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# Historical landmark will get a new look

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CAPITOLA — Workers have taken hair dryers to one of Capitola's oldest buildings downtown. No, it's not wet. The dryers are being used to melt away more than a 100 years of paint in order to get to the original redwood.

The painstaking operation on the historical Hihn building at 201 Monterey Ave., in Capitola Village is just another segment in its restoration by owners Jim and Barbara Reding.

The Redings bought the building in 1971, and already have restored the interior — getting it designated a state historical landmark.

The building dates back to 1883, according to Barbara, and originally was the superintendent's office of F.A. Hihn, the developer of Camp Capitola. The camp was California's first seaside resort involving 15 acres on what is now the present site of Capitola Village. Hihn later sold it to oil millionaire Henry Rispin.

Work on the exterior began this week and is expected to take at least another month. Barbara noted there is an unofficial contest now under way at the back of the building with people voting on samples of paint on the walls.

The two-story building currently houses retail stores and offices.