

Historic Houses

8-28-67

Gingerbread House Opens

Gingerbread House gallery and gifts shop opened Saturday at 218 Mission street with an invitational open house.

The gallery is the project of Mrs. Virgil (Myrtle) Kester and her 12-year-old daughter, Mary. Many of the original gift items have been made by another daughter, Mrs. Bob (Saucy) Paradise of Chico. Paintings by Mrs. Kester also will be offered.

The Kesters describe Gingerbread House in this way: "Color it white with brown trim, stuff it with paintings and Early American type gifts, and Gingerbread House is born . . ."

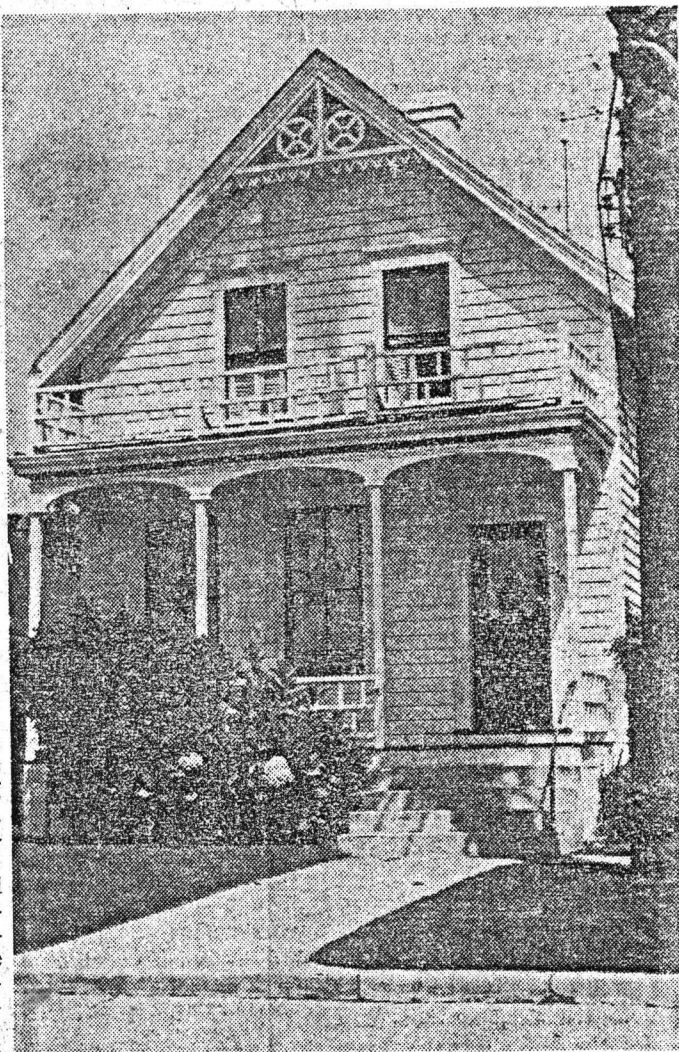
"Gingerbread House always looked its name," Myrtle Kester comments. A Sentinel "Cooking Cruise" of former years featured it with a recipe for gingerbread cookies; it also has been decorated with "gingerbread men" at Christmastime by a former owner.

The house is one of Santa Cruz' historic homes, was built about 1870 and was owned by County Sheriff Howard Trafton at one time. "Mary insists it's haunted!" Mrs. Kester says.

But if it is, it is haunted by friendly ghosts who enjoy the smell of gingerbread. Mrs. Kester notes she intends to specialize in gingerbread cookies each holiday season.

Gingerbread House will be open Wednesday through Sunday from noon to 6 p.m. and other times by appointment.

—By Margaret Koch



GINGERBREAD HOUSE, just opened as a gallery and gifts shop, is one of the historic old homes which line Mission street.