

Old Santa Cruz...

By Ernest Otto

In the late seventies with Front street merchants moving to Pacific avenue, residences were moved to give way to the stores. Pacific avenue had replaced Front street as the main business street.

In the kid days of the writer the first residence was below Church street. It was moved for the block erected by the Bernheims, three brothers, Jacob, Reuben and Emanuel. It was for their general merchandise store which had for years been on Front street with barnyard on Pacific avenue. This residence was occupied by the Sheriff Robert Orton family. It is now owned by E. C. Rittenhouse and is occupied by a restaurant on the south side of Church street just back of Horsnyders' drug store.

Then came long vacant Cooper's lot and where is now located the Bowman and Forgey building was the picturesque A. M. Peterson residence. It was moved to upper Church street and still stands and is the Glascock home. Few homes were ever used as was this Peterson home, noted for its hospitality, with party after party for Belle, Fred and Harry and then Harry's children.

THE PARSONAGE

On the corner of Walnut, where is now located the Newberry store, was the parsonage, last occupied on the avenue, by the Rev. S. H. Willey D. D. pastor for ten years of the Congregational church and one of the founders of the University of California. He had offered the opening prayer in the constitutional convention at Monterey. This house was moved around the corner, another story added and became a select girls boarding school, Quincy Hall Seminary, and later the Eastern hotel.

Where is now located the Morris Abrams' store stood a home, occupied by an H. E. Makinney family. This residence is at the spot to which it was moved, on Chestnut avenue, to the south of the medical block.

When in the late seventies John Werner moved from his home on upper Pacific avenue where the Hotel St. George now stands he built a home on Pacific avenue. This house was in later years moved to Washington and New streets and is now occupied by Mrs. Anna Wheeler.

OLD HOUSES WERE MOVED

Adjoining Werner's was the John Morrow residence. This is now on Laurel street being on the south side beyond Washington street.

Past a hotel and planing mill and a low lot below the street was a residence at the corner of Elm street, one of the largest and oldest of the city, the Shelby home. It still stands, like many others hardly recognizable with its coat of stucco.

It faces Elm street and is an apartment house.

On the corner a block away was the Hodgdon residence, with a store in front. It still stands, the front transformed by stucco.

Across the street on the corner of Maple was the home of the well known housemover, C. B. Manning. The children were especially well known, Clara, Teen, Bud and Romeo Manning.

On the next corner at Lorenzo lane was A. Mattei the florist and houses with rare flowers.

Then across the lane was a small house which was usually rented and finally was moved to Lorenzo lane. Then the Culverwell and Bennett home, for years a boarding house and in a small store-like building the women carried on dressmaking parlors.

A whole block without a house came next. Just below Spruce was a small house on what is now the only vacant lot on this side of the avenue with the exception of the Grand Central lot where the building was recently razed.

The last residence was at the very end of the street adjoining the Cottage saloon.

EAST SIDE OF PACIFIC

On the east side residences started where the Puity store is located. It was the residence of Otto Broger, just across the avenue from his drug store which is still in operation as the Palmer drug company.

Then came John Werner residence, a neat cottage with about it a beautiful garden. When he moved his place of business from Front street it was to conduct his store in the imposing block he erected.

There was a residence just below where the Neary block stands, then the Ely residence, where is located the Palomar hotel. This was moved back facing on Front street and is now on Short street adjoining the Greyhound Union depot.

ALBERT JONES HOME

A residence stood where is now the beginning of the Elks building. It was the Albert Jones home which was removed up Walnut avenue to the lot occupied by the Parr residence. It was moved to make room for the City Stables operated by Jones and Joseph Scott. On the corner the well known Osterhus family resided. This house was moved to the Trust lot adjoining the Trust family residence on Lincoln street. It stood there for many years and for some time was the Miss Porter private school. The Trusts added to it by a modern front. This house was moved several years ago to Cedar street and is the home of Mr. and Mrs. Amos Roff.

On the corner across the street was the Arcan residence. This was a family who crossed Death Valley to come to California.

Then came the attractive William Effe residence. Across the front was a wonderful wisteria vine. It stood where the Del Mar now stands.

In the late seventies was erected a building occupied by Dr. Breuck. This was the Lynam place on Front street which was recently razed. Adjoining was the Holbrook and Vincent home always painted white with a clapboard finish. Beautiful red roses clambered over the front.

Then came the S. Barnet residence of which Tom Beck was the architect. It followed the lines of a number of Watsonville homes where Beck resided. It was moved as was the Holbrook house into the center of the block.

Across the street on the corner was Coats family and then two houses usually rented. Opposite the Moose building were two residences belonging to Thomas Bartlett. It was a long frontage before two residences were reached near the foot of the avenue, the last being the I. L. Thurber home.