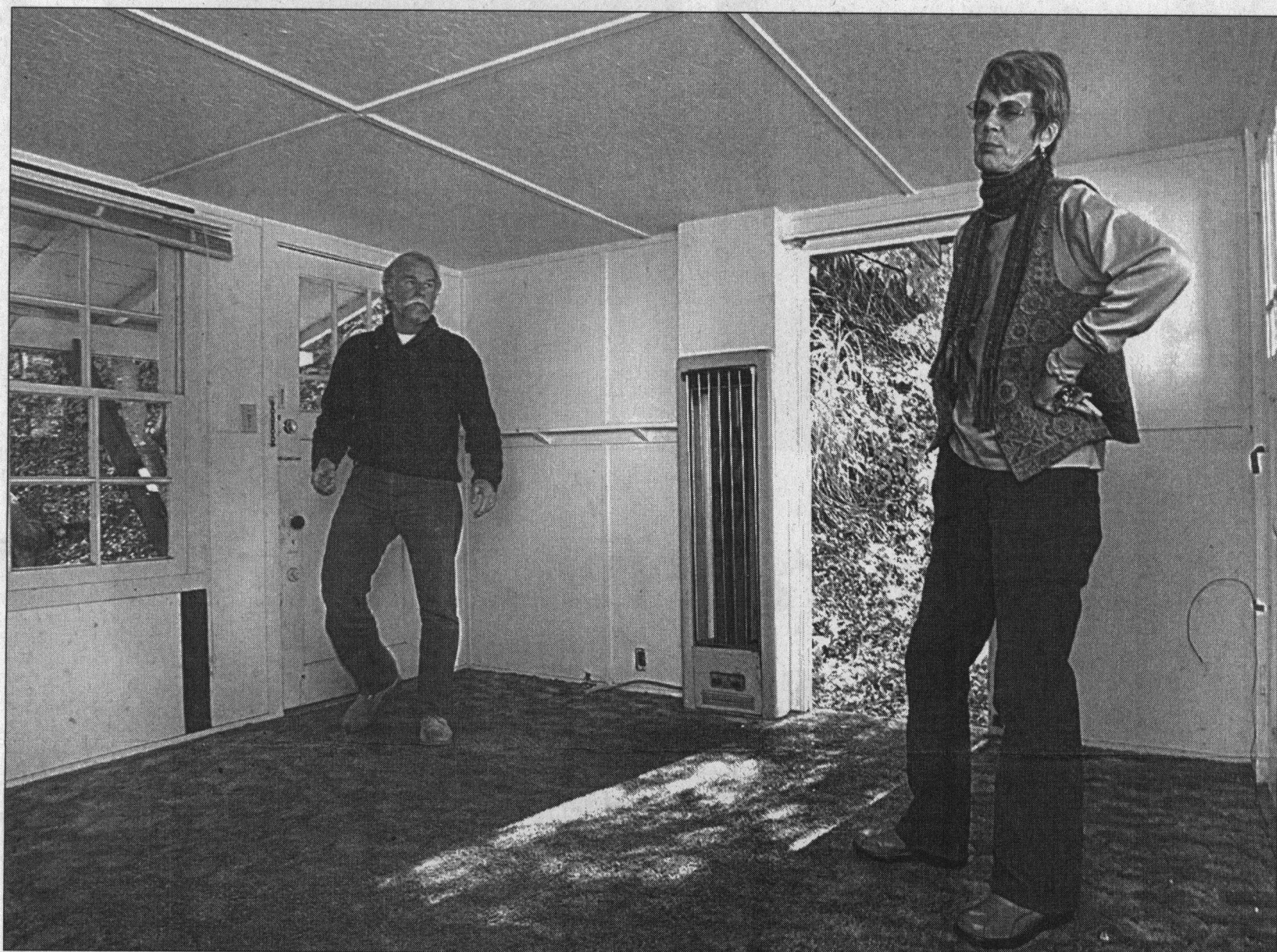


THIS OLD COTTAGE



Dan Coyro/Sentinel

Ed Morrison of Capitola Public Works and historian Carolyn Swift check out the historic cabin that be moved next to the Capitola Historical Museum.

Capitola saves piece of history by moving it near museum

By **RAMONA TURNER**
SENTINEL STAFF WRITER

The Capitola Historical Museum has a new neighbor — a 1920s-era cottage thought to be one of several vacation cabins that once lined the village.

The 10- by 12-foot structure, once located on a private lot on Oak Drive, had been scheduled for demolition to make way for a new home before the city stepped in.

"I think this really is a move in the right direction, to establish a core identity for Capitola," said Councilman Tony Gualtieri, who, along with

museum Director Carolyn Swift and Public Works Director Steve Jesberg, was instrumental in making sure the cottage did not fall victim to the wrecking ball.

The cottage, which bears the number "15" on its front door, cost the city \$2,500 to move to the grassy spot next to the museum, at 410 Capitola Ave. It was placed on wooden blocks shortly after its move Thursday and will be fitted with a foundation within a month, Jesberg said.

In its heyday, the cottage served as a place for Capitola visitors to spend the night after a day at the beach, Gualtieri said. Over time, people

moved in and added a bedroom on one side, and a kitchen and bathroom area on the other.

Restoration of the structure is expected to take several months.

Once restored, the public will not be able to go inside; rather, visitors can look in through locked windows.

This is not the first time structures from Capitola's past have been shuffled around town in an effort to save them from destruction.

"We, as a City Council, started moving structures around (in the late 1990s)," Gualtieri said. "The first one came out of El Salto Drive. It was a cottage considered to be historic, and

they were going to destroy it. It was saved and moved onto the corner of El Salto and Oakland Avenue."

Since then, two cottages on Central Avenue were saved from demolition.

Currently, the city is looking into move an early 1900s-era San Jose Avenue outhouse. There's room for it behind the newly moved cottage.

Swift is asking for the public's help in telling the cottage's history, as well as furnishing it with items from its era. Contact her at 464-0322.

Contact Ramona Turner at rturner@santacruzsentinel.com.

Historic Buildings

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