RESOLUTION

concerning

THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY FOR
SOUTHERN CONNECTICUT STATE COLLEGE

February 2, 1979

WHEREAS, The Department of Administrative Science—Bureau of Public Works has informed the Board of Trustees of an opportunity to acquire land adjacent to the Southern Connecticut State College campus, which property would accommodate the increasing needs of the college for expanded sports and parking facilities, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State Colleges affirms the desirability of acquiring two parcels of land totaling approximately 21.94 acres and identified as Section 2 and 3 on a map furnished by the Bureau of Public Works, and be it

RESOLVED, That, should a third adjacent parcel of land, of approximately 9.7 acres and identified as Section 1, be made available, the Board of Trustees for the Connecticut State Colleges similarly affirms desirability of acquiring such property.

A Certified True Copy:

James A. Frost
Executive Director

*Technical correction - Science should read Services.
Dr. James Frost, Executive Director  
Board of Trustees for the State Colleges  
P.O. Box 2008  
New Britain, Connecticut 06050

Dear Jim:

The H. Pearce Company (realtors) have been authorized by their clients, Francis and Louis Guyott, to make a gift of 15.94 acres of land to Southern Connecticut State College provided the State purchase, or commit to purchase, an additional six acres at a cost of $30,000 per acre.

On the map provided by the realtors, the approximately 16 acres of donated land constitute Section 3, which lies almost exclusively in the town of Hamden; approximately 870 feet which make the southern border of that parcel of land are adjacent to Southern's land in back of the Moore Field House, land that is used as practice and athletic fields for intramural and varsity athletics.

The six acres that are offered for sale presumably constitute Section 2 of the map provided by the realtors. This section lies due east of Section 3 and is entirely in Hamden. In addition to being bounded by Section 3, Section 2 is bounded on the north by an almost vertical cliff, on the east by Section 1, and on the south by property owned by the Farnham estate.

Only Section 1 fronts on a public highway. Sections 2 and 3 are bounded by a steep cliff on the north, by Southern Connecticut State College and by property owned by the Farnham estate, thus having no direct access to a public highway. This is not to say, however, that a right of way could not be purchased for Sections 2 and 3 from either the owners of Section 1 or from the Farnham estate. Indeed, the remains of an old road can still be seen leaving the southwestern corner of Section 3 and continuing through Farnham-estate property to Wintergreen Avenue.
Although no engineering studies of Sections 2 and 3 have been made, the property has been carefully examined by two of our staff with experience in construction and by Mr. Deegan of Western Connecticut State College. Most of Section 2 is level and can be used for a variety of functions. With respect to Section 3, an estimated six acres are level and can be put to use with relatively little work. The balance includes a hilly section, much of which might be leveled and used for fill, particularly to fill the quarry, which at present is a pond and could constitute a safety hazard.

The question can be asked whether Southern has a pressing need for part or all of this land. At present we have been using Bowen Field, a New Haven-owned athletic facility, for intercollegiate football and track and field; until recently we also used Bowen Field for varsity baseball games. Public schools have priority use of Bowen Field; indeed, not too long ago, a varsity football game was bumped with only about forty-eight hours' notice. Since varsity events are often scheduled three to four years in advance, we find it increasingly difficult to arrange with the city of New Haven for our intercollegiate athletic contests. For that reason, we now use a less satisfactory field at Southern for baseball.

More recently, the advent of Title IX has meant an increase in high school athletics for girls, thus placing additional pressure on the priority use of Bowen Field by the public schools. We anticipate, therefore, that the time will come in the not too distant future when it will be difficult if not impossible to schedule any of our athletic contests at Bowen Field. The master plan for Southern, adopted in 1971, recognized our need for additional space for intramural and varsity athletics by proposing the acquisition of Farnham-estate property further north off Wintergreen Avenue, and funds have been appropriated for this purpose.

Sections 2 and 3 provide adequate land for needed athletic and practice fields and for associated parking lots for the foreseeable future. Being adjacent to Southern's existing athletics facilities, including the Moore Field House, this land is much more convenient to use than the property projected for that purpose in the master plan. Mr. Deegan and our staff who have examined the property agree that it would be highly desirable for Southern to acquire as much of Sections 2 and 3 as is feasible. None of us, however, is familiar with real estate values and thus no comment can be made at this time about the proposed cost of the six acres of Section 2.

