

## Historic Buildings

Wednesday, February 23, 1977

# Santa Cruz Designates Its First Historic Landmarks

Nine structures and their sites in the City of Santa Cruz were designated "historic landmarks" by a unanimous Santa Cruz City Council vote Tuesday.

The designations were the first to be awarded to support a municipal effort to preserve buildings and lands symbolic of the city's cultural heritage.

All the designations were recommended by the city historic preservation commission.

Commission Chairman Virginia Sharp told the council: "This is really an exciting moment for me and the commission. It is a culmination of a long process of historic preservation in Santa Cruz. In the last three years, historic preservation seems to have come of age."

Sharp displayed a recent salute to Santa Cruz and its historic structures that was published by the Los Angeles Times.

Sharp said that the structures recommended were chosen carefully to show a wide spectrum of historic selections, ranging from the oldest house (the Long Adobe on School Street) to the first frame house, the first Protestant church in Santa Cruz, the house where Theodore Roosevelt slept.

Bert Lawrence, Santa Cruz planner, told the council that, accepting the "historic

landmark" designation for their properties the owners have agreed to make no exterior alterations without a special permit granted (or denied) after a public hearing, and to make no demolitions without a hearing.

There are provisions by which the city could delay a demolition for six months so that the property may be purchased and preserved by the city or some other party.

Mayor John Mahaney elicited from Sharp information there are tax benefits granted by the federal authorities for historic structures.

In another action related to historic structures, the council authorized reprinting of a "Historic Walking Tour" brochure that has been requested by hundreds of persons statewide who are interested in these structures.

Buildings given the special designation Tuesday are owned by Doni and Ed Tunheim, Pete and Judy Steen, Patricia Wilder, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Gunn, Jason and Gretchen Goldstein, Steve and Marge Baron, Esther Abbott, Dr. and Mrs. Nick Nivens and the State of California (the Long Adobe).