

Hayes Plantation To Be State Historic Site

An agreement has been reached between J. Gilliam Wood and the State Department of Cultural Resources for Hayes Plantation to become a state historic site. Details of the agreement for development of the site were unveiled by Dr. Larry E. Tise last Friday.

Dr. Tise, director of the Division of Archives and History, and a team of professionals have said Hayes contains "furnishings, paintings, art works, and documents (that) comprise what may be the most important collection of historical materials housed in one dwelling in the entire state."

The division has an \$80,000 appropriation from the General Assembly

which can be used for maintaining Hayes during the 1977-78 period of development. The funds were allocated for the development and promotion of Historic Edenton and Northeastern North Carolina.

"Because of the proposed use of the resources solely for the operation of Hayes and because of our obligation to Historic Edenton, the latter organization should receive positive benefits from the development of Hayes Plantation," it was stated.

The first year's budget is \$40,000. The staff would include a site manager, housekeeper and grounds maintenance person. While the site will not be highly advertised at present it would be open to the public on a

regular basis.

Visitors would be furnished no full-scale interpretive program at this time, and parts of the structure might be off-limits due to other work being undertaken, but visitors would be well received and treated in accordance with historic site standards.

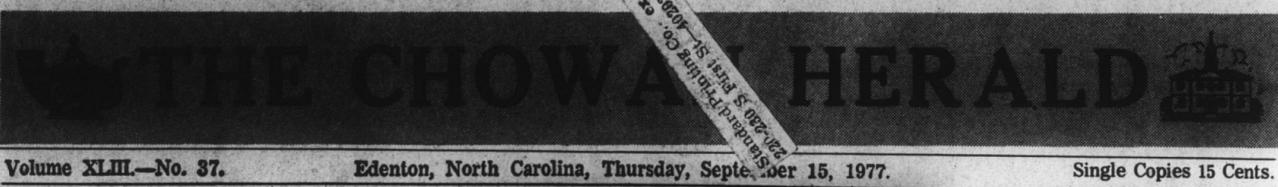
One dilemma which is faced and is said to be the primary reason for a "low key" operation are problems surrounding the "life estate" gift of Hayes. Minors have life estate shares; the youngest of these children will not reach majority for five years, according to the proposal.

The state would not propose to do any extensive developmental work at Hayes until such time as clear title can be obtained.

The proposal also states: "The staff was most impressed by the excellent physical condition of the house and grounds; it is evident that the property has received much attention over the years. While some minimal repair work is necessary — including paint, plasterwork, and marblework — for the most part the house is in an excellent state of repair."

The state staff was said to be in unanimous agreement that Hayes is an extremely valuable historic property and believes that the Division of Archives and History is the best possible recipient.

Locally the proposal was hailed as bringing many possible benefits to Historic Edenton, Inc., and the entire community. "I think it's a fantastic thing for us," said W.B. Gardner, town administrator. C.A. Phillips, chairman, Chowan County commissioners, agreed saying he thought the state should accept Wood's offer and "carry the ball from there."



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS ELECTED — Members of the Executive Committee of the newly-formed Northeastern Rural Health Development Association, Inc., were elected at the first meeting of the organization Monday night. Serving on the committee are, from left to right: Ollin B. Sykes of Edenton; Robert E. Lee of Gatesville; T.B.H. Wood of Edenton; Mrs. Fran Voliva of Columbia; and Lester Simpson of Hertford. Not pictured is Cy Rich of Edenton.

Health Care System Undertaken

For more than 40,000 residents of a large, six-county area of Northeastern North Carolina, access to a new and innovative health care delivery system may be just around the corner, according to a newly-organized group of local business, govern-

ment and civic leaders who met in Hertford Monday night.

The name of the group is the Northeastern Rural Health Development Association, Inc. (NRHDA). It is a nonprofit corporation and is comprised of 18 representatives from Bertie,

Chowan, Gates, Perquimans, Tyrrell and Washington counties.

