

# Spanish Gardens At Picturesque City Hall Are One Of Santa Cruz' Main Attractions

The big, friendly heart of Santa Cruz might well be symbolized by the beautiful City Hall and its Spanish garden, which form part of civic center at Church and Center streets.

The City Hall, erected in 1937 at a cost of \$144,857, reflects in its mission style architecture the Spanish background of the community.

The white man's history of Santa Cruz begins with its discovery in 1769 by an expedition commanded by Don Gaspar de Portola. In 1791 Franciscan fathers from old Mexico established the Mission Santa Cruz. The City of Santa Cruz was organized in 1866, but in its development from a tiny Spanish and Indian settlement into a modern city, the old world flavor has not been lost.

The City Hall, built in a U shape with the center court landscaped around a tile fountain, suggests the mission cloisters in its covered walkway onto which the city offices open. The stucco building has a shingle clay tile roof. The balustrades are of Carmel stone. The low wall surrounding the yard and connecting with the outside archways also is of Carmel stone.

The basket weave pattern of the brick on the floor of the cloistered walkway suggests the Indian converts of the mission.

Flowers and shrubs which grow readily in this climate predominate in the garden, which is a mass of blooms throughout the year. Some less common plants, such as the big bird of paradise in the earthenware jar at the south end of the main corridor, also flourish in the garden.

The landscaping originally cost \$9810.

Across Center street from the City Hall is the public library, an attractive vine-covered structure with all the flavor of the gay 90s.

It was completed in 1903, at a cost of \$25,000, money being donated by Andrew Carnegie. High point in the early days of the library was a visit from Carnegie, who also gave approximately \$6000 for the three branch buildings: Seabright, East Side and Garfield Park. The library had about 11,000 books in 1903 and now has more than 110,000. The circulation was 45,000 in 1903 and now totals 350,000 annually.

The library's well kept lawn is a favorite tumbling place for youngsters as they call for books and to attend the children's story hours.

Across Church street from the City Hall is the civic auditorium and fire house, erected as a unit in 1938 at a cost of \$274,150.

The auditorium, in which dozens of conventions are held each year and in which many local events take place, shows Italian and Spanish influence in some of the details of its massive structure.

The seating capacity of the auditorium is 2200.

Simple but attractive landscap-

ing accents the main entrance on Church street and the side entrance on Center street. At the rear of the building part of the driveway for the fire trucks has been utilized as a parking lot, which is reserved for convention delegates. When not in use by convention goers, the lot is available to other motorists.

A branch fire station is maintained in the East Side of the city, at 1103 Soquel avenue.

## Captured Area Gets Leaflets Of Assurance

An Airbase In Japan, July 1 (AP). —A U. S. Fifth Air Force C-46 flew over Communist held portions of Korea today dropping leaflets which said:

"The United Nations has appealed to the American forces in Japan to assist you peace loving citizens of the Republic of Korea in your struggle against the unprovoked aggression from the north. We shall give you every support. Be steadfast. Be calm. Be courageous. Resist firmly. Together we shall drive the aggressor from your territory."

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