Cabrillo prepares to put up trailers for Sesnon House

Sentinel staff writer (5-2890

APTOS — Land is being cleared on the lower section of Cabrillo College for three portable buildings leased by the Federal Emergency Management Agency to replace the Session House, which was left unusable after the Oct. 17, 1989, earthquake.

Elizabeth Irwin, director of public relations, said the portable buildings are expected to be ready for use when the spring semester begins Jan. 28. They will house the Community Education Office, the Facilities Office and the Cabrillo College Foundation.

FEMA has agreed to fund installation costs and initial lease payments for the portable buildings. Irwin said the college may decide to buy them later under a lease-purchase option.

The buildings replace offices that were in the Sesnon House, a historic home that was the only facility on campus that didn't withstand the Loma Prieta quake.

Irwin said the house was built in the early 1900s as a summer home for a San Francisco family. The two-story, 5,000-square-foot building had been occupied by the college since 1979.

Cabrillo is negotiating with FE-

MA for the \$1.5 million it would take to fix the home and make it earthquake-safe, said Irwin, but if those talks are unsuccessful the trustees would have to decide what to do.

The home was on land purchased in the early 1970s by the college on the ocean side of Soquel Drive.

It was refurbished and, in addition to the college services, had been housing offices for the Santa Cruz County Symphony, the Cabrillo Music Festival and the Cultural Council of Santa Cruz County. All have since found other homes.