

Preservation Plan Locates Historical Sites

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Sentinel Staff Writer

The city's rich historical and architectural heritage was explored last week by a knowledgeable few and will be explored by many more today and in the weeks to come.

The explorations have been made easy by a city-published booklet entitled "Historic Preservation Plan."

In addition to detailing a plan to preserve the city's heritage for the generations to come, the booklet guides its readers on a Down Memory Lane tour of historical districts and

buildings many residents and visitors know little about.

Care to make the tour?

Come along.

The city's prime historical district is Mission Hill, the Point B area shown on the map. It was to this hill that the Mission was moved in 1793 from its original flood-prone site near San Lorenzo River. While the city was born in 1791, so to speak, in the Mission down near the river, the city known today was cradled on Mission Hill.

Here at 130 School St. stands the Neary - Rodriguez Adobe, the last remaining example of the Spanish era adobe.

Sometimes called "the long adobe," the building is thought to have provided living quarters for the Mission guards. It was put up as two buildings, with a common wall.

Also on Mission Hill, at Point C, is found a fine example of the type of frame building that housed the pioneers. This is the Francisco Alzina House at 109 Sylvar St., built in the 1850s. The style was very simple: box shaped, clapboard, sometimes with posts, sometimes with split pilasters.

Like much of the world, Santa Cruz had the Greek Revival style of residence in the 1850s. A good specimen is at 152 Center St. (Point D). History buffs call this the William Blackburn House. It was built for Judge Blackburn. Authorities say this style is perhaps the first example of Santa Cruz architecture that truly reflected an American approach. Note the broad corner pilasters, split pediment and pillar-supported porch.

For the Gothic style popular in the 1850s and 1860s, drive along Center St. to the barn-red Calvary Episcopal Church (532 Center St. and Point E on the map). Complete with the typical arches and pointed arch windows, this structure went up in 1865.

A so-called Italianate style is also part of the city's architectural and historical heritage. The Sedgewick Lynch House at 170 West Cliff Drive (Point F) is an example of this style; characterized by a straight-front design without sizeable projections or recessions. Big in this style is a cornice along the entire front of the building. Other examples, used in these cases for businesses, are the Williamson and Garrett Building at 1547 Pacific Ave. and the empty McHugh - Bianchi building at 1553 Pacific. The McHugh - Bianchi is listed in the National Register of Historical Places. The Sedgewick Lynch House was built in 1877 by John Morrow.

Back in the central city area again, at 419 Locust St., is the H.M. Hanmore House, which exemplifies the "stick" architectural style of the 1880s. Stick style buildings have tall

proportions, with high, steep roofs and irregular silhouettes. After studying this house at Point G on the map, drive to Point H, 724 California St., to look at the Henry Weeks House, which is in the Eastlake style.

The stick and Eastlake styles in the 1880s got the city moving away from classical forms, but not entirely, as proved by the Romanesque revival style of

the Neary building at 1352 Pacific Ave., Point I.

At Point J on the map the Haslam House, 304 Walnut Ave. was built as the grace of the Queen Anne style came to adorn the town in the 1890s.

Another graceful style of the period was Colonial revival, illustrated by the Weston Richardson House at 303 Mission St., Point K. The McLaughlin House at 924 Third

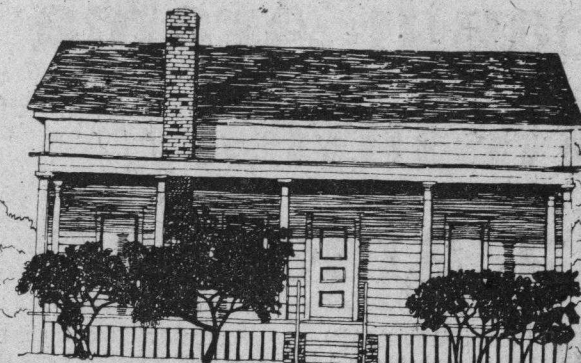
St., Point L, brought grace to the area before it became associated with tragedy.

After the turn of the century a Mission Revival period carried into the 1920s. See Piedmont Court at 260 High St., Point M on the map. Then came the familiar California bungalow style that is illustrated by the Holmes House at 1107 Mission St., Point N.

And last but not least on this particular tour, see the La Bahia Hotel at 215 Beach St., Point O. This typifies the coming of Monterey Colonial Revival to the city.

