

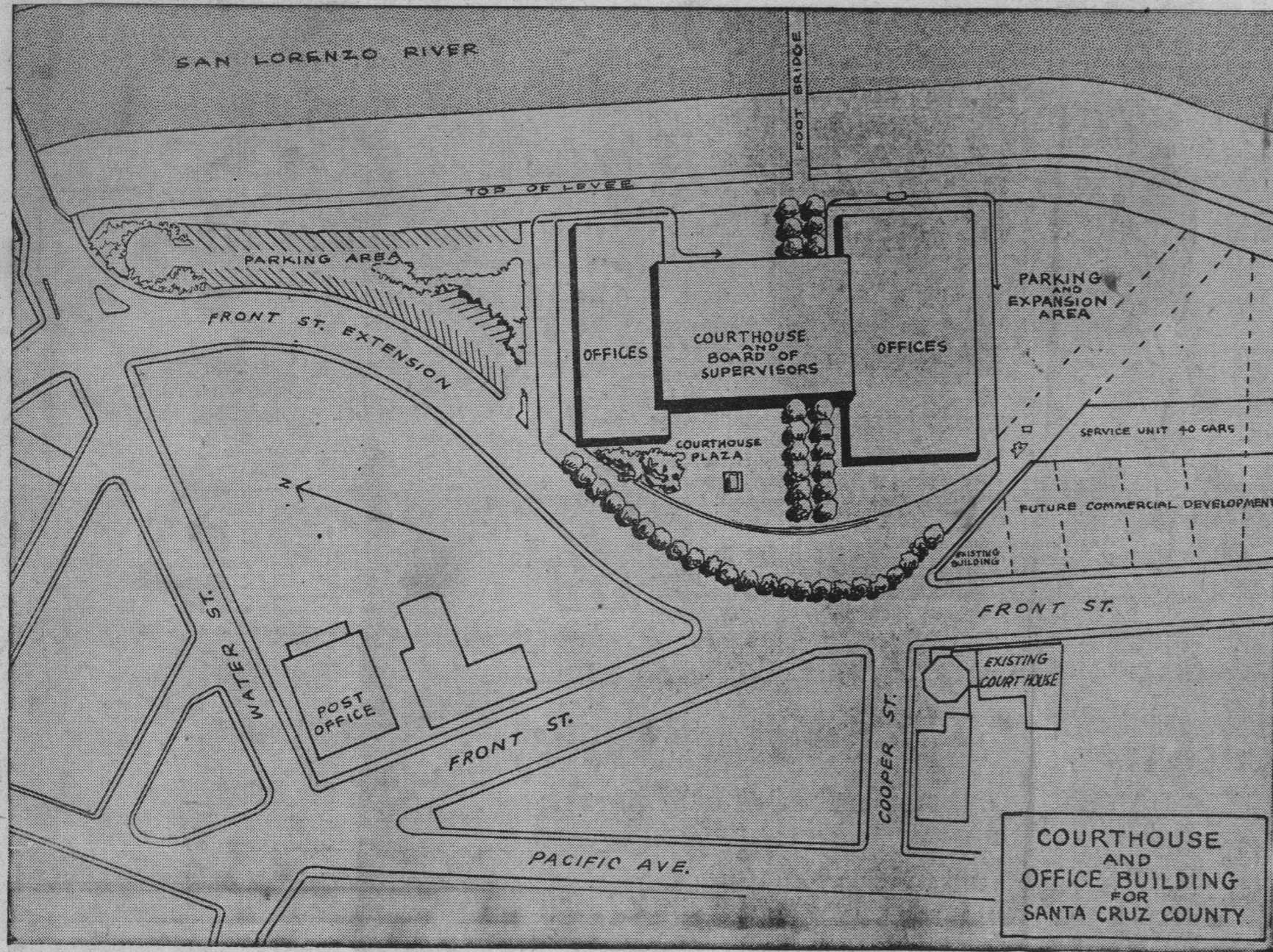
son said. Butterfield was held at the county hospital over night and released yesterday.

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on sick and injured his car over 1950, accusing it of mishandling onto the divider strip. Robert city funds. The uprising won a partial victory because the elected council stepped aside pending investigation.

Proposed \$1,600,000 County Courthouse



The \$1,600,000 proposed new courthouse as envisioned by Architects John Lyon Reid and Partners is pictured above. The one-story preliminary design has won top awards nationally as an outstanding public building. The supervisors are expected to begin discussions immediately to arrive at the best means of financing the project.

