

Capitola parking lot sprouts

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CAPITOLA — Work has finally begun on the city's 232-space Capitola Village parking lot.

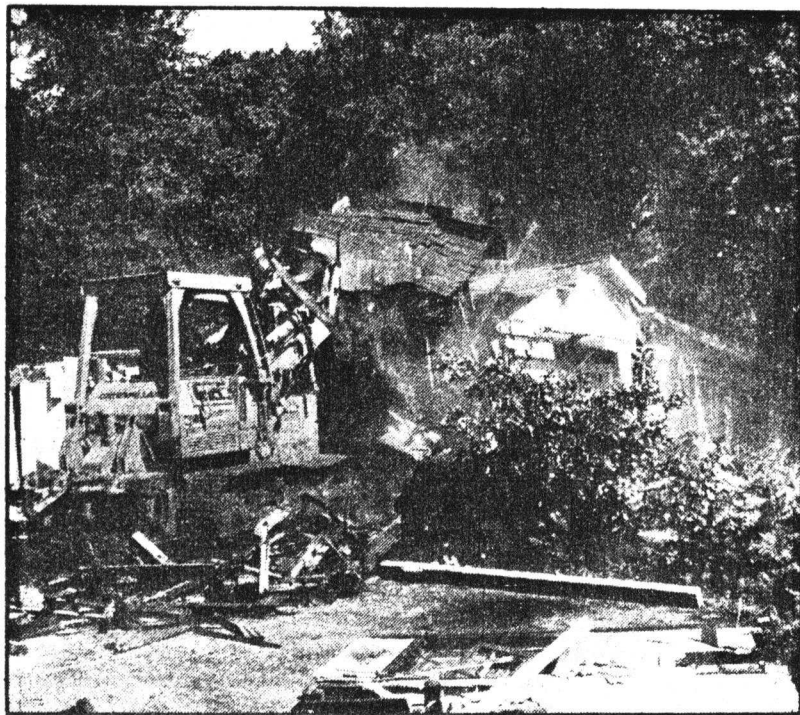
The lot, which will be within a portion of existing Pacific Cove Mobile Home Park behind City Hall, is expected to be usable by Memorial Day weekend in late May, according to Capitola Public Works Director Larry Perlin. It will not be completed, however, until June.

Preliminary work has already been done. This included the removal of utility lines and disconnection of cable television and water lines. An abandoned house on the property was demolished Monday, Perlin said.

Work is being done by Conexco Co. of Salinas, which won the \$302,300 project bid. The upper portion of the park will be regraded, provided with adequate drainage, paved and striped. A number of retaining walls also are included in the work.

The parking lot will be on the upper level of the mobile home park, within walking distance of downtown shops and the beach. The lower portion will be kept as a mobile home park.

The City Council today also is expected to approve \$52,795 for parking



Pete Amos/Sentinel

Abandoned house is demolished for parking lot.

meters for the lot. The fee will be the same 50-cents per hour charged on meters throughout the village. The lot will operate seven days a week, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

While construction on the lot costs \$302,300, the city has put much more money into it. The council bought the

former 83-space park in October 1985 for \$1.5 million. Since then, it has been busy buying coaches at fair-market value and relocating others to the lower level of the park.

Council members hope the lot will alleviate the parking crunch in the crowded, tourist-oriented village.