

Other landmarks of note may be added to the list

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SACRAMENTO — Four well-preserved Santa Cruz County buildings — a homey neighborhood library, a tiny twice-used jail, a veterans' social hall and an Aptos hotel — are expected to be added to the prestigious National Register of Historic Places today.

The four buildings are Garfield Park Library in Santa Cruz, Davenport Jail in Davenport, the Veterans Memorial Building in downtown Santa Cruz and the Bayview Hotel in Aptos. A peek at the four and their history:

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Garfield Park Library — This is the second time around for the Westside library, according to Sara Boutelle of the Santa Cruz Historical Preservation Commission.

It was passed over when libraries built with Carnegie grants nationwide were considered for listing on the Register, she said.

"They didn't know it was still standing and also didn't know it was done by a distinguished architect, William Weeks," Boutelle said.

The cozy library, a branch of the Santa Cruz City-County Library System, was one of four buildings built with Carnegie funds.

Of the four, only the small Seabright and Garfield Park libraries remain, said Boutelle.

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Additions to the list

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Construction of the library started in 1913, and it opened in 1915. The small stucco building includes careful detail, including a carved Union Jack on the wooden door panels, said Boutelle.

Except for a wheelchair ramp that crosses behind the building, and stair rails, the building is unaltered.

It did change addresses, though, from "Vue de l'Eau" Avenue to Woodrow, during Woodrow Wilson's presidency.

The library was closed in the aftermath of Proposition 13's passage in 1978, but reopened after an organized petition campaign by the Westside Neighbors Organization.

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Davenport Jail — In maintaining law and order, the Davenport Jail has done little.

Since its construction in 1914, it was used only twice, according to the application for the National Register. Two boys from San Mateo were held overnight for stealing horses and a drunk once was detained there until he sobered up.

Now a museum of North Coast history, the tiny jail — the building measures 18 feet by 14.5 feet and has just two cells — was built after the arrival of the cement industry in Davenport.

Responding to community concerns, county supervisors authorized construction of the jail with cement provided by the Santa Cruz Standard Cement Co.

Those were the days when Davenport was a recognized township with its own constable and justice of the peace. It had a school, built in 1907, and a hospital to serve workers injured at the cement company, a frequent occurrence in the quarries and plant.

Law officials worried about the time-consuming process of transporting lawbreakers to jail in Santa Cruz. Hence, they prevailed upon the county to build the jail.

By 1918, Davenport's heyday was over. The township of Davenport was abolished and people were moving away because of the heavy gray cement dust that covered everything in town.

Since the jail was not used, and because of the improved road to Santa Cruz, after 1930 it became a storage place for the Works Prog-

ress Administration, and later the Davenport Improvement Association, according to the application for the Register.

The jail itself was the victim of the biggest crime in its history. In 1969, vandals stole the jail door, a solid sheet of steel weighing between 200 to 300 pounds, according to Sentinel files.

The jail passed into private hands in the early 1960s. It was donated in 1979 by Susanne Poett, a native of Switzerland, to the Santa Cruz County Society for Historic Preservation.

Its historical significance was noted in 1981, with the affixing of a blue oval plaque issued by the Historic Preservation.

The building is virtually unaltered, although a bench and garden and small picket fence have been added.

The 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake knocked cracks through the concrete walls, causing about \$8,000 in damage, according to Peggy Coats of the Historical Trust. Since then, the building has been closed for repairs. The Historical Trust members took the opportunity to develop a new exhibit on North Coast history. The museum, with the new exhibit, is scheduled to reopen in March, said Coats.

