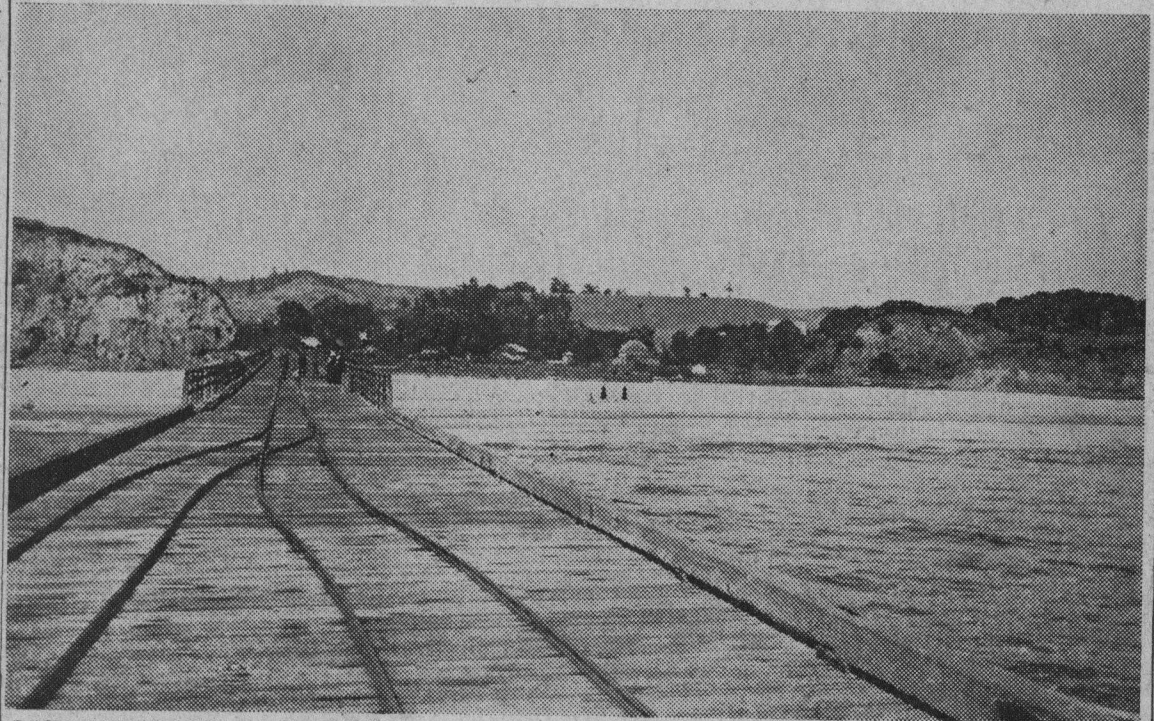


Aptos

Santa Cruz Yesterdays



CASTRO-SPRECKELS WHARF AT APTOS

(From the Preston Sawyer Collection)

From this wharf at Aptos Claus Spreckels, California sugar millionaire, once shipped lumber to Honolulu. Coastal schooners stopped, after Don Rafael Castro's original wharf of the '50's was enlarged as shown. Firewood was once an important export.

From the narrow gauge Santa Cruz & Watsonville railroad a spur angled down the west bank of Aptos creek, carrying lumber which came from the Loma Prieta mill.

The picture shows the Aptos flat, back of the beach, at the height of its development by the wealthy San Franciscan. Nearest the beach are the hotel which he built to take care of his guests. Near it is the

club house which, with its bowling alley and outdoor dancing pavilion, offered entertainment, and the livery stable to care for the teams which they drove down.

Old Residence In Trees

Almost concealed by the trees at the right is the residence of John Mangels, brother of Spreckels' wife, who in 1880 married Emma Corcoran of the family for which Corcoran Lagoon was named. The house was torn down when Monroe, Lyon & Miller acquired the property in 1925 and laid out Rio del Mar.

Lumber shipped off Aptos wharf to the Hawaiian Islands built, among other buildings, a residence

for Spreckels which was a duplicate of his home at Aptos, which stood across today's freeway from the main Rio del Mar entrance.

The outer end of the wharf was carried away in a storm before the turn of the century — the rest has long since gone.

Just out of range of the camera, on the hill, extreme right, was built the Rio del Mar Hotel, originally called the "Don Rafael Castro." The site is approximately where Claus Spreckels delighted in transporting prominent guests for an inspiring view of Monterey Bay. Among them was, one day in 1880, King Kalakaua of the Sandwich (Hawaiian) Islands.