

1,500 square feet THRESHER
9,190 square feet GATEWAY
6,000 square feet AG Center

AG CENTER 2016 proposed 5,000 square feet, now 7,500 square feet, 50% increase.

SITE QUESTIONS

Why was the AG CENTER moved from east of the Halfway House and increased in size? The proposed location near the Mansion takes away context of a mansion as being surrounded by open space. This diminishes the legacy and wishes of Caroline Martin-Mitchell by removing part of the museum, the land around it, relegating her mansion into another building on a built campus. Caroline's 1936 will states that the home, along with an adjacent 7-acres, be kept in perpetuity as a museum. Pine Craig implies and deserves open space complementing the mansion's significance. The original site proposed fits into the landscape – osage orange trees can be added. The AG CENTER can be adjacent to the non-climate controlled THRESHER building.

An architectural review found that the land east of the Halfway House, identified in the first iteration of the AG Center site plan, is not large enough to accommodate the 6,000 square foot building. Relocating the building allowed for an additional 17% of space within the same budget.

The new plan actually increases the amount of usable open space. Most significantly, it eliminates "Scotts Block" a large building which would have eliminated the most heavily used grounds space (commonly known as "The Green") for programming, revenue producing events and rentals. The current plan for these three buildings is a 83% reduction in footprint from the PUD approved 12 years ago.

The fully grown Osage orange trees already exist along the fence line and provide a historical compliment the Thresher Building. Giving the 1912 thresher its own space—and one more true to how large farm machinery is kept on a farm—allows us to pay homage to the Naperville farm families that helped build this community.

Pinecraig, the home of Caroline Martin Mitchell and her family is the crown jewel of Naper Settlement. Attention to sight lines toward and from the mansion were reviewed and found to not be obstructive, with clear visibility from Aurora Avenue and almost the entire site. The adjustments in the overall site plan have actually allowed more open space to remain (map attached). Current interpretation of Caroline Martin Mitchell and her legacy gift to the City has been strengthened and reinforced during 2020, a year that celebrated the legacy of women in Naperville. The Ag Center is located just west of the School House on a slight slope that is uneven and therefore, not otherwise very usable for events, picnics and programming.

DEVELOPMENT PETITION QUESTIONS

Explain the relationship between the NHS/NS/NSMB and City. Approval process?
Who owns the buildings? Who owns the collections?
What is the annual budget of NS? NHS? What % is contributed by tax dollars? Grants?
Membership? Donations?
Will there be a capitol campaign? Sponsorships?
When did acreage of NS change from 13 to 12.37?
Who and by what process authorized Harriet Pistorio COO of NS to be the Petitioner? Not the president of NHS? Not the executive director of NS? Not the City Manager?
If the City owns the buildings, is the City the Petitioner? These will become City buildings.
What entity is the Petitioner?
The Wight & Company plans indicate NHS as the Client.

Several of the question above are outside the purview of this commission, but as a courtesy to the Commission a general overview is provided below:

Through a long-standing agreement with the City, the Naperville Heritage Society (a 501 (c) 3) administers Naper Settlement and raises funds to benefit the museum campus and its operations. There is an ongoing capital campaign for this project. Projects and initiatives approved by the Naperville Heritage Society Board are reviewed by the Naper Settlement Museum Board, (NSMB) a City Commission chaired by the Mayor and composed of resident members at large (appointed by the Mayor and City Council), NHS Board representatives, and a city council liaison. The NSMB board reviews and votes on such initiatives. Like all other commissions, the public is welcomed to attend NSMB meetings. The capital campaign project and the relocation of the buildings was brought to that commission and approved in June of last year.

Ms. Pistorio signed as the Petitioner at the direction of the President and CEO, who had approval to move forward with this project from the NHS and NSMB boards. The planning and progress have been shared and discussed at length with city leadership staff and community leaders.

Like all buildings on the Naper Settlement campus, the new buildings will be owned by the City of Naperville. The additional acreage the Settlement grounds was added in the late 1980s, as part of the construction of the Pre-Emption House. The capital campaign fundraising plan for these buildings includes an endowment to cover the cost of future maintenance and repairs.

STATEMENT OF INTENT QUESTIONS

What are the plans/budgets to take care of existing Naper Settlement assets in need of attention? For example, many roofs appear overdue repair/replacement. What deferred maintenance should be addressed before building new structures?

For over 50 years there has been a collaborative process between the City and NHS that includes City funds such as the Capital Improvement Program and Community Development Block Grant and other grant and revenue raised by the NHS. This partnership has been tremendously successful over the years and serves as a national example of public/private

partnerships in the museum field. For example, the mansion \$2.3M restoration project required the city to contribute approximately \$300K, while the Naperville Heritage Society raised the remainder of the funds. A roadway and stormwater project was completed through multiple grants obtained by the Naperville Heritage Society for approximately \$2.3 million.

How will these three structures contribute to the revenue of NS?

They will allow for expansion of the museums' educational programming through the digital experience and agricultural learning laboratory, an increase in school fieldtrips revenue by 100 more children per day. These new interpretive programs will bring the museum into 21st century best practices and allows for curriculum and public partnerships previously not available. The Ag Center, for example, will allow STEM-based learning (critical alignment for today's history museums), and the Innovation Gateway is a place for Naperville's 20th and 21st century stories to be told.

How is PEH entry outdated? It is stated under Operating Hours that the GATEWAY will function as the PEH does.

For years, the PEH served effectively as the museum's front door. Now, with hundreds of thousands of visitors visiting each year, it's interior layout and features, like single residential style doors, are no longer adequate from an ADA, wayfinding, visitor traffic or safety perspective. Among examples are busy event days when visitors must gather on the corner of Aurora and Webster waiting to get in and be processed; an entry pathway that is difficult for visitors with physical limitations and families with strollers to maneuver. Especially important is the interior architecture is does not accommodate visitor processing and gathering.