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Veterans Memorial Building

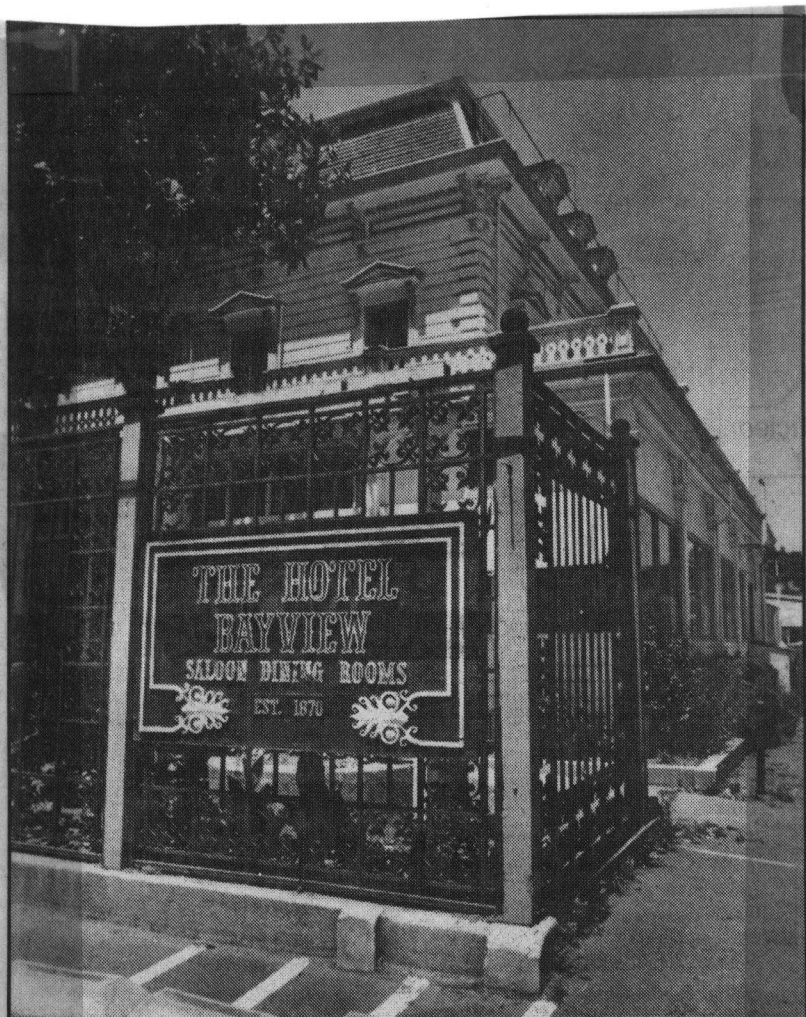
— When World War I veterans returned to their homes in 1918, the organizations that had formed to assist them needed a place to meet. The Veterans Memorial Building on Front Street is the result.

Prominent businessmen Noel Patterson and Samuel Leask approached the county Board of Supervisors for help and were instrumental in arranging for the donation of the Front Street lot in 1927, according to a history of the building compiled by the Santa Cruz County Historical Trust.

The land had been vacant since a fire in 1887, and supervisors hoped the new building next to the main Post Office would be a boost for the downtown.

The building was financed by a tax, approved by voters in 1930. It was built in 1932 by John E. Branagh of Piedmont at a cost of \$54,853. The building was dedicated on Armistice Day, Nov. 11, 1932.

The Veterans Building is the last of 12 other Spanish Colonial Reviv-



Shmuel Thaler/Sentinel file

The Bayview has been a social hub for more than 100 years.

al style public buildings built in Santa Cruz between 1911 and 1932.

The architectural style was spearheaded by developer Fred Swanton, who wanted a historic look and western flavor.

Its heyday was primarily during the 1930s and early 1940s, before the outbreak of World War II, but it's still in use.

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Bayview Hotel — The dignified three-story hotel that dominates Aptos Village has been a hub of social activity since its construction in 1878.

Built by a prosperous merchant, Jose Arano, the hotel was originally known as Anchor House, according to the application for the Register.

The Italian-style building was constructed at the Aptos depot on

the newly extended Santa Cruz Railroad train line. The hotel, run by Arano and his daughter, Amelia, had 28 rooms and a store, post office and bar.

The name was changed to Bay View within a few years. During the 1880s and '90s, frequent parties were held there, drawing such distinguished guests as Lillian Russell and King Kalakaua. The hotel's fortunes faded during World War I and it was in 1919.

In 1942, Arano's heirs sold the hotel to Fred Toney, who intended to demolish the hotel for lumber.

Instead, a local utility crew needed short-term housing, so Toney reopened the hotel. He decided to move it about 60 feet back from the intersection, leaving that land available for commercial use. When it was moved, the hotel was modernized with plumbing and electric lights.