

## Community

### Millrace Continued from Page 8

the Gamma Phi Beta board of directors.

"The restrictions did bother us, but because we too want to keep the house's national historic value, it wouldn't be a problem for us. Looking back, some of the changes we made

which Taylor notes does not include Sacred Heart or the duck pond.

"They looked at the entire area and came up with design schemes on how you could maintain the historic integrity and natural features while al-

**'They would have basically told us what we could and couldn't change, and we didn't want to be a part of that.'**

— Justin O'Toole

probably shouldn't have been made."

"I think the historic district is probably a good idea, if we don't go overboard and try to save things that don't merit it," Kershner said. "It's a beautiful part of the city and it's important to keep it intact."

The recommendations for the special planning and historic district surrounding the Millrace were a product of a study looking at the historic resources in the neighborhood.

"It's a state requirement that every jurisdiction identify historical resources. Eugene is really in the forefront in developing a model," Taylor said. "The Millrace is one of the densest developed areas. The idea was to do a study to identify conflicts that exist with the preservation of these historic resources."

Studio classes in the School of Architecture participated in the study of the Millrace area,

allowing for further development," Taylor said.

"What we're anticipating is that we'd have a historic district similar to Skinner Butte district, but in the Millrace case

**'The restrictions did bother us, but because we too want to keep the house's national historic value, it wouldn't be a problem for us.'**

— Ann Kershner

it would incorporate and establish guidelines for rehabilitation and new development."

Taylor stressed that the establishment of the area as a special development and historic district would not prevent further development, but would instead encourage commercial developments compatible with the area.

"As anticipated, it will allow for uses not presently allowed. Right now it's zoned residential, so in that sense it could enhance commercial development and maintain a quality environment," Taylor said.

"On the other side, alterations and demolishing of these structures would be discouraged."

In other words, Taylor said, a Burger King is fine along Franklin Boulevard but would be discouraged from opening in the Millrace area.

The recommendations for the district go before the city council in May, Taylor said. If the council supports the recommendations, work on the project will begin in late summer, setting exact boundaries and researching the historic signifi-

cance of individual properties and the area as a whole.

Community involvement and citizen input throughout the project will continue to be important, Taylor said.

"There's going to be a lot of citizen involvement required to make it work," Taylor said. "Historic districts just don't happen."

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