

Historical Site Dedicated as Future Museum

Old Jail Restored

Dedications were held Tuesday, September 6, for the Old Jail house. The Old Jail is being used as a museum and Colleton County Council Chambers. Mrs. Laura Lynn Hughes, a Walterboro High School teacher and a member of the Old Jail Commission, spoke at the assembly.

Mrs. Hughes told the crowd at the dedication that the Old Jail was designed in the Neo-Gothic style by Charleston architects in 1856. Some of the bricks may have come from the old courthouse in Jacksonboro, which was abandoned when the county seat was moved to Walterboro. The state appropriated 11,000 to build the jail. The tract of land was purchased with funds from the sale of the lot of the previous jail, which stood where The Press and Standard building now stands. The Old Jail stayed in use until 1937. It then was used as the county office until 1975.

The renovations were authorized by the Colleton County Council with guidance from the Old Jail Commission. The commission, established by County Council in 1982, is chaired by George Cone, who presided at the dedication ceremonies. Other members of the

commission include Mrs. Huches, Pat Ray, Lila Smoak, J.M. Cane, Albert Lucas, and Rev. James D. Riley. Councilors Harris Beach and Floyd Buckner served as liaison to the commission. Funding for the renovations came from a bond issue and from the Accomodations Tax Advisory Board.

The Old Jail house is now in its third adapted use. Adaptive use of buildings preserves the visual heritage of the community and distinguishes the town from all others.

By Dylane Stephens



Demonstrating the neo-Gothic archetecture of the Old Jail, Mrs. Hughes points out the importance of preserving our visual heritage.

Paying tribute to the historical sites of Colleton County Louis Beach and Michael Williams attend the Dedication ceremony at the Old Jail September 6, 1988.

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