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Rec'd
APR 26 2000

OUTLINE TESTIMONY OF
Emily Hotaling Eig

BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENT HEARING
APRIL 26, 2000

I. Introduction

A. Emily Eig, President and Senior Architectural Historian, EHT Traceries, Inc.

B. Role of EHT Traceries, Inc. in core team

1. EHT Traceries, Inc. served as the preservation consultants for the George Washington University 2000 Campus Plan project.

C. Our charge

1. Traceries studied the preservation aspects and past projects of the George Washington University at its Foggy Bottom campus.

2. Traceries analyzed the campus' relationship to the Foggy Bottom Historic District, the landmarks located within the campus boundary, and provided guidance on potentially significant buildings owned by GW.

3. Traceries provided guidance on the historic buildings that might be effected by any proposed work or expansion under the 2000 Campus Plan.

BZA
Case No. 16553
Exhibit No. 147

Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16553
EXHIBIT NO.147

II. George Washington University's History in Foggy Bottom Community

A. Establishment of Main Campus in Foggy Bottom in 1912

1. Rented quarters at 2023 G Street quickly replaced

2. Buildings around Square 102 were purchased over time

B. In 1922, the "Harris Plan," introduced by architect Albert Harris

1. Planned to develop Square 102 with 8 new buildings with Woodhull House (1855) serving as an anchor

2. Only two were built: Corcoran (1924) and Stockton (1925) Halls

C. From the 1930s -1950s, the campus followed a new course of action

1. Starting in 1930s, President Cloyd Heck Marvin (1927-59) began constructing buildings without consideration of the Harris Plan :.
5 new buildings in the 1930s::
Bell Hall (1935), Strong Hall (1934), Stuart Hall (1936), Hall of Government (1938), and Lisner Library (1939)

2. Lisner Auditorium (1940) and the Hospital Complex off of Washington Circle (begun ca.1940-46)

3. In 1948, President Marvin developed a comprehensive Master Plan with the assistance of his Vice President General U.S. Grant III (then Chairman of the National Capital Planning Commission) and the famed landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr.:
- Monroe Hall in 1951 and
- Tompkins Hall in 1956

D. Since the 1960s, the George Washington University has strengthened its position in the Foggy Bottom neighborhood and has solidified its interests within the campus boundaries. The end of the Marvin Administration brought to a conclusion a significant period in the history of GW. A number of presidents served the university during the early half of the 1960s.

1. The expansion of GW continued into the 1960s and 1970s. During this time, a number of apartment buildings on the GW campus were purchased and remodeled for dormitories. A number of sites were purchased for construction of new dormitories as well. This practice continues today. The growth of the student population necessitated this move by GW.

- Mitchell Hall, dormitory at 19th Street, (1927)
- Dolly Madison Hall, dormitory at 22nd and H Streets (1926), and
- Thurston Hall, dormitory at 19th and F Streets (1964),
- Riverside Towers, dormitory at Virginia Ave & 22nd Street (1965).

2. Dr. Lloyd Hartman Elliott served as president from 1965-1988. The building campaign and expansion continued under his presidency. Dr. Elliott oversaw the development of income-producing properties along the campus' edge (such at 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, home of the World Bank (1982)).
    - Jacob Burns Law Library (1967),
    - Joseph Henry Building at Pennsylvania Avenue and 21st Street (1967-8),
    - University Center at 21st, H and Eye Streets (1970);
    - Gelman Library (1973),
    - Charles E. Smith Center (1975),
    - Academic Center (1982),
    - National Law Center (1983) and
    - 200 Pennsylvania Avenue, (Red Lion Row 1983).

3. Stephen J. Trachtenberg took over as President of GW in 1988 and has continued on an aggressive campaign to strengthen and enlarge the GW community. A number of new projects have been implemented during his tenure, including

    - Health and Wellness Center,
    - Hospital Complex for women's health and
    - the continued purchasing of existing buildings in the Foggy Bottom area for conversion to dormitories.

II. Importance of Existing Historic Structures to Campus Identity

A. Landmark structures foster sense of continuity

1. Lenthall Houses (ca.1800), President's Offices (1892), Woodhull House (1855), Alumni House (1853-57), Underwood House-2000 G Street (ca. 1870), Lisner Auditorium (1940), Alexander Ray House-1925 F Street (ca.1850), Strong Hall (1934), Stockton (1925) and Corcoran Halls (1924)

2. The George Washington University recognizes the architectural and historical significance of a number of buildings on its campus. They are dedicated to preservation and creating a balance between the historic resources and the need for growth and expansion.

III. ~~Past~~ Recent and Present Preservation Efforts -- Enriching Community

A. ~~Past~~ Recent Preservation Efforts

1. A complete exterior restoration has recently been completed on the Woodhull House. This included masonry cleaning, window repair, and painting.

2. The Second Empire-styled Underwood House, designated as both a District of Columbia Landmark and a National Historic Landmark, has had entrance and ADA improvements. The front stoop at the G Street entrance has been replaced with a replica and an ADA-approved ramp has been installed on the 20th Street entrance.

3. Strong Hall, constructed in 1934 and located at 620 21st Street, has undergone exterior improvements resulting in the rebuilding of the exterior terrace.

4. Stockton and Corcoran Halls have been preserved through continued maintenance, including exterior door replacement.

B. Present Preservation Efforts

1. The President's House, located at 20th and G Streets, is part of a new plan to expand the Law School at George Washington University. The project is currently in the planning stages and GW's commitment to preservation ensures that the President's House will continue to be an important landmark on campus.

2. Renovation of existing apartment buildings (2109 F Street and 2124 Eye Street) into student housing

3. Commitment to maintain landmark structures and historic character through careful renovations.

IV. Campus Plan and Development Sites

A.. Commitment to historic preservation and appropriate stewardship of historic resources on campus

B. Commitment to the evaluation of significance of buildings on a case-by-case basis:

C. **GW's planning principles give special consideration to buildings of architectural or historic significance through renovation and preservation efforts.**

In conclusion, the George Washington University's commitment to historic preservation and appropriate stewardship of its historic resources have been renewed in the past 15 years and it is with this commitment that the Master Plan is presented.