

\$694,858: as of 12/31/77

The Whistlestop

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SOUTHWEST HERITAGE, INC.

October, 1977

COMMEMORATIVES BRING NEW IMPETUS TO FUND

Total Jumps to \$628,419 As Fall Thrust Starts

Larger Gifts Still Needed to Reach High Goal

Since the publication of the last WHISTLESTOP in May, the grand total of pledges and cash to the Depot Fund has increased \$108,000 to a figure of \$628,419. Southwest Heritage leaders term this advance a most significant breakthrough.

With the \$788,000 goal both needed and seemingly attainable, the Campaign Committee plans a vital appeal this fall. The upcoming effort will again seek major gifts, since many on the list of possibilities have not been seen. Simultaneously, the Board of Directors will seek to identify friends who may have interest in the half a dozen or more unassigned commemoratives.

The General Division, the climax of the two-year undertaking, will be sponsored after the turn of the year. This final phase will focus upon middle and lower level gifts, giving one and all the chance to help send the grand total over the top.

When queried about the project, President Letson said, "I cannot express too strongly our gratitude for the dedicated way in which the leaders of the City have rallied first to save the Depot and now to transform it into a cultural and community center. Their tangible expressions stand as evidence of the belief in the project."

"But there is still work to be done. With another big push this fall and a successful general drive in the winter our high goal can be reached. Southwest Heritage was mandated by the City Council and we have taken our story to you, the people. Your response merits our sincere thanks."

Restoration Begins!!!

Upon the recommendation of Architect Robert Forsythe, the Directors of Southwest Heritage accepted the bid of \$79,240 from the Venetian Bay Contractors for the first phase of the restoration of the Depot into a cultural and community center. The bid was low among the three general contractors who sought the job.

The rebuilding program will be carried on in three phases. The first phase will include the area south from the large assembly room to the entryway of the old station. The second will be the northern half of the building consisting of the grand assembly room and the art gallery. The final phase will be exterior, grounds, and paving.

The present contract, which represents about 40% of the rebuilding, does not include carpeting nor furniture, nor consider overruns which happen in a job of restoration.

When interviewed about the bid, Restoration Chairman Cunningham stated, "In light of the recent sharp rise in construction costs, we are quite pleased. The credentials of Venetian Bay Contractors reflect their experience and competence in this type of job. Now our one worry is moving ahead with the entire project before spiraling costs take us beyond our budget."

LARGE UNITS NAMED AS LASTING TRIBUTES

Five gifts of sizable commemoratives, paying tribute to the lives and leadership of prominent people of Naples, were announced recently by Southwest Heritage. Each of the larger units of the new Center will bear the name of the donor's choice.

The Garden Patio at the south, the first commemorative chosen, will be restored as a memorial to the late Edward R. Godfrey, civic leader who gave unstinting of his time and talents. This tribute is the gift of Mrs. Georgia Godfrey and their family.

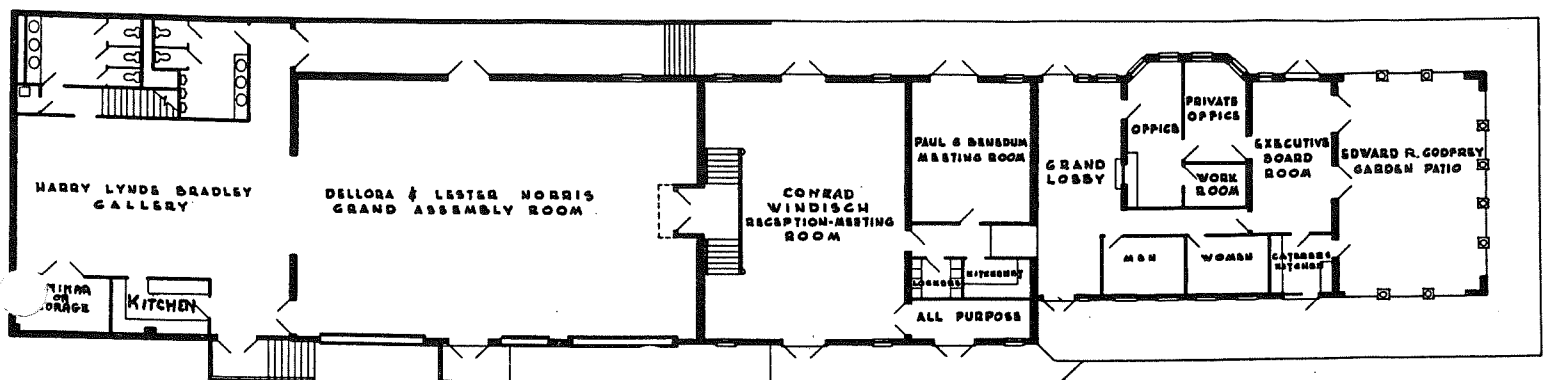
The Grand Assembly Room will be named for Mrs. Dellora Norris and her husband, Lester Norris, owners of Kee-waydin Island and winter residents since the '30's. Few citizens are more generous in support of City projects.

The Reception Room is the gift of Richard P. Windisch, Treasurer of Southwest Heritage. Ten years ago Mr. Windisch with his wife retired to Naples after a busy life in the financial world of New York. This room will memorialize his grandfather, Conrad Windisch, who arrived in America in 1848, establishing a brewery.

The Art Gallery will be named for the late Harry Lynde Bradley, prominent industrialist of the Midwest and founder of Allen-Bradley Co. The commemorative is a gift of his widow, Mrs. Peg Bradley, nationally known patroness of the arts with wide business interests in this area.

The most recent commemorative will pay tribute to the late Paul G. Benedum, who passed away earlier this year. A geologist and engineer, he headed Benedum-Trees Oil companies. The Conference Room with his name is the gift of his widow, Mrs. Willen Benedum.

ARCHITECT'S FINAL RENDERING OF CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY CENTER



Names for the Major Units of the Restored Building Have Been Printed on the Rendering of Architect Robert Forsythe

06.17.187

SAVE THE DEPOT FUND

1976-1977

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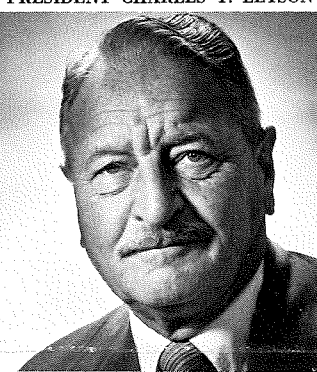
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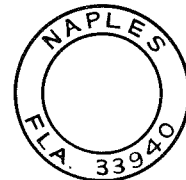
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