

Peninsula Diary Mayo Hayes O'Donnell

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Charleston Project

Progress keynotes the annual report of the Historic Charleston (S.C.) Foundation.

Four years ago, it began to re-establish a residential section called Ansonborough, so sound financial value would assure architectural preservation.

The foundation's goal is "practical contemporary use, rather than destruction. and replacement, of the large number of Colonial and Early American buildings still standing in Charleston." Ansonborough is its pilot project.

Of 26 properties acquired by the group, nine have been resold and renovated, and are occupied as residences. Two others are undergoing that process, while three more were renovated into apartments and are held by the foundation for rental income.

Five parcels have been cleared of substandard buildings and combined with adjoining structures to improve appearance and provide off-street parking. Three additional properties may be renovated for foundation rental income; four others are for sale.

The Ansonborough project is financed by the foundation's revolving fund, started with gifts and bequests.

"Salem, Mass.: Historic Area Study," a book compiled by Blair Associates, is an Illustrated study of areas with buildings of historical and architectural significance. It lists considerations for their protection.

Appendices contain preliminary drafts for special bills and ordinances to carry out the proposals. The booklet was prepared in cooperation with the Salem Planning Board and the state's department of commerce. Published by College Hill Press of Providence, R.I., Its price is \$3.50.

Three summer projects have been set by the National Park Service's Historic American Building Survey. They involve measured drawings, photographs and documentation for structures in Annapolis, Md., New Haven, Conn., and Chicago.

Several adobe homes and buildings in Monterey have been included in past projects of the 30-year-old program, which has covered some 10,000 buildings.