

# <sup>Hostels</sup> Zoning Board rejects Beach Hill hostel proposal

SANTA CRUZ — The city Zoning Board Thursday denied a permit for the Santa Cruz Hostel Society to operate a year-round youth hostel at the historic Carmelita Cottages on Main Street at Beach Hill.

Zoning Board members said the hostel would be incompatible with the neighborhood, where zoning now calls for high-density residential and tourist uses.

Board member Jeff Oberdorfer dis-

sented.

The Hostel Society had proposed a 45-bed facility to be built in two phases over a 10-year period.

It would be operated under rules of the International Youth Hostel Federation, which limits stays to three nights.

Hostel Society representatives maintained traffic and parking problems would be minimal, since many hostel members would arrive by bus, bicycle or on foot.

*8-10-84*

The first phase would include three buildings containing 32 bunks and living quarters for two full-time workers.

The second phase would include another three buildings, 13 bunks and living quarters for two additional employees.

Hostel rules state that the facility would open late in the afternoon for arrivals and close by 9 a.m.

The grounds would be open for use as a park when the hostel was closed.

The Hostel Society has been running hostels in schools during the summer, but has been looking for a permanent location.

Carmelita Cottages is one of the city's historical landmarks.

The property was willed to the city in 1955. Under the terms of the will, the city must develop it into a park, or Stanford University will gain control of the land.

The city is in ongoing negotiations with Stanford over the use of the cottages.