Sunset Hills Farm

A. SMITH BOWMAN & SONS, INC, Owners and Operators of A. SMITH BOWMAN DISTILLERY SUNSET HILLS FARM SUNSET HILLS DAIRY

A. SMITH BOWMAN (1952)

E. DELONG BOWMAN

A. SMITH BOWMAN, JR. Vice President and Secretary

JAMES G. NAGEL Assistant Secretary-Treasurer

JEFFERSON 2-1880

SUNSET HILLS, VIRGINIA . IN HISTORIC

FAIRFAX COUNTY

March 20, 1956

Mr. Clarence A. Steele, Chairman Advisory Council to the Northern Virginia Center Northern Virginia University Center 1312 N. Quincy Street Arlington, Virginia

Dear Mr. Steele:

We note in the papers that your Committee will soon recommend a site for the Northern Virginia branch of the University of Virginia and that a 150-acre tract near West Springfield has been tentatively selected.

In December, 1954, my brother and I offered to donate unqualifiedly and unconditionally fifty acres of our land at Sunset Hills, near Herndon, for this purpose. We also offered to hold available an additional twenty-five adjacent acres for any future expansion of the University.

We understand that your Committee will have a meeting this Thursday and we desire to assure you that our offer is still valid and that we hope it will receive your favorable consideration. Since making our original offer, I do not believe that any of the members of your Committee have actually visited the several locations we had in mind, although I am sure some of them are familiar with the general area. We feel that your Committee should personally inspect our property, and we hereby cordially invite you to do so before any positive decision is made. We will be very glad to meet you at your convenience.

In addition to the above seventy-five acres, we would be glad to hold an additional adjoining seventy-five acres which we would donate without cost to the University at such a time as it may be expedient for future expansion.

We own over 7,000 acres on which you could choose any location you should desire. However, we have suggested two choice locations which are convenient to both Route 7 and Herndon, where we understand its sewerage system could be utilized. This land is gently rolling and in places enjoys views of the Blue Ridge and Catoctin Mountains. We would

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control the approaches and surrounding land and can assure you that nothing detrimental would be built nearby.

We believe that since making the original offer certain changes have been or are about to be made in the County which would make this location more favorable as a University for Northern Virginia. Apparently Central Intelligence Agency is definitely going to settle in the Langley area, which would tend to shift the center of the population of Northern Virginia in this direction. This will also be instrumental in improving the roads and transportation to this area. The proposed reservoir on Goose Creek, making water available in this part of the County, would be very beneficial; as would several natural gas lines which run through our farm.

In addition to the donation of the land without cost to the University, we will also be glad to donate \$25,000.00 cash for the erection of buildings if our offer to donate the land is accepted.

Hoping to hear from you, we are

Sincerely yours,

A. SMITH BOWMAN AND SONS, INC.

By Q. Smith Bowman, Jr.

ASBJr:rs

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SPECIAL DELIVERY



Mr. Clarence A. Steele
5901 18th Street, N.
Arlington, Virginia