Forsyth County Museum Project Underway

7 "... it's a lump of clay waiting for the community to shape."







Lloyd G. Walter Jr.

Four downtown sites identified . . .

Lloyd Walter presented a thick report to the City-County Planning Board on Thursday, telling its members that the document from the Forsyth County Museum Task Force is "a lump of clay waiting for the community to shape."

The task force has been working for the last 11 months on a preliminary study to determine if a museum has potential for Winston-Salem. Walter is the chairman of the task force.

'There's no question that the kind of facility we're talking about could be a valuable addition to Winston-Salem and Forsyth County," he said.

"We have identified many benefits, especially in the areas of education and

economic development. Another wonderful benefit is the opportunity to share a common vision of our future constructed from the labors of our parents and grandparents.

"However," Walter said, "more detailed study will be needed before the extent of the economic benefit and the community's reception to the idea can be measured. That's one of the next steps that the task force recommends," he said.

"One of the challenges we have had is in identifying what we are," he added. "The term 'museum' doesn't accurately describe the facility we envision. What we see is a place where you can come to learn about the history of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County by meeting the people who made it and participating in the events that shaped it. It would offer the same kind of excitement for visitors as Discovery Place in Charlotte or SciTrek in Atlanta."

The task force said the mission of the facility would be "to collect, preserve, interpret and creatively and ambitiously present historical materials tracing the development of Southern life, industry and commerce, with emphasis on Forsyth County and North Carolina."

Walter said that the committee agreed that the facility should be located downtown to take advantage of hotel, convention and visitor services already in the

area. The task force recommended that the facility either occupy a "historically significant" existing facility or a structurally impressive new structure. He said that in either case the estimated cost would range from \$12.2 - 14.1 million.

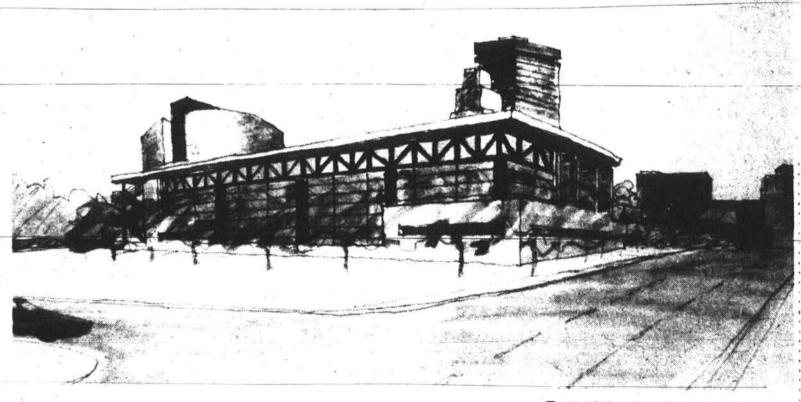
The task force, with input from the Downtown Development Corporation, suggested four locations: the Post Office building on Fifth Street between Liberty and Trade Streets, the western side of One Triad Park adjacent to Cherry Street, the block between Cherry and Marshall streets, east of the Public Safety Center; and the block immediately east of the Sawtooth Building.

Walter thanked the task force for their efforts in assembling the information for the report.

The committee chairpersons were Tom Gray, Site Criteria/Selection; Gwynne Taylor, Historic Resources; Barry Miller, Organization/Type; and Will Mann, Funding.



The block immediately east of the Sawtooth Center building



East of the Public Safety Center

AIDS program given recently

Members of the March Ministry Group (Resourcers) and the Health Professionals of Grace Presbyterian Church presented a panel and program on "AIDS" recently at Grace Church.

The guest speakers were Jean Levette, Charge and Infectious Control Nurse, Forsyth Stokes Mental Health; and Don Allen, volunteer from Baptist Hospital.

The Health Professionals of Grace Presbyterian Church are Dr. Myrna Williams, clinical psychologist; Sandra Thomas, nurse, Baptist Hospital; Emma Penn, retired health care technician; Christopher Sims, personnel officer, Forsyth Hospital; Verdell Penn, nurse, medical technologist, Forsyth Hospital; Dr. Michelle Chenault, professor at Winston-Salem State University in the Medical Technology Program; and Ernestine Worley, assistant professor of nursing, Winston-Salem State University.

A film "Black People Can Have AIDS Too" was shown and a question and answer discussion and social hour finalized the afternoon.

Grace Lowery presided the meeting and introduced the speakers and panel members. Willie Gray is the Resourcers Convener. Dr. Samuel Stevenson is the pastor.

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