



Athens-Clarke Heritage Foundation, Inc.

Vision: To become the leading advocate for the importance of historic preservation to the future of the Athens community.

July 31, 2008

OFFICERS:

David Kidd
President

Jeff Bishop

Lee Smith

Hope Iglehart

Jennifer Lewis

Bill Bracewell

Mr. Danny Sniff

Associate Vice President for Facilities Planning

University of Georgia

Office of University Architects

382 E. Broad Street

Athens, GA 30602-4266

Dear Danny

TRUSTEES:

Amy Andrews

David Bell

Jane Berko

Jerry Epting

Marie Gayeski

Peggy Galis

Brigitta Hangartner

Tim Kelly

Bobbie McKeller

Marvin Nunnally

Bonnie Ramsey

Mark Reinberger

Benjamin Rivers

Marti Schimmel

Rachel Sleppy

On behalf of the Athens-Clarke Heritage Foundation Board of Trustees, thank you for taking the time to come to our July 28th meeting and present the status of the Kappa Alpha fraternity house (c.1948) on Lumpkin Street and the University's plans for that area. We regret that we have come to this issue late, too late, in fact, to potentially influence the University's decision to demolish the KA house rather than reuse it. While your office may not have heard from many in the community, I would not assume that the lack of public outcry is an indication that people do not care. I would be fairly certain that when the demolition begins, there will be many in the community who will wish that UGA had made a different decision. Add the University's decision to also demolish the Chi Phi House (c.1925), to the north of the KA House, and I think the community will begin to wonder what's next. But, as I acknowledged before, the Foundation has obviously come to this issue late so let me turn to the future.

In a letter to your office from the Georgia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) dated June 24, 2008, SHPO recommended that UGA "complete a campus preservation plan to facilitate the university's management of historic properties." They state that "they would also welcome the opportunity to review UGA's campus master plan to gain a better understanding of the university's short and long term management of historic properties." The Foundation would like to second this recommendation.

UGA is the steward of dozens of public historic properties, including the recently acquired Athens Manufacturing Company and the soon to be acquired Navy Supply Corps School. Over the past decade, the University, under the guidance of your office, has done a magnificent job of rehabilitating and restoring the campus' crown jewel, North Campus, and ACHF has given no fewer than seven preservation awards in recognition of those accomplishments. One of those awards was an Outstanding Achievement award which recognized both you and Dr. Adams for your leadership in historic preservation at

both the state and local levels. We hope that UGA will continue to set an example for others by completing a comprehensive historic preservation master plan for the campus so that the Athens community and the extended university community can understand how you plan to balance your mission with the preservation of historic buildings.

Again, thank you for your time and your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amy C. Kissane". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Amy C. Kissane
Executive Director

cc Dr. Michael Adams, President, University of Georgia
Mr. Pat Allen, UGA Director of Community Relations
Mr. Scott Messer, UGA Preservation Planner
Athens Banner-Herald