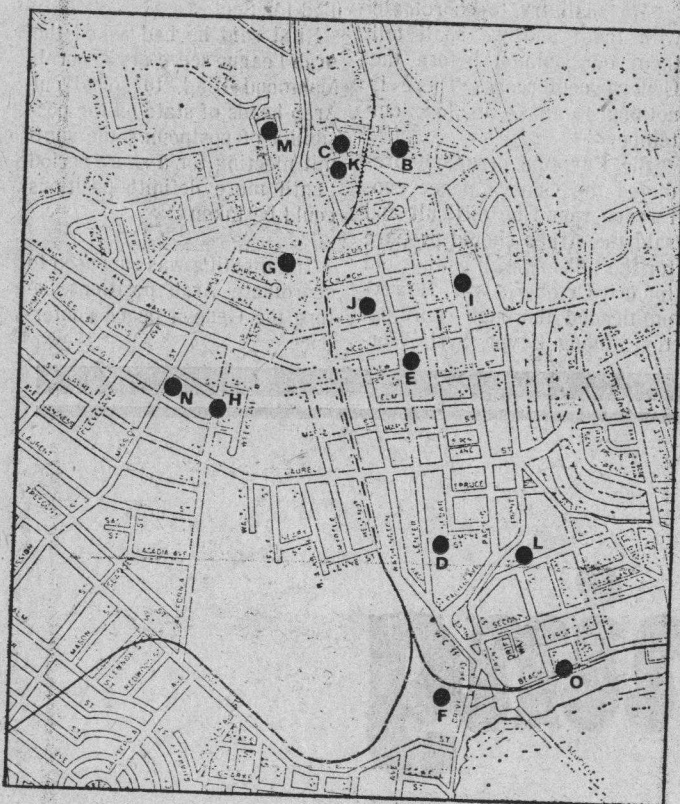
The city booklet is available for \$2 in planning department offices at city hall, a Monterey Colonial Revival building.

Sunday, July 21, 1974 Santa Cruz Sentinel—11



Early day city settlers lived in simple structures such as this Francisco Alzina House that was built in the 1850s at 109 Sylvar St. It's from city-published booklet to gain measures to preserve city's architectural - historical heritage. To develop the plan for the city, Associate Planner Joe Hall used aid from many

volunteers, including John Chase, Skip Morris and Doni Tunheim of the Santa Cruz Historical Society and Charles Prentiss, city museum curator. Hall also acknowledged many reference sources, including Sentinel staff writer Margaret Koch's recently published book: Santa Cruz County Parade of the Past.



This map is a guide to buildings in Santa Cruz which best illustrate the interwavings of architecture and history locally. It's from a booklet entitled "Historic Preservation Plan," which the city has published to alert the public for a need to preserve its structural heritage. The booklet was written by Joe Hall, city associate planner, researched by John Chase of the Santa Cruz Historical Society and illustrated by Robert Bennett, a planning aid, with help from Michele Belden, a UCSC planning intern. Map is by Carol

Nelsen. The buildings are: B - Spanish style, 130 School St.; C - Pioneer style, 109 Sylvar St.; D - Greek Revival, 152 Center St.; E - Gothic Revival, 532 Center St.; F - Italianate style, 170 West Cliff Drive; G - Stick style, 419 Locust St.; H - Eastlake style, 724 California St.; I - Romanesque, 1352 Pacific Ave.; J - Queen Anne, 309 Walnut Ave.; K - Colonial Revival, 303 Mission St.; L - Shingle style, 924 Third St.; M - Mission Revival, 260 High St.; N - California bungalow style, 1107 Mission St.; O - Monterey Colonial Revival.



There's an oldtime Neary building in town as well as a Neary Lagoon. The building is this example of Romanesque revival at 1352 Pacific Ave. This style is distinguished by

rock-faced masonry and use of short, clustered columns. Cooperhouse is another example. Romanesque became the vogue for business buildings locally in the 1890s.



The Calvary Episcopal Church at 532 Center Street shows the Gothic Revival style that came to Santa Cruz in a big way in the 1860s, according to John Chase, researcher for "Historic Preservation Plan,"

a booklet just published by the City of Santa Cruz to gain public backing to preserve town's historic and significant structures. Drawings for the booklet are by Robert Bennett, a city senior planning aide.



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