Train station was center of town in 1907

Homes were within walking distance of Railroad Square



Trains were the primary mode of transportation during the early history of Corte Madera. In the years before roads were paved, townfolk used paths and stairways to come and go each day between their homes and Railroad Square. In 1905, this handsome 20x40-foot Craftsman-style station replaced the first train station, which was a small clapboard building that burned in 1904 when a transient built a fire to keep warm. The new station had a paid station master, with a telegraph machine chattering away, a waiting room heated by a coal stove, and an open-air waiting room for the summer season.

Passenger trains stopped running in 1941, but the Corte Madera train station's old concrete platform remained until 1994, when the park was renovated. Today, there's a walking-and-biking path where the tracks once ran south to Alto Tunnel.