Quake-damaged Aptos Village sites sold

By KEITH MURAOKA Sentinel staff writer

APTOS - Several quake-damaged businesses in Aptos Village have been sold to a Scotts Valley businessman.

Henri Jeanrenaud has bought 51/2 acres that fronts Soquel Drive. The property includes the Aptos Garage, the lone business in the sale that is still open after sustaining damage from the Oct. 17 earth-

Included in the package was property that formerly housed the following now-closed businesses: Aptos Market, Aptos Village Boutique, Montad Home Furnishings, Colonial Barber and Lorraine Bruce Interior Design. A house adjacent Aptos Garage was also included in the sale.

The property had been owned by 100-year-old Paul Johnston of of Aptos and his daughter, Anne Bass of Salinas. Johnston has owned the property for 68 years.

Bass said her father's failing health — in combination with the devastation from the earthquake — prompted the sale.

"I was debating about it (selling) even before the earthquake, but then, that damage took it completely out of my hands," Bass said. "I didn't want to take on a 30-year project. Selling just seemed to be the logical thing to do."

Neither Bass or Jeanrenaud would disclose the purchase price.

Jeanrenaud said that the house adjacent the garage has been repaired, and may soon be rented out as an antique shop. Half of the building that formerly housed Aptos Market has also been repaired. and is currently for rent. The other half of the 3,200-square-foot former market will be torn down due to earthquake damage, he said.

The weakened buildings that formerly housed the furniture store, interior design firm and barber shop toppled into the deep ravine of Aptos Creek three weeks after the earthquake. Jeanrenaud said he has no plans at present for that property.

"If I had the money, I would start engineering studies on that area now." he said. "I would like to

rebuild something really nice and you have to let loose." classy in the old-time, Victorian flavor ... but (earthquake) safe."

Bass added that she's saddened to sell the property. "I was raised there — it's a sad thing," she said. "But then, times change. You have to roll with the punches. There comes a time for everything where

Meanwhile, another Aptos Village property owner said new foundations will be poured Tuesday on a \$250,000 repair of six quake-damaged businesses, located just east of Jeanrenaud's property.

Jim Broadwell, owners of the six businesses — Monterey Bay Busitects. Mark Allen Hair Design. QSD Incorporated. Pacific West Realty and Cafe Sparrow - said he hopes to have Cafe Sparrow open in 30 days or so. Other businesses may take 60 days.

Broadwell said the new buildings "will look virtually the same from

extensive structural work will occur to the 1928-era buildings.

"I'm just looking forward to getting things back to normal," Broadwell said. Only Monterey Bay Business Advisors has reopened since the earthquake.

Aptos Chamber of Commerce Co-

ness Advisors, Goldspink Archi- the outside." Internally, however, Manager Karen Hibble added that the repairs are a much-needed boost to the village. "The entire community has been most concerned not only for the business owners, but also about how it looks and the image it projects for the village," she said. "We're thrilled things are getting back to normal."