Lewis Nelson Presents Progress Reports On Plans For New County Courthouse

By Skip Littlefield

Progress being made toward the beginning of a new courthouse for Santa Cruz county was graphically presented to the board of supervisors last week by Soquel Supervisor Lewis Nelson.

Nelson had been assigned the job of working out the plans for the new structure, which will be located in the urban redevelopment's agency's San Lorenzo Park, when the present board decided on building the courthouse.

He also announced the board is expected to give its final approval to the plans on March 2, and the plans would then go to the federal housing and home finance agency for application of a \$32,000 loan to cover costs of advance plans. The loan is interest free.

It is understood the supervisors will begin immediate discussion to arrive at the best means of financing the \$1,600,000 project.

Nelson declared Friday it will take approximately 120 days to formulate working drawings. He expects that actual construction will begin by late summer. He added it will take from 10 to 12 months to complete the building.

Construction plans embrace a building area of 100,000 square feet. The one-story structure's preliminary design by John Lyon Reid and Partners has won top award nationally as an outstanding public building. It was presented by the American Institute of Architects and the magazine, "Progressive Architecture."

Experts from Nelson's report include the following comment and information:

1—Foremost among (county) problems (1957) was the need for safe and adequate housing for the business of county government. The old courthouse could not be expanded to meet county needs because of its condition, age, and disrepair. The necessity for removal of an unsafe portion of the building added to the problem.

2—Basic to the problem was a space needs study. Detailed immediate space needs were worked

out by the ways and means committee (March 1957) in consultation with departments. Future space needs were worked out in the same manner later on in consultation with architects.

3—The immediate needs were met on a temporary basis by rearranging offices and by renting space in other buildings. The county's monthly rental bill is about \$1,500.

4—The first step in making permanent plans was the selection of a site. Each supervisor inspected and studied the numerous proposed sites. Studies made by previous boards were restudied, including an exhaustive study made in 1945 by a citizen's committee which selected the Garibaldi hotel site.

5—A citizen committee of 10 members was appointed by the board to study the question. The redevelopment agency appeared before the board in March 1957 and suggested the courthouse be in the redevelopment area. The Sentinel took a poll of citizens' choice of three suggested sites; a planning consultant's advice was sought and the chamber of commerce and city council studied the matter and reported to the board (April 16, 1957).

6—At its meeting May 21, 1957 the supervisors weighed all data and selected as the courthouse site the area composed of the present site plus adequate adjacent area, including space in the redevelopment area.

7—July 2, 1957—Upon advice of Supervisors Locatelli and Nelson the board selected the firm of John Lyon Reid and Partners to draw preliminary plans.

8—July 2, 1957—Upon recommendation of Supervisors Merrill and McLean the board retained the firm of J. B. Hanauer as financial consultants and the firm of Orrick, Dalquist, Herrington and Sutcliffe as bonding consultants.

9—Aug. 20, 1957—Costella family offers their five acre Garibaldi hotel site in redevelopment area to the county for a courthouse site. The acceptable price was \$207,500 which was consistent with appraised value.

10—Jan. 13, 1958—Supervisors

execute option and deed of trust on Garibaldi site for courthouse. It was previously approved by the city planning commission and the architects.

11—May 7, 1958—Supervisors agree to pay \$50,000 to city on an owner participation basis in return for city's preparing the site for building purposes.

12—July 11, 1958—Supervisors receive notice from Congressman Gubser that \$32,000 had been approved for preliminary planning for proposed court house.

13—Aug. 8, 1958—Outside design for courthouse approved by supervisors as submitted by architects.

14—Dec. 17, 1958—Supervisor Nelson authorized to negotiate with URA for property adjoining the court house site which would be desirable for parking and future expansion.

For over 33 years the various boards of supervisors of the county of Santa Cruz have pondered the problems of replacement of an ancient courthouse that had long since become inadequate for the housing and needs of rocketing area.

On January 11, 1927, Chairman George Rostron of the board of supervisors appointed W. S. Moore and C. D. Hinkle of Santa Cruz; George Ley of Felton, and George Radcliff and John Gardner of Watsonville as an advisory committee on the "selection of a courthouse site."

Chairman Rostron expressed himself as favoring the disposal of the courthouse property. The building was in such a state of repair that the supervisors were unanimous in the feeling "that they should not go ahead spending money on the structure."

The present courthouse was first opened to the public on November 2, 1895 while the current hall of records, situated on the corner of Cooper and Front streets, was dedicated June 5, 1882.

Successive county governments through depression years and World War II were keenly aware of a continuing and worsening situation first brought to public attention in 1927.