

Jewel Window and River View...

By MARGARET KOCH
Sentinel Staff Writer

The wealthy widow from England fell in love with the San Lorenzo River when she came to Santa Cruz...

When Mrs. Barfield and her three sons came from London in the 1890's, she acquired property on Third Street.

Beach Hill in those days was a "tycoon" area of large and ornate homes. Mrs. Barfield joined the parade, stained glass windows and all, with the home she built at 611 Third Street, facing the San Lorenzo River. An old sign over the front steps

still says "Rio Vista"—river view.

A railroad car load of lumber went into the underpinnings and framework which sit on top of stone foundations, according to Mrs. Margaret Goodman, owner of the house today. The late Ralph Miller, who was a next door neighbor, told her about seeing the load of lumber arrive and the house go up, piece by piece.

One of the Barson girls from across the river married one of the Barfield boys in front of the fireplace in the living room — only in

those days it was called the parlor.

The 10-foot sliding doors are yet intact. The 11-foot ceilings are unchanged except for replacing gas fixtures with electric. Upstairs, above the second story, there is an attic so large that Mrs. Goodman's grandson pitched a tent in it.

"The grandchildren rode their bicycles up there in bad weather," she recalled.

The house is often referred to as the Tretheway house. Mrs. Josie Tretheway owned it up to 1942 when she died and Mrs. Goodman bought it from the estate in 1944. An accomplished musician, Mrs. Tretheway had three pi-

anos in the parlor. She also had hardwood floors laid over the old redwood floors. And in the parlor floor she had inlaid a large star design, surrounded with the five star points, Eastern Star symbols. They are formed from many small pieces of hardwood.

No one ever removed the original "bill collectors' bench in the front hall. At least that is what Mrs. Goodman calls it. It is built in, and still upholstered with the original gold velvet.

The beautiful old stair rail is as firm as Gibraltar—all put together without nails. There are ten stained glass windows in the house, all works of art.

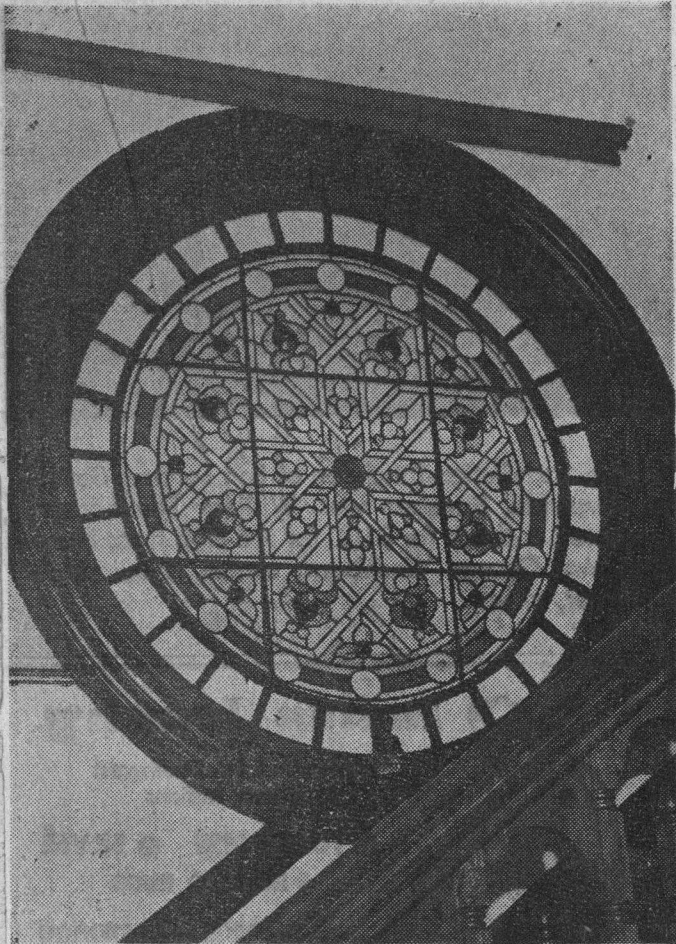
But the prize of the entire house is the rose window in the stairwell. It is a lovely thing — a circle of moonstone panes enclosing a rainbow of multi-colored jewel panes.