With reference to football, our Board of Athletic Control approached me a couple of months ago about the idea of trying to raise funds from alumni to construct a football field with artificial turf (at $75 per square yard, installed). Such a field would be usable for football, lacrosse (a club sport), soccer and
women’s field hockey, thus making it a facility usable during three of the four seasons of the year. I encouraged them to continue to explore that idea even though at the time we doubted that such a facility could be constructed on land presently owned by Southern. The acquisition of Section 3 with or without Section 2 would make this a possible project.

I recommend that the Board of Trustees for the State Colleges take such steps as are necessary to encourage the State to negotiate with the owners of Sections 2 and 3 for the possible acquisition of that land.

Sincerely,

Manson Van B. Jennings
President

MVanBJ/ad
January 23, 1979

Mr. Brendan Kennedy
Board of Trustees for Connecticut State Colleges
Post Office Box #2008
New Britain, Connecticut 06050

Dear Brendan:

For your information, I have enclosed a copy of a letter we have sent to the State Department of Administrative Services concerning land adjacent to Southern Connecticut State College.

Sincerely,

H. PEARCE COMPANY

Raymond W. Hartman, CRA

/bs

Enclosure

RECEIVED

JAN 24, 1979

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FOR THE STATE COLLEGES
January 22, 1979

State of Connecticut
Department of Administrative Services
State Office Building
Hartford, Connecticut 06115

ATTENTION: Mr. Milt Case

Dear Mr. Case:

Herb Pearce and I want to thank you, and Jim Everett, for the time and courtesy you gave us in our meeting of January 19.

This letter will confirm the substance of that meeting.

Our clients, Francis and Louis Guyott, have authorized us to make the following offer to the State of Connecticut:

A gift of approximately 16 acres adjacent to the athletic facilities of Southern Connecticut State College would be made, by the Guyotts. This offer is subject to two conditions:

A. That the State purchase, or commit to purchase, an additional 6 acres at the price of $180,000; and,

B. That the gift, and sale agreement, be consummated within sixty (60) days.

The 16-acre parcel is identified as Section #3, and the 6-acre parcel as Section #2, on the attached map.

We understand from our conversation, that while the Board of Trustees for State Colleges has expressed some interest in the land in question, the Department of Administrative Services cannot investigate this proposal without a formal request from the Board of Higher Education.
Furthermore, any action taken by your Bureau would involve:

A. A mandatory 60-day period for public invitations to bid.

B. Appraisal of the property.

C. Possible required action by the Bonding Commission.

We will be discussing this matter with the owner and members of State agencies concerned.

Once again, thank you for your help.

Sincerely,
H. PEARCE COMPANY

Raymond W. Hartman, CRA

/bs
Mr. Robert E. McCulloch  
Director  
Administrative Services - Public Works  
State Office Building  
Hartford, CT  06115

Attention: C. Thomas Foley, Deputy Commissioner

Dear Mr. McCulloch:

I am in receipt of your letter dated December 22, 1978, which advises our office of the possibility of acquiring 31.64 acres of land which is adjacent to the campus of Southern Connecticut State College. After a review of the property by myself and members of the administration at Southern Connecticut State College we feel that the purchase of this land would be of major interest to Southern Connecticut State College.

Due to the ever increasing high school demands placed upon the City of New Haven's football and track stadium, and playing fields due to Title IX requirements, it is increasingly likely that Bowen Field will no longer be made available for Southern's intercollegiate athletic events. Therefore, it will become necessary in the near future for the State to acquire land to construct appropriate facilities for Southern's intercollegiate athletic events in football, track, and field.

In light of these needs for land and athletic facilities, our staff has given careful study to the potential inherent in the land apparently now available for sale. As delineated on the map that you furnished us, the land is segmented into three parcels of which section 3 is immediately north of existing college playfields. Sections 2 and 1 then extend easterly to Pine Rock Avenue at its intersection with Arch Street.

Our analysis of these three parcels and their potential for use by Southern Connecticut State College can be summarized as follows:

First, Section 3, amounting to 15.94 acres, has only 5 to 6 acres presently usable for any purpose due to the encroachment on section 3 of a high ridge of land extending the length of all three sections and to the existence of a deep quarry filled with water. However, the third of section 3 that immediately fronts the campus appears readily usable for the expansion of playfield facilities. With the assistance of a large bulldozer it appears possible to excavate one outcropping of the ridge and to use that material to fill in the deep quarry. This land development might add another 1.5 acres of usable area. At that time, it appears enough usable space will exist to permit construction of a football field and bleacher facilities to replace Bowen Field.
Section 2, amounting to 6 acres, has perhaps 5 acres of usable area due to the encroachment of the ridge. Since this 5 acre area is relatively long and narrow, its most likely potential appears to be a parking lot.

