

TUESDAY,
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CHARLESTON, S.C.

ELDERLY

Continued From Second Front

least 62 years old.

HUD has agreed to supplement rent payments to close the gap between what occupants can afford to pay and the fair market rent in Charleston.

Some units, however, are expected to be rented without rent subsidies, producing a mix of income levels among occupants.

ENING POST

Second Front

Society St.

Group Plans New Apartments For Elderly

By MARY A. GLASS
Post-Courier Reporter

Plans for a \$3.7 million, 90-unit apartment complex for the elderly were unveiled Monday in Charleston.

Construction of the facility, financed through a long-term loan from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, is expected to begin next fall and be completed in early 1984.

Charleston Area Senior Citizens Services officials said the loan was won in statewide competition for HUD discretionary funding.

Plans include a seven-story residential tower stretching between Society and Wentworth streets behind the senior citizens' headquarters on Meeting Street. The parking lot behind the headquarters will remain in use because the residential tower will be built on stilts over it.

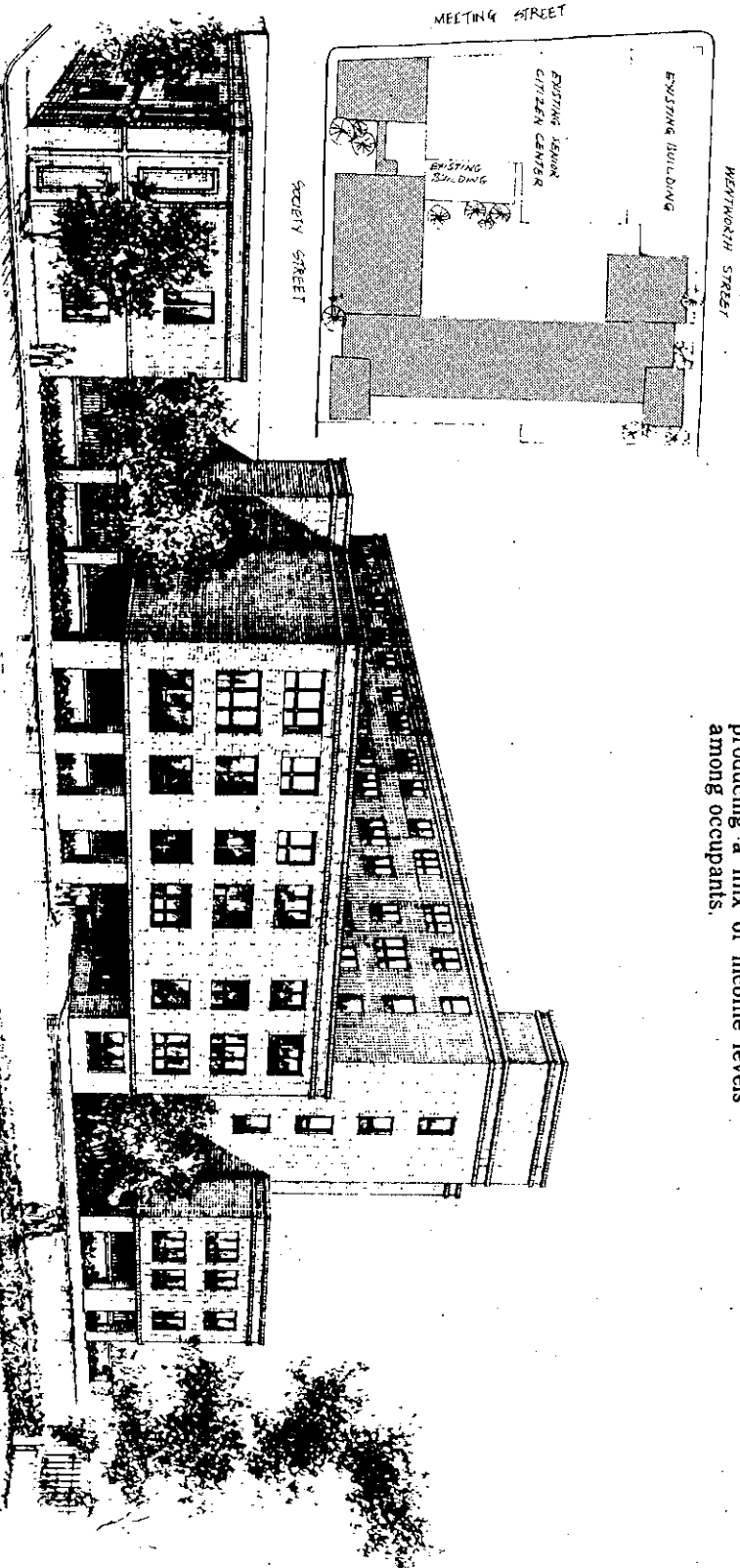
The main entrance will be on Society Street, and the height of the complex will be lower on Society Street and Wentworth Street than it is in the center of the block.

Plans also call for construction of a community facility at Society and Meeting streets. This building is to be separated from the residential structure by a landscaped garden.

The plans require no demolition. Officials said the non-profit Ansonborough Housing Corp., formed from the senior citizens' board, will begin accepting applications for residency once the facility is under construction. In light of current demands for housing for the elderly, all available openings are expected to be assigned before the facility is completed.

While residency is open to the community at large, the head of the household of each unit must be at

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Artist's drawing of proposed apartment complex from Society Street.

New Apartments For Elderly Scheduled To Open Sept. 15

By MARSHA GUERARD
Post-Courier Reporter

It's rare that apartment dwellers share characteristics with their neighbors, but the residents of the new Ansonborough House apartments will have at least one thing in common: their age.

Each of the 77 new apartments between Society and Wentworth streets behind the senior citizens center at 259 Meeting St. will be reserved for residents at least 62 years old.

An inspector from the Department of Housing and Urban Development visited the new building Tuesday on the first of a series of inspections that will check finishing details on the apartments that were built with a \$3,679,000 grant from HUD to the Charleston Area Senior Citizens Inc.. HUD will also give rental supplements so that lower-income residents can afford to live there.

Four of the 77 apartments will be two-bedroom units for handicapped residents who might need a caretaker to live with them, said Joan Barnes, executive director of the senior citizens center. The other 73 units will have one bedroom each, and some are modified for the handicapped.

"We have not rented them all yet," said Russell Long, vice president of the Charleston Area Senior Citizens Board of Directors. The apartments are due to open Sept. 15, and rental applications are available at the senior citizens center.

There are some special features that set the new apartments off and make them especially convenient for senior citizens, Mrs. Barnes said. Shorter residents should be able to answer the door without standing on tip-toe and craning their necks, since a thoughtful designer put the peephole lower on the door.

Slippery showers or baths are steadied by the addition of handrails in strategic locations. There are modern kitchens, plenty of storage and fairly large windows to take in the Charleston view. In addition to 24-hour security, a call system connects each apartment to the building manager's office.

"I've been to a lot of senior citizens' housing in Florida, but none of them has taken advantage of the outdoors like we have," Mrs. Barnes said. Landscaped patios with a nearby game room and kitchen, as well as bathroom facilities, will make the ground level a gathering spot for apartment dwellers, she said.

259 Meeting St.



Staff Photo by Bill Jordan

Work Begins

Construction has begun on a senior citizens housing complex behind the senior citizens headquarters at 259 Meeting St. This photo was taken from Society Street looking south toward Wentworth Street. Financing for the project will come from the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

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