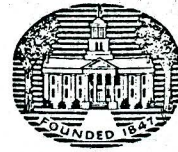


THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
IOWA CITY, IOWA 52240



Office of the President

September 15, 1971

Mr. Lyle Duncan
% The First Presbyterian Church
26 East Market
Iowa City, Iowa 52240

Dear Mr. Duncan:

You have approached The University of Iowa on behalf of the First Presbyterian Church of Iowa City to ascertain whether the University desires to acquire the site of the Church. Our response is as follows:

1) From the University's standpoint, we would prefer to have the First Presbyterian Church remain on its present location because we feel that the use of that location as a Church has proved through the years to be highly compatible with the University.

2) If the First Presbyterian Church should decide that it does not wish to continue on the present site, then we would urge the Church to sell to another congregation which would utilize the Church.

3) If neither of the foregoing alternatives is pursued, we would hope that the First Presbyterian Church would sell the Church to any organization dedicated to the preservation of historical landmarks.

4) If none of the foregoing alternatives are pursued by the Church, then the University reluctantly must face the question of whether it can stand aside if this site is to be utilized for some purpose other than a Church or historical landmark. In this connection the University would confront four problems.

a. Purchase price: On the basis of preliminary appraisals secured by the University pursuant to State law, the University would not be able to approach your list price of \$215,000.

b. Marketability of title: Question has been raised as to the ability of the First Presbyterian Church to give marketable title to the property.

c. Land use: The University would not be in a position to maintain the Church sanctuary as an historical monument because it would be a questionable policy for the Board of Regents to use State funds to acquire and preserve a local historical landmark.

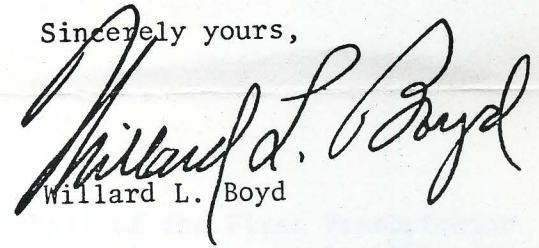
d. Shortage of funds: The shortage of capital and operating funds with which the University is presently confronted makes it impossible for the University

Mr. Lyle Duncan
September 15, 1971
Page -2-

to restore the building. As you know, we are in the process of mothballing structures because of inadequate funds to remodel and operate during the next biennium. An attempt is already proceeding to secure funds to restore the Old Capitol, a structure of great State-wide significance.

We would sincerely appreciate it if you would transmit this letter to the congregation of the First Presbyterian Church, so that every member can be apprised of the attitude of The University of Iowa with respect to this site.

Sincerely yours,


Willard L. Boyd

WLB:sdk