

Statement of Support

From: Abraham Freund

To: The DC Zoning Commission

Re: GWU 20-Year Campus Plan

When I first went to college way back in 1949, I planned to become an architect, because I have had a love affair with architecture all my life (first with Frank Lloyd Wright and lately with Frank Gehry).

I spent my first 31 years on this planet in Philadelphia and grew up in West Phila. near 60th. & Spruce Street and went to West Phila. High School at 47th & Walnut St. (where Nelson Eddy & Jeanette McDonald went) about 11 blocks from the campus of the University of Pennsylvania.

The University of Penna. was founded over 200 years ago with the help of our Founding Fathers. I believe the land area of the Univ. of Penna, is larger than G. W. U. and there is the campus fed by 4 tree streets, which are Chestnut, Walnut, Locust and Spruce streets. The campus has student dormitories, buildings for all the branches of the university and an occasional commercial store like a small drug store and food store. There are some small residential areas but no highways going thru the campus. Buses & trolley cars are near the campus but no subways or big trucks are there. It is very peaceful.

I have seen college campuses all over the U. S., including New York City, Chicago, Los Angeles but nothing as peaceful and productive as the University of Penna.

When Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson and John Adams defeated the British and started the U. S. A. and assisted in the overall design of the University of Pennsylvania campus, I think we can have an urban university plan at GWU over the next 20 years that provides balance between town and gown.

Sincerely,

Abraham Freund
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ZONING COMMISSION
CASE No. 06-12
EXHIBIT No. 158

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