Historic Victorian home to move to new site

Sentinel staff report

SANTA CRUZ — In an unusual plan to create low-income housing in Santa Cruz, a historic Victorian home will be moved from the City Hall parking lot to a new site several blocks away Saturday morning.

"This is really a fun project," said Arnie Fischman, director of the Santa Cruz Community Housing Corp.

The Heiner House is scheduled to be moved from its location at the corner of Chestnut and Church streets to its new home at 419 Center St.

There it will undergo about seven months of renovations as it's

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converted into a five-bedroom residence for low-income people.

CHC Board President Will Lightbourne said he is "proud that the CHC has been able to combine historic preservation in downtown Santa Cruz with affordable housing together in one project."

The CHC bought the home, which was damaged in the 1989 earthquake, for one dollar.

The plot to which the Heiner House will be moved had been home to five small, historic studio apartments that were damaged in the 1989 earthquake.

The Community Housing Corp., is a non-profit organization that has been developing and building housing for low-income people since 1986.

Project costs

Turning the historic Heiner House into a five-bedroom home for low-income people will cost more than a half-million dollars, according to officials with the developer, the Community Housing Corp. Here's a breakdown:

Costs:

Purchase of 419 Center St.: \$171,000 Purchase of Heiner House: \$1 Restoration/construction: \$205,000 Moving the house: \$31,000

Architects, engineering, financing: \$140,000

Funding sources:

State housing department: \$428,000 City of Santa Cruz: \$76,000 FEMA's Brace for the Quake: \$7,000

Cowell Foundation: \$29,000

Community Housing Corporation: \$7,000

Total: \$547,000