"We're here tonight to give serious consideration to means whereby we can develop and improve the health care delivery system in the counties where we live and work," said T.B.H. Wood, an Edenton farmer and businessman who was elected president of the group.

Following adoption of by-laws, election of officers, executive committee members, directors and professional advisory committee members, Wood introduced Dr. C. Clement Lucas, an Edenton physician, to discuss the proposed plan.

"Since moving here three years ago, I have become increasingly concerned with the health care needs of the people in this region of the state," said Dr. Lucas. "Several months ago, Edenton dentist Dr. Richard Hines and I began discussing ways in which we felt the present system of health care might best be improved. We believe the concept ... is a very practical and workable one."

Dr. Lucas then explained that there were two parts to the plan. "First," he said, "Dr. Hines and I have already begun plans to construct a 25,000-square-foot, Continued On Page 4



Dr. Clement Lucas, Jr.



Dr. Richard Hines, Jr.

Water System Dedicated

By Flynn Surratt

At practically any other dedication ceremony, a steady rainfall would have been less than appropriate, but the various officials and modest number of citizens that attended the dedication of the \$3.8-million

Chowan County Water System last Thursday all seemed to agree that rain was right in character with the event.

The one hour ceremony took place at the Chowan Cooperative Exchange at Valhalla and was punctuated with remarks from a variety of officials on the local, state, and federal levels.

Mayor Roy L. Harrell in his welcome termed Chowan County "progressive and aggressive" in successfully undertaking the project and it was Paul Parks, representative of the Farmers Home Administration, that noted Chowan County was the first to build a water system with FmHA funds. He added that local leaders had set an example for the area.

The Chowan County commissioners were there in full force and six of the seven members of the Planning Board were on hand, joining R.M. Thompson and Charlie Overman of the Chowan County Extension Service, Melvin Howell of the Farmer's Home Administration, John Booth of the Coastal Resources Commission, Sen. Melvin Daniels, Rep. Vernon James, NCSU vice chancellor Bill Turner, and Steve Stevenson of the Division of Health Services.

Planning Board chairman George Lewis summed up the level of involvement with the project by saying, "When you talk

Continued On Page 4

Norvell President

William L. Norvell, 109 West Church Street, has been elected president of Edenton Chamber of Commerce. Norvell is associated with Quinn Furniture Company.

Norvell and other officers and directors will assume their posts at the annual meeting to be held September 29.

As president, Norvell will replace Dr. A.F. Downum, Jr.

At a recent board meeting a full slate of officers were elected. In addition to Norvell they are:

Charles Creighton, vice president; Cam Byrum, secretary; and Roland Vaughan, Jr., treasurer.

Newly elected directors are: Creighton, Vaughan, Vann Johnson, Murray Nixon, Larry Robertson and Oscar White.

Robert W. Moore, executive vice president, said the annual meeting will be held at Chowan Golf & Country Club. It begins at 7:30 P.M. on September 29. The program includes presentation of the Senior Citizen Award.

Public Parade

Deb Ball Diary

Loaded the car in the rain.

Drove to the Capital City in a downpour.

Unloaded the car in a drizzle, wondering where our star in the show could be.

Ate a sandwich while dashing to the Civic Center. Could have eaten another while trying to find a parking space.

Stood for three and one half hours. The young Terp obviously knew what to do but trying to explain it to 200 young ladies and their chief marshals wasn't easy.

Dressed in a hot motel room before rushing across town to stand for another two hours while debts renewed friendships, made new friends and traded yarns about the summer fun. Parents mentally totaled the cost.

Took a bath nine hours early because we prepared for a party to which we weren't invited.

Other than that about the only complaint of being the father of a deb is that my formal wear came sans trousers. This was not discovered until 15 minutes before downtown stores closed. So, unlike Buff's recent episode at church, I couldn't have dared lose our pants because we didn't have any to lose. This was corrected in time for us to make the deadline and have the opportunity (?) to perform.

