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**'New Look' for  
An Old Hall**

Wheeling, one of the oldest communities in northwest suburbs, may soon have a museum to house historical relics.

Village trustees Monday agreed to turn over the old village hall at South Milwaukee Avenue and Center Street to the Wheeling Historical Society for a museum.

Trustee Peter Egan, chairman of the public buildings and grounds committee, said it was the "feeling of the community that the hall will be given to the society." In a unanimous decision the board concurred.

EGAN SAID the Historical Society should get together with Village Atty. Paul Hamer to work out certain legal specifics, such as insurance coverage.

Last December trustees rejected a request by the Wheeling Junior Women's Club to make the hall a historical museum. At the time Egan said his committee would "eventually like to see" the old building preserved as a museum. But he added, for the time being the board should reject it.

Historical Society vice Pres. Dr. Ian Taylor was pleased by the decision of the board. "It's a perfectly logical use for the building," he added. The Historical Society is an organization dedicated to preserving the history of Wheeling, said the vice president.

THE SOCIETY has accumulated several old relics which have been kept in members homes. Such thing as old instru-

ments, tools, dishes showing Wheeling buildings, photographs of scenes in the village years ago and an old fashioned telephone from the 1890's are among the items collected by the society.

Some old newspapers also are in the society's archives, Taylor said.

The group is seeking more historical items from residents in the area, said Taylor. Taylor said he expected the effort to be expanded, "now that we have a place to put them."

"We must also seek help getting materials and time donated" toward renovating the hall, Taylor said. In the remodeling the society would like to make the building look like it did when it was first erected.

OLD TIMERS in Wheeling believe the building was built about the turn of the century. The hall was used for village meetings until 1958, then it was used as the public works department until a permanent structure was constructed for public works on Hintz Road.

Wheeling was incorporated as a village in 1896, but the settlement existed long before that, history enthusiasts claim. The first post office was built in 1838. The following decade brought a "building boom" to the area.

A STORE operated by Charles Daniels and Russel Wheeler was erected in 1837, according to information in Andreas' "History of Cook County." In 1838 two blacksmith shops, were built.