

Early Day Aerial Picture Of Santa Cruz Found In Junkyard

By Margaret Koch

The most unusual things can turn up in junkyards.

In his search for a used showcase for display purposes during the Soquel-O-Rama, Robert Hussey of 4440 West Walnut street, Soquel, unearthed an ancient bit of Santa Cruziana, the other day.

A glass-covered, framed photograph, approximately 2 feet wide by 5 feet long, the panorama shows the old railroad and Cowell wharves, Pleasure pier, the Sea Beach hotel, tent city, the West Cliff drive home of Mrs. Edna Briggs and the old Cowell warehouse, part of which still stands today.

The casino, which was not yet built when the picture was taken, has been superimposed on the old photograph.

This is the second time the picture has been rescued from the

cobwebs and dust of a junkyard.

According to an article by Ernest Otto, dated Tuesday, August 8, 1923, and glued to the back of the glass, the picture was originally rescued from a San Francisco junkyard by Frank Griffen. The article also explains that the ancient bird's-eye view of the city and waterfront was taken from a balloon during ascension over Santa Cruz.

The owner of the present Soquel drive junkyard where Hussey discovered the print, says he got it when Kerrick's Laundry was wrecked.

How it got there and how long it hung in the laundry are mysteries. But the future of the old panorama is set.

According to Hussey, who collects old pictures as a hobby, quite a few people have seen it and expressed their interest in it. For now, it is Hussey's but he said yesterday he will probably place it in a permanent collection eventually.

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