

# Town of Fairfax

Commonwealth of Virginia



**MAYOR:**

JOHN C. WOOD

**COUNCILMEN:**

ROLAND M. CLARKE  
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EDWARD T. WHITEHEAD

101 N. Mechanic Street  
FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA

June 17, 1958

**TOWN MANAGER:**

GLENN W. SAUNDERS JR.

MRS. FRANCES L. COX, *Clerk*  
E. CALVIN VAN DYCK, *Town Attorney*  
WILLIAM M. ZOLLMAN JR., *Asst. Town Engineer*  
WALTER T. OLIVER JR., *Treasurer*  
C. F. YOUNG, *Chief of Police*

Governor J. Lindsay Almond  
State Capitol Building  
Richmond, Virginia

My dear Governor Almond:

In January of 1958, the Town of Fairfax, feeling that an impasse had been reached in the selection of a site for a northern branch of the University of Virginia, secured options on suitable land which the Town agreed to purchase and donate as a site. This was done in an effort to secure for the 10th District a site that all of the jurisdictions in the 10th District could agree upon. However, when the jurisdictions did agreed upon the Ravensworth site, we did not press the matter further.

As you know, the University accepted a site near Herndon, Virginia, which now appears to be unacceptable to the City of Alexandria. After some discussion with Senator Charles Fenwick of Arlington, I secured the authority of the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax to renew the options on the property originally selected. The options are now secured and in our possession. There are indications that the Town of Fairfax site will be acceptable to all of the jurisdictions in the 10th District if the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia will undertake to reevaluate the situation at this time.

Therefore, the Town of Fairfax formally offers a tract of land of 150 acres located on Route 123 immediately adjoining its southern boundary. The tract has 1500 feet of frontage on Route 123 and is approximately the same distance from the intersection of 123 and Braddock Road on the east side of said Route 123. The land was secured by the Town of Fairfax for this purpose through the cooperation of the Farr family of the Town. The Town will make available to the site municipal facilities of sewer, water, and other services. The Town is seeking no control over the institution. It is only interested in having the proposed university located in the Town of Fairfax area.

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The site is felt to be equal to or better than any of the ones ~~presently under consideration.~~ *formerly*

1. The tract contains 150 acres, which is large enough for initial needs. This tract has the advantage over many other proposed sites in that there is adjacent land presently available for possible future expansion.

2. The tract is readily accessible to the Northern Virginia urban area and to the metropolitan Washington area which it would serve. This accessibility is good now in view of the location of the Town of Fairfax as a road center for highways 236, 123, 50, 29, 211, and 237. This accessibility will improve as contemplated circumferential and other highways are completed. Although the tract is readily accessible, it is rolling and wooded and would make ideal university grounds.

3. Of all the tracts suggested to date, the Farr tract is the only one which would satisfy the accessibility requirements of Arlington, Alexandria, Falls Church, Fairfax County, Loudoun County, and Prince William County, and would still conform to everyone's idea of what a university campus should be.

4. The proposed university would be located adjacent to an historic courthouse town, which would add prestige to each.

5. The university would have a specific Town location and identification, as against being located in Fairfax County generally.

6. The university would be located in one of the potentially best residential sections of the Fairfax Town area.

7. The Farr tract will be undisturbed by airports.

The <sup>specific</sup> detailed information on the tract, the soil studies, zoning, distances in miles and times from the various places in the 10th District and other miscellaneous information are in hand.

I have asked for an appointment with you at 10:30 A. M. Thursday, June 26th, to discuss the matter in further detail. Should you need other information prior to that time or that you would like to get at the time that I come to Richmond, please call me.

Respectfully,

JCW/wjl

John C. Wood, Mayor

CC: Mr. Charles Fenwick