

Winston-Salem, N.C., June 6, 1919

To: the Honorable Mayor
City of Winston-Salem

Dear Sir:

Having been advised that the city has failed in securing a price on the Hanes property in West End, I have been looking around for another location. There is a beautiful site just east of the City Hospital, between Third and Fifth streets, sufficiently large to meet all requirements. This property presents every advantage as to beauty and adaptability and, in these respects, is not to be compared to the property now in consideration. While I am not presuming to interfere with the selection of a site by the School Board, I have been advised by a number of prominent citizens that the property first mentioned by me as being suitable would make an ideal location for being exactly the same distance from North Winston and Salem as the High School from the standpoint of beauty, convenience, etc. to the West End site. Having been assured of the city's determination to improve the present undesirable approach to this section in order to meet the requirements of the large new hospital plant, that present condition presents no difficulty in the matter of school location. The advantage in economic, administration and upkeep in having the two large plants of the city, the Hospital and the High School, in close proximity is self-evident. The property is owned by the estate of R.J. Reynolds, and I feel that it could be purchased at a reasonable price for the proposed purpose.

Duly appreciating the fact that the City desires to build an extensive high school plant and public playground and to dedicate it as a memorial to Mr. Reynolds, I will, in consideration of that honor to his memory, donate for that purpose, if the site mentioned by me be chosen, \$50,000, with the understanding that any portion of it not used to purchase the land shall be expended in improving the grounds.

I do not wish to influence the Board in the selection of a site and I do not withdraw the offer of \$50,000 previously made towards the purchase of the West End site and landscape work thereon, but if a part of my husband's farm which he loved so well be selected, I will also erect a beautiful auditorium with a seating capacity of several thousand to form a central building of the group as a personal memorial.

Very sincerely yours,
Katharine Reynolds

This proposition open until August, 1919.