

Gives Gift House To Family of 11

By ALEX COFFIN

Walt Anderson, the tough-talking ex-Marine now fighting poverty, was given a house the other day to be used to help young people. Anderson, in turn, is giving it away to a family with eight children.

"What the hell," Anderson said Tuesday. "Helping eight kids is as important as helping 80. They'll have a home the rest of their lives and security they've never had."

It happened this way:

Associate City Attorney James Pilcher called Anderson last week and asked the Economic Opportunity Atlanta worker to come by his office.

With Anderson sitting in front of him, Pilcher reached inside his coat pocket and pulled out a slip of paper.

"I thought it was a sum-

mons," Anderson said. "I looked at it and saw it was a deed . . . I thought, 'How could I have bought something and forgotten it?' I thought I was being sued. I was shaky."

Pilcher said he'd give the house, at 429 Dargan Place SW in West End, to Anderson to be used for the benefit of youth. Pilcher said \$3,430 still was owed on the lot, but still sturdy structure.

NEEDS REPAIRS

Anderson agreed, then went out to look at the house, which sits on a high ground with trash and weeds front and back. It has solid walls but needs considerable repairs. David L. Parker, a 35-year-old sign painter with a wife, eight children and an sister-in-law, live there.

Anderson thought about it and asked if Parker would like to own his own home.

"He thought I was a con artist," Anderson said, "so I gave him some names of people to check with. I guess he did because he called me a couple of days later and said okay."

Anderson asked Wilson McClure, director of the West End Urban Renewal Project, to help and the last arrangements are being made this week.

\$83 A MONTH

Parker will take over the \$83 a month payments and begin paying another \$55 a month for the \$10,000 rehabilitation to be carried out through McClure's office. The \$83 payments will be due for only a couple of years or so — the \$55 will be due for 20 years.

McClure will send a Georgia State College urban life intern out to work with the Parkers on budgeting this summer. He believes the Parkers can handle the payments because both work — she in a restaurant.

"I just hope I'm doing the right thing," Anderson said.