In all of this, a system had to be developed to keep everything running smoothly. You guessed it, the bureaucratic numbers game. We learned it early.

Walking into the handsome new multi-million dollar Civic Center a guy with a camera jumped out like Clark Kent. As rapid as his shutter was a gal who asked, "What is your number?" We replied: "We ain't got one." "Come on," she begged, "everybody here has one."

Before we could remember our Social Security number our deb came to the rescue. "Daddy, it's 19." For the next three days and nights we traded the handle our parents placed on us for "19", which meant there were 201 others just as foolish.

As we walked into the arena Continued On Page 4



PRESERVATION EFFORTS AWARDED — Dr. Larry Tise, center, director of the Division of Archives and History is shown above presenting a certificate of appreciation to Citizens to Save the Edenton Waterfront. Accepting on behalf of the group is Vann Johnson, committee chairman. Also pictured, from the left, is Mrs. Ross Inglis, Mrs. R.N. Campbell, and Mrs. Nelson Cheers.

Preservation Efforts Lauded

Successful efforts to block a townhouse development on the Edenton waterfront were recognized by the State Department of Cultural Resources, Division of Archives and History through the presentation of a certificate of appreciation to "Citizens to Save the Edenton Waterfront." The presentation, only the fourth of its kind, was

accepted by Vann Johnson, chairman, and was awarded by Dr. Larry Tise, division director, during an informal meeting held on Friday.

The document noted "with gratitude the contribution of Citizens to Save the Edenton Waterfront for the preservation and understanding of our common history through the saving of an endangered site on Historic Edenton Bay."

The group of concerned citizens recently banded together when it learned of a proposal by two prominent Edenton businessmen, George Alma and Thomas Byrum, to construct townhouses at a site adjacent to the bridge leading to Hayes Plantation.

Subsequently a \$50,000 donation was pledged by one anonymous donor and another \$10,000 by two other anonymous donors making it possible for the Town of Edenton purchase the tract for future use as a public park.

Mrs. Ross Inglis, chairman of the Edenton Historical Commission and a member of the citizen group was, however, clearly apprehensive that the contributors would be offended by the award. On Monday she issued a statement saying, "In accepting this recognition of our efforts from the Division of Archives and History, we are in no way accepting credit for the park whose purchase was made possible by anonymous donors."

Flag Is Stolen

REWARD — \$25 being offered for information leading to the person and-or persons who stole the flag from Edward G. Bond Post 40, American Legion, last Saturday night.

Better yet, says Sheriff Troy Toppin, is for those involved to take the flag back where they got it. Nothing more will be said, he added.

Commander George Stokes said the post had gone to considerable expense to erect a flag pole, landscape around it and obtain an all-weather flag. It is not the post's desire to prosecute anyone, but that could be the case if the flag is not returned.



OFFICIALS AT DEDICATION — Among the lengthy list of local, state and federal representatives present for the dedication of the Chowan County Water System last Thursday were, from the right, Dr. Bill Turner, NCSU vice chancellor; Paul Parks, state FmHA representative; Rep. Vernon James, Sen. Melvin Daniels, and Steve Stevenson of the State Division of Health Services shown above with his wife, Helen. In addition, at the far left, is Rev. George Cooke, who led the invocation, Edenton Mayor Roy L. Harrell, George Lewis, chairman of the Chowan County Planning Board, and County Commissioner J.D. Peele.

Status Granted

Rep. Walter B. Jones has announced that Chowan, Craven and Jones counties have been designated as "emergency drought impact areas." Federal relief programs will now be available to individuals and communities in these counties.

The action was taken by the Federal Interagency Drought Emergency Coordinating Committee. Various assistance programs will be administered by the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Interior, and the Small Business Administration. One program through the Farmers Home Administration will provide emergency loans to farmers to cover losses and restore production.