Why not lower level of chapel or PEH tavern for class lunches?

These areas are currently used and without an elevator, do not meet capacity nor provide an equitable environment for school children with ADA needs, who separated from their peers. Additionally, these spaces are either rented for weddings or meetings and are not available for school lunches.

Naperville has thousands of square feet of classroom space. NS is an outdoor museum. Why take away the outdoors with more buildings?

Naper Settlement serves approximately 35,000 school children each year. Teachers from over 112 school districts look to us to provide the kind of curriculum that their classroom cannot. Naper Settlement is a museum campus composed of outdoor and indoor learning spaces. Our ability to tell Naperville's 20th and 21st century history is hampered because the buildings cannot accommodate digital learning and long-term exhibits. We must keep with the times if we are to stay relevant and at the forefront of informal learning. We don't ask schools, libraries or our park districts to provide their programmatic services the same way they did 50 years ago. Museums must advance, improve, and keep pace with community needs.

AIC open 6-hours a day Tuesday thru Friday; 24-hours a week during school session November – March, with Monday included April-October. What % increase in capacity for school tours is anticipated over 2019?

We project an additional 100 students per day on school visits.

What are the O&M projections for the Ag Center?

There will be minimal expenses the first 10 years.

DISCLOSURE OF BENEFICIARIES QUESTIONS

How should it be disclosed that the civic partnerships, not words defined in the legal structures of language implied in this disclosure, of the Naperville community as represented by the board of NHS, the staff of NS, and the NSMS board be identified? Follow the money interests is being asked in this disclosure, however, following leadership interests should be part of the petition disclosure.

“Museum: Owned by the City.” Is the City petitioning itself? Define Museum and what is owned by the City: land, buildings, infrastructure, collections? This PUD is an opportunity to educate the community about the history, management, and vision of NHS/NS/NSMB.

Please see the brief description outlined in the Development Petition section.

PARKING QUESTIONS

Is there an understanding or formal agreement with the park district to use Centennial Beach parking lot? No.

What rentals are anticipated at the GATEWAY? The AIG? The PEH? The Meeting House? The grounds? Open space allows greater flexibility of use and broader inclusion of ideas.

The museum has a robust events and rental program. Our list of events is provided to and approved by the City’s Program and Events Committee on a yearly basis and is available through our website.

What has been NS (staff, guest, vendor) use of the Water Street parking deck?

Water Street is public parking. We have no record of where visitors park other than the City’s own parking study during Christkindlmarket that demonstrated that downtown parking was not at capacity even during such large-scale events. We did participate in a study of the Water Street Parking undertaken by City staff.

BUILDING ELEVATIONS LETTER QUESTIONS

Existing structures are historic and of a similar Midwestern time period. Naper Settlement Museum Village was designed to represent a 19th-century town like Naperville. Victorian, Greek Revival and Gothic Revival all have specific definitions. What is the specific definition for the Modern Style mentioned here?

These buildings have been designed to be sympathetic too and not mimic the 19th century structures on the grounds. This is a highly regarded practice in outdoor history museums, so as to not confuse the visitor into thinking that they are seeing an original building. There is no specific Modern Style that we are adapting. Additionally, Naper Settlement performed a

community-engaged planning process that resulted in the museum’s mission being updated in 2006 to collect, interpret and share Naperville’s history through present-day. These buildings reflect that.

What is “the ability to self-curate stories?”

The new digital experience allows community members to up-load their own documents, stories, and histories in a WIKI-like fashion.

What is “minds-on activity”?

Museum education is an academic discipline with many facets. It is recognized that activities that spark curiosity and are minds-on increase learning in all generations.

What is meant by “trying to fabricate history”?

The museum follows best practices. We do not want to create a building that pretends to be from the past. We are a museum for all time. Representing today’s architecture has historical and architectural integrity.

LANDSAPING QUESTIONS

How many trees will be removed?

To accommodate the three new buildings, across the entire site, a total of 22 trees will be removed. Of the trees removed by the Ag Center, 9 of the 10 are in poor condition. A tree preservation plan was submitted and approved by the City.

Will native plants represent the majority of landscape material?

Naper Settlement underwent an extensive historic landscaping plan by a renowned historical landscape authority in 2000. That plan guides the museum and any landscaping for these new buildings will be similarly appropriate.

Will farm crops be part of the landscaping?

The Agricultural Interpretive Center will not be a working farm.

PUD DEVIATION QUESTIONS

Page 1, 1.2. Are tax-payer dollars involved in this project beyond the \$250,000 recently allocated by the City? What percent?

Per Resolution NO.19-045 dated November 20, 2019 the City is providing no more than 1/3 of the cost to build the building; the Naperville Heritage Society is fundraising for the other 2/3 of the cost and has included an endowment to cover future cost.

Page 2 top left: Emerson School Improvements?

Scribner’s error

Page 2, last 1. What landscaping solution is being proposed to accommodate Section 4.2.1?

No landscaping facing Webster? The architecture of this building does not mirror the internal historic architectural styles of the 19th-century designed Naper Settlement. The response to this variance implies landscaping will mirror the native landscaping of Naper Settlement while the architectural style of the building itself will not mirror the architectural style of Naper Settlement.

Naper Settlement tells the story of its city and residents right up through today. That story begins in the 19th century, but it is not confined to it. We are excited to be taking the museum into the 20th and 21st centuries which is a nationally significant story about the history of the community and its citizens.

Page 3 top left: Emerson School Improvements?

Scribner's error

Page 3, 3. Section 4.2.1 speaks to placement of landscaping, not type. Why is this variance being requested?

As previously discussed, the landscaping will complement the buildings and the site.