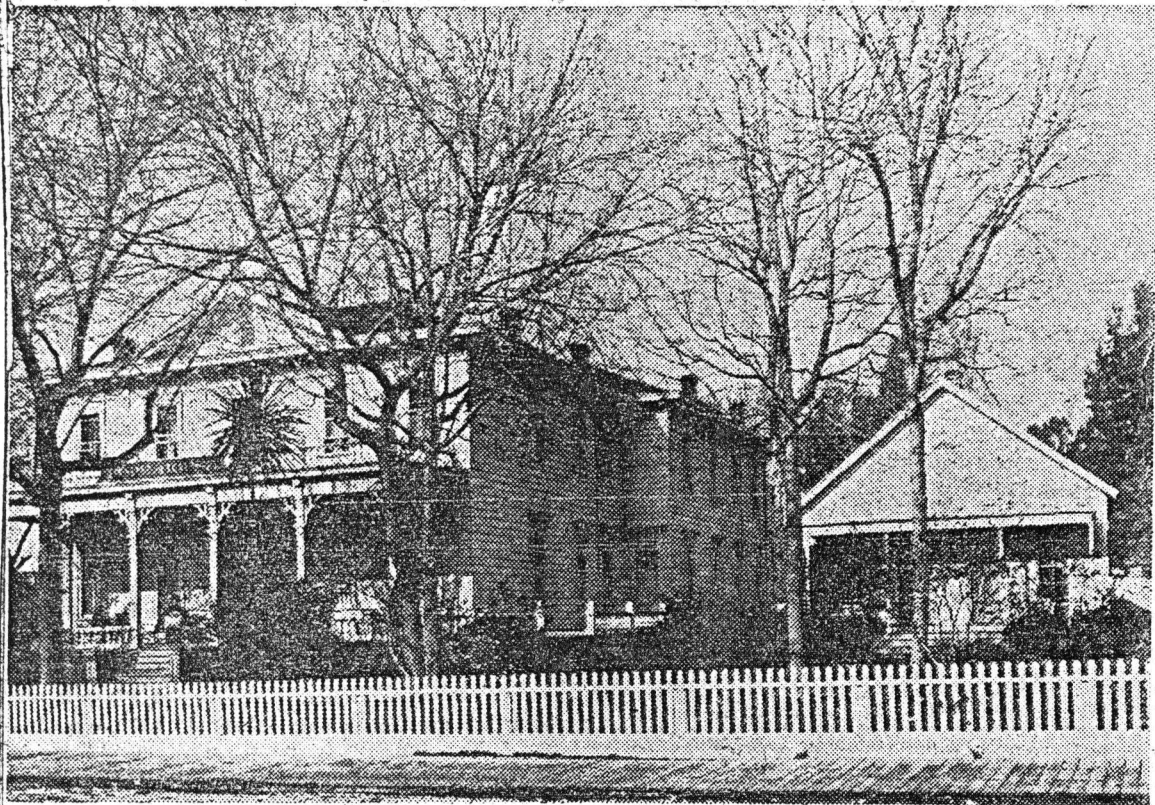


10/29/50

Santa Cruz Yesterdays



WEALTH AND SOCIAL ELITE STAYED AT POPE HOUSE —Preston Sawyer Collection

The Sharons, the Fairs, de Youngs, the Murphys and the Morgan Hills made the summers of the seventies eras of social grandeur for Santa Cruz when they drove down to stay at the Pope House, bringing their servants, their high stepping horses and their ornate phaetons and barouches.

The Pope House, with its croquet and tennis lawns surrounded by elms stood in the intersection of King and Mission streets. The hotel included a group of cottages of which the oldest, built in 1850 by Silas F. Bennett, housed the office and billiard room with card tables for the guests.

Danced In Dining Room

The picture shows the main building, erected in the late sixties. Back of the deep porch a wide door opened into a hall. On either side were parlors, little used, and with sliding doors. At the rear of the hall was the dining room, in which the guests danced. Upstairs were bedrooms.

The small building at the right was one of half a dozen cottages which were usually rented to families. The older office structure was to the left of the main build-

ing, out of range of the camera. These buildings were opposite Locust street, and along Mission street toward the present intersection of King street. The first electric car line up Mission street hill ended at the Pope House.

The height of the resort hostelry's fame as a summer rendezvous for the wealth and social elite of San Francisco came with the advent of the railroads and the erection of the first Hotel Del Monte across the bay.

About the same time came the death of Horace W. Pope, who was stricken with a heart attack just inside his gate on August 31, 1881.

Early Stage Driver

Pope, a native of Danville, Vermont, had taught school in Ohio and Kentucky. In 1859 he drove Hall brothers stage between Santa Clara and Santa Cruz and the following year became a partner with Luther Farnham running the Lorenzo Hotel, predecessor of the Pacific Ocean House, on upper Pacific avenue.

In 1862 Pope and his wife who as Anna Farrar, had married him in Stockton three years before, bought the old Bennett cottage

from the Rev. John Sheridan Zelle, first minister of the Congregational church, and began