Section 1, amounting to 9.7 acres, has perhaps 8 acres of usable space due to the encroachment of the ridge. Since it currently has two elevations, some degree of fill will be necessary. Furthermore, the lower elevation is currently occupied by rock crushing facilities which will have to be removed to make the land functional. Two possible uses of this section come to mind. First, if the technical college were to be located in New Haven, this section, together with the use of section 2 for parking facilities, might well accommodate a new technical college, particularly if the technical college were to utilize general classroom, athletic, library, and dining facilities currently available at Southern Connecticut State College. Section 1 would appear more than adequate to locate a large building including labs, faculty and administrative offices, and classroom space. In fact, it appears likely that section 1 could accommodate two to three additional buildings. Second, if the technical college is not to be located on this site, section 1 would appear to be the most likely site for a football field and related bleacher capacity to replace Bowen Field.

I would strongly recommend that the Bureau of Public Works send a surveying crew to compute precisely the present usable land area since the unusable area occupied by the ridge and the water-filled quarry would not appear to add any purchasable value to the site. In fact, the water-filled quarry creates a potential hazard to life and therefore a liability which might subtract from the value of the land. A more precise evaluation and analysis of this area would facilitate the bargaining ability of the Bureau of Public Works.

If you have any questions in relation to the above or if I can otherwise be of assistance, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Brendan J. Kennedy
Assistant to the Executive Director

cc: Dr. James A. Frost
President Jennings
Your report that the Bureau of Public Works may be willing to negotiate a purchase of land immediately adjacent to the northwest perimeter of the campus is timely. As you know, SA 281, 1969, section 2 (5)(6) appropriated $2,100,000 for the acquisition of land off Wintergreen Avenue and also appropriated $210,000 to provide additional athletic facilities on that site.

Due to increasing high school demands placed upon the City of New Haven-owned football and track stadium and playing fields due to Title IX requirements that female students be afforded athletic programs and facilities comparable to male students, it is increasingly likely that Bowen Field will no longer be available for Southern's intercollegiate athletic events. Therefore, it will shortly become necessary for the State to acquire land and to construct appropriate facilities for Southern's intercollegiate athletic events in football, track and field.

In the light of these needs for land and athletic facilities, my staff has given a careful study to the potential inherent in the land apparently now available for sale. As delineated on the map that you furnished us, the land is segmented into three parcels of which section 3 is immediately north of existing college play fields. Sections 2 and 1 then extend easterly to Pine Rock Avenue at its intersection with Arch Street. Our analysis of these three parcels and their potential for use can be summarized as follows: First, section 3, amounting to 15.94 acres, has only 5 to 6 acres presently usable for any purpose due to the encroachment on section 3 of a high ridge of land extending the length of all three sections and due to the existence of a deep quarry filled with water. However, the third of section 3 that immediately fronts the campus appears readily usable for the expansion of playfield facilities. With the existence of a large bulldozer, it appears possible to excavate one outcropping of the ridge and to use that material to fill in the deep quarry. This land development might add another 1.5 acres of usable area. At that time, perhaps enough usable area will exist to permit construction of a football field and bleacher facilities to replace our present use of Bowen Field.

Section 2, amounting to 6 acres, has perhaps 5 acres of usable area due to encroachment of the ridge. Since this 5 acre area is relatively long and narrow, its most likely potential appears to be a parking lot.

Section 1, amounting to 9.7 acres, has perhaps 8 acres of usable area due to encroachment of the ridge. Since it currently has two elevations, some degree of fill will be necessary. Furthermore, the lower elevation is currently occupied by rock crushing facilities which will necessarily have to be removed to make the land usable. Two possible uses of this section come to mind.
# Interdepartment Message

**To:** Mr. Brendan Kennedy  
**Title:** Assistant to the Executive Director  
**Date:** December 29, 1978

**From:** Board of Trustees for the State Colleges  
**Title:** President  
**Address:** P. O. Box 2008, New Britain, Conn. 06050

**Agency:**  
**Name:** Southern Connecticut State College  
**Address:** 501 Crescent Street, New Haven, Conn. 06515

**Subject:** Land Acquisition

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If the technical college were to be situated in New Haven, this section, together with the use of section 2 for parking facilities, might well accommodate a new technical college, particularly if the technical college were to rely upon the use of general classroom, athletic, library, and dining facilities currently available at Southern Connecticut State College. Section 1 would appear more than adequate to locate a large building including labs, faculty and administrative office, and some classroom space. In fact, it appears likely that section 1 could accommodate two to three spare buildings. Second, if the technical college is not to be located on this site, section 1 would appear the most likely site for a football field and related bleacher capacity to replace the Bowen Field.

