

# East Side Landmark Is Bought

Sold recently as part of a larger group of commercial and apartment properties was one of the earliest commercial buildings on the east side and for years one of the most prominent landmarks in that area.

Built originally in the middle 80's to house a wagon and buggy agency, it was purchased soon after by I. G. Gebhart and is best known as the old Gebhart store. A remarkable fact is that most of the original building, with some face changing and a few alterations, is still giving full service at 910 Soquel avenue.

According to George Penniman, one need not be a super old timer to remember Gebhart's in its original glory. He recalls that it was one of the first dispensaries of gasoline and oils for automobiles, and remembers driving there with his father to be served by Gebhart who sold gasoline from a barrel by means of a gallon measure and a funnel.

Earlier than that, records indicate there was a large pond directly across the street where ducks were hunted almost any time.

In 1919 the property was taken over by Burt F. Owens who did away with the general merchandise idea and operated for the next 24 years as Owen's Grocery where most of the people in that area traded.

Over the years, Burt Owens acquired much of the adjoining property and the sale just completed included a triplex, duplex, three apartments, three commercial rentals and considerable open space in the center now used for parking. The Soquel frontage occupies from 910 to 918 and the triplex is around the corner fronting on Pennsylvania.

The property was purchased by the Santa Cruz Investors, a group of local investors, and the sale was negotiated by Bill O'Reilly sales manager for Dollinger-Noblitt.

## Sleeping Man Is Wakened, Beaten By Juveniles

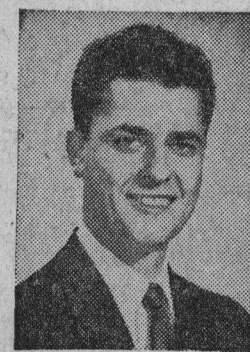
Three juveniles, coming upon a car parked in a Watsonville orchard in which John T. Dye Jr., Watsonville, was sleeping, smashed the car windows, struck Dye, and forced him to turn over his billfold, sheriff's deputies said Friday.

Dye told deputies he parked to

## Soquel Avenue Property Purchased



Pictured above is the Burt F. Owens property at 910-918 Soquel avenue which recently was purchased by Santa Cruz Investors. The property includes the original Gebhart store, one of the earliest commercial buildings on the east side. It is minus its veranda and has bay windows today, but in the lower picture it may be seen as it was when I. B. Gebhart, the owner, took time to rest on a crate on the front porch. Directly across Soquel avenue, in property now occupied by the Santa Cruz Plumbing Supply, was a duck pond. The lower picture is from the collection of Roy Boekennoogen.



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