

1-26-54

SANTA CRUZ YESTERDAYS

When Locust street was named, the street was lined on both sides with locust trees, so it was well named. Pacific avenue, where Locust started, was itself originally named Willow street. Trees were abundant and popular in those days.

Other streets downtown became Walnut, Maple, Elm, Laurel, Spruce, Sycamore,—in most instances bespeaking the existence of the same trees named on or near the thoroughfare.

Growing Town

The Santa Cruz of the early Eighties was showing signs of growth. Butcher shops included that of M. Fitzgibbon, Pacific avenue opposite Arcan street (now Soquel avenue); W. P. Young, dealer in "fresh and salt meats", Pacific avenue, opposite Cooper, who advertised in the Sentinel that "wagons run in connection with this market".

And then there was the popular Washington Market at the Lower Plaza, operated by J. D. Chace. Chace's wagons ran in all parts of town and outlying districts, delivering meat to order.

The Santa Cruz Flour Depot was doing business in "Ely's Block No. 1", Pacific near Cooper street and the town clock.

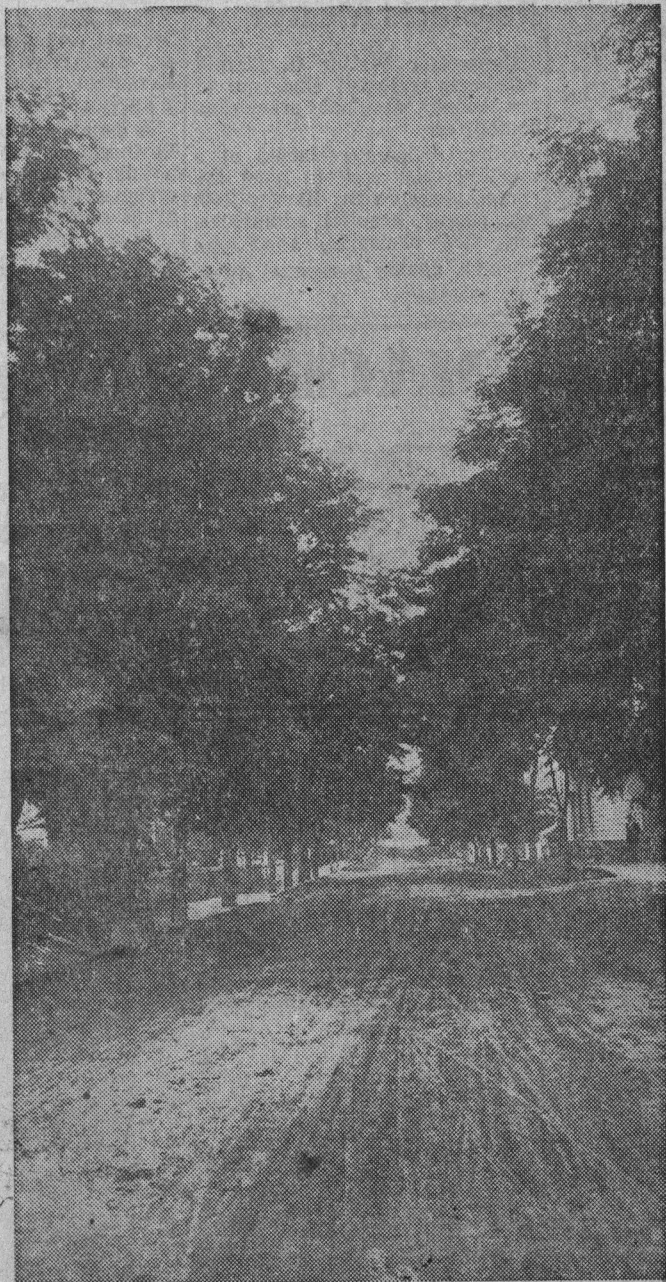
Two of the town's leading hotels were in the Lower Plaza area, where the Post Office stands today. The oldtime Santa Cruz House was active, a short distance to the south. The Franklin House was next door.

Martin Foundry

Up Water street, near "the Bulkhead", was the "New Foundry" of which W. H. Martin was the Superintendent. Here steam engines and boilers were "made and repaired." Also threshing machines, reapers, mill gearings and castings.

Cohen & Fibush were manufacturers of and wholesale and retail dealers in cigars, on Pacific avenue, opposite the town's leading hotel: Pacific Ocean House, located where is today the Bubble bakery.

J. P. Krieg was proprietor of the Germania hotel at Vine and Locust streets, then generally referred to by local German-speaking folks as the "deutscher gasthof".



LOCUST STREET IN 1882(From the Preston Sawyer Collection)