Each stained glass window in the house is set in a framework of beveled French plate glass panes. Some of the windows are mounted in pewter instead of lead. They all sparkle with rich tones when the sun strikes them, and glow warmly even when the sun isn't on them.

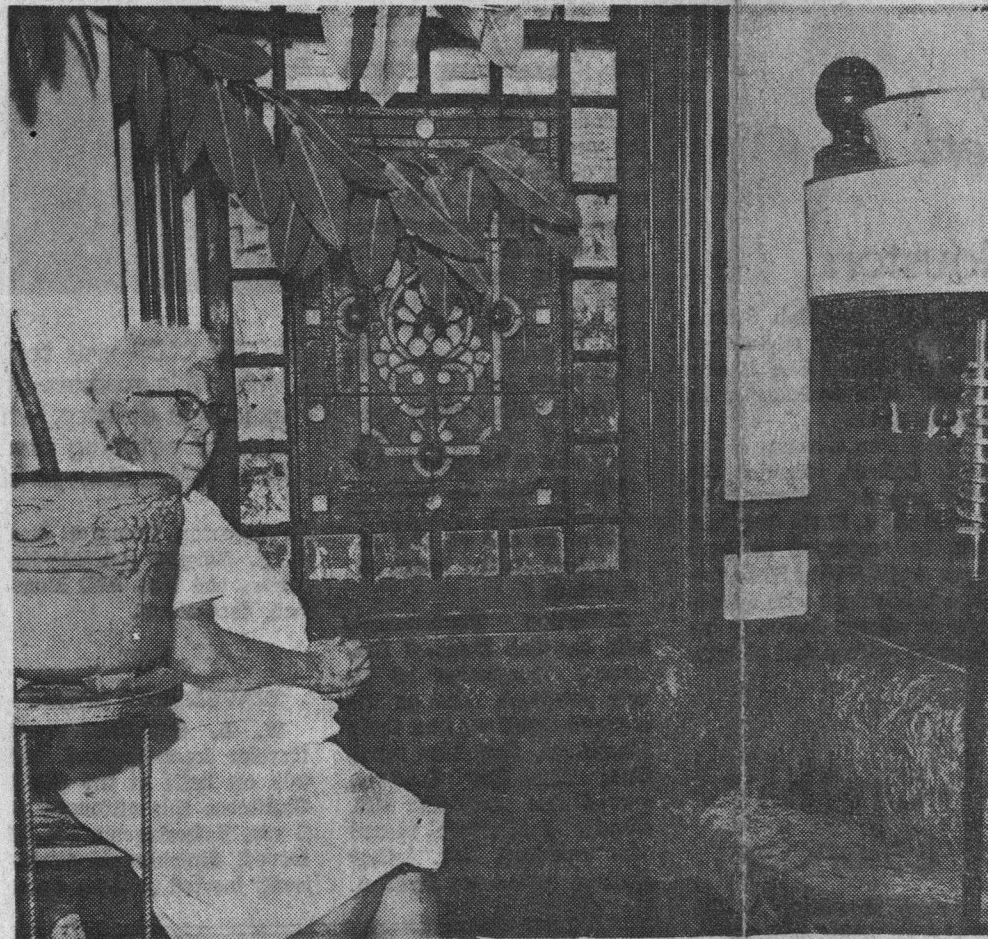
Out in the front yard is a huge monkey pine tree, memento of the days of gas lights, horses and carriages and long rustling black silks.



The Barfield-Tretheway House . . . "star floor" is shown below.



The rose window . . . blaze of color



Margaret Goodman rests for a moment on the "bill collectors' bench" in the front hall. Bench was built in as part of the house.



Fireplace before which a Barson girl and Barfield boy plighted their troth . . . old tiles are a shade of antique gold. Fireplace facing is all redwood.

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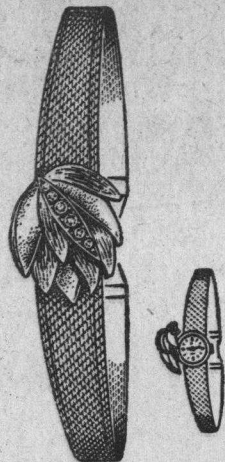
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