MURAT HOUSE PLAN PRESSED

Study on Move to Buy
Plantation Launched

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP)—The committee for the Preservation of the Prince Murat House has launched a study subcommittee to check into the matter of establishing a private, nonprofit corporation to purchase the historic plantation house and grounds.

Mrs. V. R. Perkins was appointed chairman of the seven-member group. Committee chairman J. St. Clair Favrot authorized the subcommittee to check into the availability of funds for the suggested corporation both from local banks in the form of loans and from individuals as pledges.

Two agencies discussed as potential purchasers of the Prince Murat House at the committee’s organizational meeting last week were at least temporarily eliminated when a letter from Gov. John McKeithen took the state out of the picture and Bill McGeehee of the Parish Recreation and Parks Commission said it was too early for his group to take a stand on the issue.

McKeithen, in a letter to Mrs. Harold Barnes to be read to the committee, said that although he was “in complete sympathy with the committee’s aims,” he was not in a position to commit the state financially to the project.

He added, however, this did not eliminate the state’s re-entering the discussion at a later time.

Favrot appointed Dr. Robert W. Heck, associate professor of architecture at Louisiana State University, chairman of another subcommittee to accumulate data on the historical background of the House.

Favrot said he would schedule the 26-member group’s next meeting when it appears that the subcommittees have laid the necessary groundwork for the main group to make concrete statements and proposals.