

# Connor House may get grant

By SCOTT ACHELPOHL  
JM Staff Writer

Money to restore the roof of Conner House, Manassas Park's last Civil War landmark, awaits approval by midnight tonight in the General Assembly's budget bill. The \$10,000 for the work may pass easily.

No opposition to the grant money for the landmark exists, said a source in state Sen. Charles Colgan's office in Richmond. An activist involved in preserving the old home welcomed the news with open arms.

"It is our only remaining landmark," said Frances Embrey, a

Manassas Park city council member who, in her work for the city woman's club, has fought to preserve Conner House, which was used as hospital during the Civil War, known then as the "Yellow Hospital."

Until recently, the significance of the house was unknown, according to a brief history of it printed in the city's guide for residents.

The house, also known as Bloom's House in early land records, was built in the early 1800s.

Most of the stone used for the home was taken from a quarry that once sat just north of the house.

Correspondence of Gen. Joseph Johnson and 1860 census data for Tudor Hall both say that there that Conner House was referred by Johnson as Duncan House, which he used as his headquarters, making the home headquarters for the Confederate Army of the Potomac, a predecessor of Gen. Robert E. Lee's Army of Northern Virginia.

Local researchers also believe that Confederate President Jefferson Davis visited the house, Embrey said. In the early 1900s, E.R. Conner obtained the title to the house and 79 acres around it and turned it into a leading dairy farm in the area.