



The Porter Building will get a facelift.

## Porter Building renovation set

The 81-year old Porter Building, once scheduled for demolition, will be restored this summer and used for stores and offices.

"We're trying to bring back the original character of the building," said John Norberg, of San Jose, one of the partners in the \$500,000 project with Nancy Hendee of Felton and John Jorgl. By preserving the original character of the building, the

partners will get tax credits.

The building, at Main and Maple streets was purchased by the city in the late 1970s and has been vacant since then. City officials planned to tear the building down, but later changed their minds. The partnership has a 25-year lease from the city.

Sherrell Watson, of the Kane-Hall-Palmtag real estate firm, said he hopes to get two tenants in the 5,600

square foot ground floor, possibly a clothing or appliance store. The second floor will be used for offices.

The Porter Building was designed by William Weeks, the architect for a number of buildings in Watsonville. It once housed the post office and most recently was home for the Toggery, a clothing store.

Watson said Sept. 1 is the target date for opening.