I would recommend that the Bureau of Public Works send a surveying crew to compute precisely the present usable land area inasmuch as the unusable area occupied by the ridge and the water-filled quarry would not appear to add any purchasable value to the site. In fact, the water-filled quarry creates a real hazard to life and therefore a liability subtracting from the value of the land. A more precise evaluation of this nature would facilitate the bargaining ability of the Bureau of Public Works.

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**Savings Time:** If convenient, handwrite reply to sender on this same sheet.
Mr. Brendan Kennedy  
Assistant to the Executive Director  
Board of Trustees for State Colleges  
P.O. Box 2008  
New Britain, Connecticut 06050  

Dear Brendan:

The attached memorandum was actually dictated by J. Scheuerman for my signature. Let me add a couple of points of emphasis in my own words.

There are many possibilities for use of all three parcels of land and all alternatives should be thoroughly explored. The minimum would be approximately six acres of Section 3, which could be added to our present practice field to provide space for football, lacrosse (a club sport), soccer, track and field events, and baseball.

With reference to football, our Board of Athletic Control approached me more than a month ago about the idea of trying to raise funds from alumni to construct a football field with artificial turf (at $75 per square yard). I encouraged them to continue to explore that idea. Such a field would be usable for football, lacrosse, soccer and women's field hockey, making it an all-season facility. If that were to be done, there is a large area in Section 1 that might be ideal for two reasons: (1) it contains an area about as large as a football field that is perfectly flat and largely covered by concrete and quite close to Pine Rock Avenue, with plenty of parking space available; and (2) the area is sheltered by a steep cliff from prevailing fall winds, thus making it an ideal location for football and comfortable for fans in late fall.

I would suggest that a careful feasibility study be made of the entire area which can serve a multitude of purposes. But we need more expertise than we have among our employees for this purpose.

With best wishes for a fine New Year.

Sincerely,

Manson Van B. Jennings  
President
Mr. Raymond W. Hartman  
H. Pearce Company  
393 State Street  
North Haven, Connecticut 06473

Dear Mr. Hartman:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter of December 11th, together with the map of 31.64 acres which you own in Hamden adjoining the Southern Connecticut State College. The offered property is in conjunction with the Greater New Haven State Technical College requirements.

I have referred your letter, together with the map, to Deputy Commissioner Foley of our Bureau of Public Works who has the responsibility for this function. I am certain that he will give your offering every consideration.

Sincerely,

Edmund J. Mickiewicz  
Acting Commissioner

EJM/b

cc: CT Foley

bcc: C:

RECEIVED  
Dec 15 1973
December 11, 1978

Edmund J. Mickiewicz
Acting Commissioner
Department of Administrative Services
State of Connecticut
165 Capital Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut 06115

Dear Commissioner:

On numerous occasions in the past, I have had conversations with members of your staff regarding land owned by clients of ours. The property in question is adjacent to land owned by the State and occupied by Southern Connecticut State College. These conversations related to the site requirement of the Greater New Haven State Technical College.

The purpose of this letter is to explore the possibility of a wider interest in the land on the part of the State. Our clients have personal incentives to dispose of the land quickly, and are prepared to negotiate its sale to the State on very attractive terms.

The land area is 31.64 acres and fronts on Pine Rock Avenue in Hamden. For your convenience I have enclosed a reduced copy of a survey which has been marked to divide the parcel in three logical sections. Our clients will sell any part, or all of the parcel.

Please let me know when we can meet with you, or members of your staff, to discuss this matter.

Sincerely,

H. PEARCE COMPANY

Raymond W. Hartman, CRA

/SB/

enclosure
Mr. Brenden Kennedy  
Asst. to Executive Director  
Board of State Colleges  
P. O. Box 2008  
New Britain, Connecticut 06050  

Dear Mr. Kennedy:  

Transmitted herewith, is a property offer made to the Department of Administrative Services and subsequently referred to the Bureau of Public Works.  

While the realtor relates to a potential Technical College Site, please note that the south west portion of the property line adjoins State of Connecticut property now assigned to Southern Conn. State College.  

This property was not identified as a future expansion area in the April, 1971, Southern Connecticut State College 1977 Master Plan, but may be of total or partial interest at this time.  

Please advise this office if interested in a part or all of the offered properties.  

Very truly yours,  

C. Thomas Foley, Deputy Commissioner  
DAS - Bureau of Public Works  

by: Robert E. McCulloch, Director  
DAS - Bureau of Public Works  

REM/jed  
cc: Foley  
McCulloch  
J. Koiva  
J. Yacovone  
File