

Hazel Nikola: She Hasn't Cried Yet

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those signs," said Hazel from her small apartment at the rear. "But they didn't say anything to me."

Mrs. Nikola, who although she owns extensive and valuable acreage around the old bait shop, is "land poor," her friends say, and lives on \$75 a month Social Security payments and a small income from a parttime job at Ann's Drive Inn in Sharp Park.

The building has been the target of condemnation proceedings for years, but delays have kept it lagging. The last extension, by a sympathetic City Council, expired Monday. Councilman Nick Gust, an old friend of Hazel's, made the motion, "this is for her best interest."

"THIS DECISION is harder than any zoning or anything else," said Gust. "I feel I've known her longer than anyone here. But if something did happen to her if we didn't act . . ."

Friends pleaded with the council not to "throw her out in the street."

Jane Denison, 152 Santa Rosa avenue, said Hazel has "done more for the City of Pacifica than anyone else." Hazel once conveyed 40 lots to public use along the beach.

Part of the problem is a legal and property dispute which is still in litigation. Hazel sold a half interest in her holdings to former Pacifica Realtor Dick Selmi several years ago. Their plans never materialized and Selmi eventually sold his interest to Vincent Cozolino of El Granada, who is currently involved in litigation with Hazel over an attempt to divide the land.

Cozolino said he favored knocking the building down and was anxious to proceed with plans for apartments in the area.

THE LEGAL dispute clouds the whole issue. Cozolino maintains he's tried to buy out Mrs. Nikola. Mrs. Nikola claims she wants to go ahead and develop the area. Amidst the conflict, Hazel can't sell the land and has appealed one verdict in the partition suit already.

Meanwhile, building inspectors say the building itself is a hopeless situation, beyond repair. The bait shop, 10 years at the spot, moved out several weeks ago.

THE HISTORY of 2351 Beach boulevard goes back many years.

Delia Mohr once lived there and operated a tavern. There were once motel units around it, some of the complex remnants of the old San Francisco World's Fair structures. In its best days, it was one of three or four bars in the area.

Hazel and her husband bought the property from Delia.

As Hazel's, it was a popular rendezvous but fell on evil times about 12 years ago when it was frequented, police said, by homosexuals in large numbers. The resultant publicity eventually ended its existence as a bar and brought Hazel

unhappiness; she still resents mention of the episodes.

But as the bait shop, the old place hummed. Chuck Smith, now operator of the Jet Bait and Gun shop, and Gene Crouch, started it.

"It was a landmark. No matter where you went to fish, people knew where the Coastside and Hazel's was." Three years ago, Martin and Scott took it over, installed closed-circuit television and charted the movement of striped bass.

"PEOPLE WOULD call, sometimes from as far away as Los Angeles to ask how the fishing was at Hazel's Beach. I think that would be a good idea, call it officially Hazel's Beach."

Judging from the support she has received orally at council meetings, Hazel has friends. But no one, including Hazel, seems to know what she'll do when the moment finally comes that she must leave—along with her golden Labrador retriever, Hardy, and her mynah bird.

The city apparently isn't going to begin eviction proceedings immediately, despite the legal situation of having "red tagged" the building. But it won't be long.

Building Inspector Dick Taylor says the structure has been under condemnation for years. But it's home to Hazel and she stood on the step of her weatherbeaten little porch Monday and said she reckoned "I'd feel better if I cried. But I don't know when I cried last, guess as a little girl; I'm not a cry baby."

Allen Death

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us that appointments are now easy to arrange," continued Simmons, "but donors should call 567-6400 and settle their individual appointments; Saturdays and Sundays are available for those who can't get in on week-days."

Allen, 40, was a native of Illinois who had lived most of his life in California. Besides his wife and his six-year-old son, he is survived by his mother, Mrs. Anita Allen of Burlingame.

Services were held at Dugan's Serra Mortuary, yesterday, with interment following at Golden Gate National Cemetery.

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