what exactly is HERE??? Wyche renovation

New life will be pumped into Wyche House, the condemned dormitory, as it is transformed into the Royall Outreach Center, a 17,000 square foot "living and learning space".

BY JENNIFER LI

yield outreach center

The Royall Outreach Center (ROC) will be instrumental in NCSSM's outreach program, housing seminars, workshops, and other programs for teachers from all areas of North Carolina.

"We hope to help expand our programs throughout the state. It will expand our influence," said Ed McBride, Director of Operations. Resources such as NCSSM's teachers could best be utilized by such programs as distance learning and the

The ROC will contain a computer lab, commons area, and dorm rooms, but Sally Adkins, Director of Special Programs, Institutional Research and Evaluation (SPIRE), said that these facilities will not be available to students. Current students have expressed concern.

"Before Wyche was condemned, it was for students. They should keep it that way." said senior Cenita Dob-

"They should use the money to bring new students here instead," senior Monique Williams agreed.

McBride, however, disagrees, explaining that just increasing the residential program would not use NCSSM's resources as efficiently as outreach.

"[This project] is not discouraging the residential life in any way, " said McBride. According to McBride, housing outreach programs that benefit the whole state, such as the ROC, puts NCSSM in good favor with the NC General Assembly next time it seeks money for its residential life.

For example, the residential program could not have received the student center, auditorium, and other accomodations in the ETC, if the distance-learning center did not reside

Now that the ROC's purpose and functions have been finalized, the school is working on the logistical details of the construction. The ROC has over a million dollars, with \$650,000 from state funding and the rest from foundations and personal pledges. The school is now waiting for O'Brian-Atkins, the firm that has been contracted for the construction, to give a price quote before they can

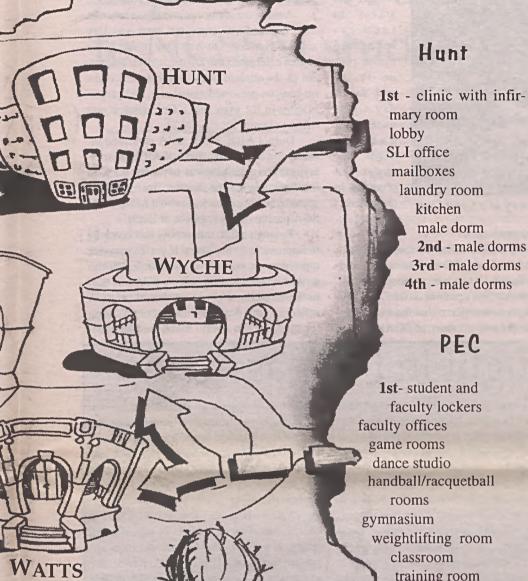
"We'll try to overlap the two constructions," said Adkin, referring to the construction of the ETC and the center. Despite this, the estimated completion date is still uncertain, but McBride hopes construction will finish within two years.

McBride explained that first the asbestos must be removed from Wyche before other construction can begin. He suggested that the renovation could be sped up by covering the lead paint and asbestos with plaster, and these methods are just as safe.

Even though the school is anxious to finish the project, the building's aesthetics and historical background will be preserved.

"We're really committed to the historical aspect, "Adkin said. She said that Wyche could not be torn down and started from scratch because it is an historical landmark protected

Once serving as a nurse's dormitory in historic Watt's Hospital, then as a residence hall for NCSSM, Wyche House has been transformed throughout the years. It will now be moving into a new era in its existence, one that will change its name to the ROC.



OOL OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS

Communications

Graphic courtesy of

Department

Michael Wlodek and the

ETC

The Educational

Technology Com-

training room

equipment room

plex (ETC) will provide educational services to N.C.'s students and teachers through its Distance Learning Program. The ETC will include four multimedia labs for distance learning, mediaequipped lecture hall, 700-seat auditorium, electronic music lab, recording studio, vedio and graphics production studio, and computer center. In addition to student artwork and early S&M memorabilia, the ground floor's student area will contain a section of the Durham Woolworth's old lunch counter where some of the first sit-ins were held.