

# Santa Cruz Yesterdays



OLD SANTA CRUZ FROM THE HEIGHTS

(From the Preston Sawyer Collection)

The original carriage drive (now upper Highland avenue) leading down from Judge John H. Logan's home on the commanding point of his hill above High street afforded the photographer a vantage point for the accompanying picture of Santa Cruz as it was a little over half a century ago.

Logan, a retired Superior Court judge, had built his home on what became known as Logan Heights, which offered a magnificent view of his favorite little town. The judge was a public-spirited man of the type which make the welfare of the community in which they live a matter of constant thought and action.

## Developed Loganberry

After his retirement he became active in experimenting with the different soils of the county and spent money freely to find what horticultural and agricultural crops were the most prolific and best paying. The result of some of his experiments was the famous Loganberry, in some respects the most re-

markable berry ever produced. With the passing of time the center of Loganberry growing has shifted away from this locality.

Almost in the center, with the spire, is the Methodist church of 1862, built 36 by 60 feet to replace an earlier, smaller structure. It stood on Mission street at Green, where the L. H. Wessendorf home now stands. The church was sold in 1902 to the Catholic diocese. It was moved to High street, renamed (minus its spire) Montgomery Hall, and was used as a gymnasium for the Christian Brothers school.

## "Old Town Clock"

Back of the church, at lower elevation, looms the then new Odd Fellows building, which was built to replace the original structure and town clock of the '70's, destroyed by fire. It stands today, survivor of a later fire, in the same location as its predecessor.

The court house, then with cupola, is easily distinguishable. The tower was removed some years ago. More distant are the old Armory and beyond it the railroad trestle at the mouth of the river.

Long trestles instead of today's fill and embankment, led to the bridge.

## Duncan and Alta Buildings

Two big wooden business structures no longer standing, are visible. F. A. Hihn's three-story Alta building, erected at Walnut and Pacific avenues at the beginning of the '90's, and the Duncan block of 1878, at the corner of Pacific and Lincoln. The latter was built by Duncan McPherson on his former homesite. It was removed 15 years ago to make way for the present modern Morris Abrams store.

Hihn's Alta building was razed in 1938 to allow construction of the present J. J. Newberry store.

In later years the "heights" became known by the name "Noel", for Theophilus Noel, who became owner of the Logan place. Noel, among other things promoted a medicinal preparation he called "Vitae Ore."

## ESTATE IS INVENTORIED

The inventory and appraisal, filed in the Clemente Gonzales estate, lists cash, \$179; auditors warrants, \$2 and \$70; total value \$251.