

# Vacant Land Probed By Tech Class

A zoning class in the graduate school of the City Planning Department of Georgia Tech will begin work soon on a short-range plan designed to make zoning recommendations on vacant land in Southwest Atlanta. The recommendations will relate both to the reactions of the people in the neighborhoods concerned, and to city objectives, according to Tech Associate Professor Roger F. Rupnow. Rupnow says he hopes the class can get to work on the project around the first of April when a new quarter begins.

The some 15 students, who are in Tech's two-year City Planning graduate program, will, Rupnow hopes, generate their own program of work once they have been given the boundaries within which they are to work and have some knowledge of the zoning problems of the area. Then, these students will take their plan of work to the executive committee of the Federation of Southwest Clubs (FSC), explain it, and defend and modify it, if necessary, based on their conversation with the executive committee.

The boundaries laid out by FSC (the council made up of representatives of civic clubs on the south side, which is seeking both a short-range and long-range land-use plan for the area) are Gordon Road on the north, Campbellton Road on the south, Donnelly Avenue on the east and Fulton Industrial Boulevard on the west.

Rupnow says the students will try to come up with a zoning plan for the entire area and, in arriving at this zoning plan, they hope to relate both the reactions of the people and to the city requirements. The class will work closely with both groups.

This is the first time such an approach has been used with a zoning class at Tech, and the plan came about through the Atlanta Urban League which has been working with both Tech and citizen groups in Southwest Atlanta.

Rupnow said he wanted to emphasize to the public that his class would be making recommendations—they are not empowered to go beyond this. And that the recommendations would possible include suggestions for amending city zoning ordinances as well as suggestions for zoning in the southside.

"We are going to try to come up with a plan that might be more specific than what now exists," Rupnow said.

The plan must be achieved during an 11-week period, the length of a quarter at Tech. The City Planning Professor admits this is quite an undertaking, but he is optimistic that his students will be able to achieve it.

"The students will be looking at the neighborhoods first hand," Rupnow said. "They will study them from the sense of land use and what zoning ordinances permit in the areas under consideration."