairing and preserving an historic accessory building, respect its character-defining features such as its primary facade and roof materials, roof form, windows, doors and architectural details, and avoid moving it from its original location.

(2)   If an existing accessory structure is beyond repair, then replacing it with a structure having a similar function is encouraged. Although an exact reconstruction of the accessory structure is not necessary, the replacement should be compatible with the overall character of the historic structure, while accommodating new uses.

(3)   The preservation of an existing accessory structure is preferred to construction of a new one. A new accessory structure should be subordinate, in terms of mass, size and height, to the primary structure on a site, and should be similar in character to those seen traditionally. Accessory structures should be unobtrusive and not compete visually with the primary structure. It should be located to the rear of a lot, although, if necessary locating an accessory structure to the side of a primary structure, but set back substantially, may also be considered. While the roofline does not have to match the primary structure, it should not vary significantly.

(4)   Simple rectangular forms, with hip, gable or shed roofs, are recommended.

(5) Maintain the traditional range of building materials seen on historic accessory structures. Appropriate siding materials for secondary buildings include painted or stained wood siding, wood planks, vertical board and batten siding or corrugated metal. These materials should be utilitarian in appearance. The use of muted, natural colors and finishes is encouraged.

(6) Maintain the simple detailing found on historic accessory structures by avoiding ornate detailing, unless the original structure had such character defining features.

(7) Accessory structures should not mimic primary structures.

7.5.5 Site Retaining Walls

The existing historic retaining walls of Grass Valley form one of its strongest elements of landscape character.