

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT ALBANY  
Albany, New York 12203

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: 11 December, 1968  
FROM: Walter M. Tisdale  
TO: Miss Norma Edsall  
SUBJECT: Campus Progress Report No. 137.

This is a reply to your memorandum of 6 December, reference subject report. I will take the points in the order which you mentioned them.

1. The 88 acres is within walking distance of campus and is less than five minutes by car. I have already signified to Dr. Collins the exact location of this property and will be glad to inform you if you wish. The information must be regarded as confidential, however, while the firm is in the process of negotiating, otherwise competitive bidding might result, to the detriment of the University, ultimately resulting in higher costs to the students.
2. The 144 units is not more housing than we originally discussed; in fact, greater numbers have been discussed from time to time. All discussions to which I have been a witness have encouraged the builder to provide more housing rather than less, within the limits indicated by your forecast. (Copies of this have been given to Glen Development).
3. The 50% allocation to three-bedroom units came up as a direct result, I feel, of the influence of Dr. Thorne. Mr. Glen was urged to apply his first efforts toward the increased number of single student housing, which seems to provide the priority problem next Fall. Mr. Glen indicated that this is why he had increased the number of three-bedroom units, and it seemed to me to be a direct reaction to our request. I would agree that this does not seem to be the best mix which we have talked about when discussing married student housing only, but in the light of Dr. Thorne's request, it seemed to be entirely responsive. I would point out that all discussions regarding the numbers of units, and the particular mix within these numbers, has heretofore been all exploratory and I would think that if Student Affairs and Housing decide precisely what you do want, that Glen will probably be glad to cooperate within the limits that he has to work.
4. The three-bedroom units could house six, seven or eight students, but the question is how well would they be housed. In proposing to house five, I believe the contractor is favoring us, since an occupancy of five would be far more comfortable than six, insofar as living conditions of occupants are concerned, and yet will still prove adequate to meet our needs and then some.

5. I know Mr. Glen thoroughly realizes that the housing is essential on or before 1 September; this has been repeated over and over again. With respect to his ability to make this date, the following factors are pertinent:
  - a. His approach has the highest prospect of producing housing in the very short time between now and September. Conversely, no other approach could possibly give us any housing in this brief time.
  - b. They have given every indication of moving promptly on the project, which augurs well for its completion at the earliest possible date.
  - c. If he is to make this date, he will require our full support.
6. With respect to your remarks that you hope Mr. Glen is not saying that only single students may rent two or three-bedroom apartments, I think he is again reflecting what he is interpreting as our needs when we met together in Dr. Thorne's office. This is what Dr. Thorne said he needed and wanted, and Glen is trying to respond to this need. After the need to house single students has passed, if it ever does, then the apartments can always be used for married students or faculty, because actually, there is no difference in the way the apartments are being built. The use is interchangeable.
7. The appointment on 17 December is with a different firm, who has expressed an interest in talking with your office about the same problems. I have already talked with them and answered quite a few of their questions, but I felt that your office was better prepared to field some other questions before they explored further. These men are partners, Mr. Coburn Jones and Mr. William Strong, the builders of Heritage Village. They will be much slower than Glen and I sensed that their inquiry was far more casual than the Glen Development. There is no obligation for you to see them. But when I called your office and requested an appointment for them, the appointment was freely given. Please let me know if you wish to cancel it so that the Heritage people may be spared the inconvenience of coming here from Syracuse for no purpose.

WMT

Cc: Vice President Clifton Thorne