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RECEIVED
BUFFALO STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
SEP 21 REC'D

September 18, 1979

MEMO TO: Mr. Robert Broomfield, Director
Physical Plant

FROM: Dr. George M. Laug, Professor *G. L.*
Department of Biology

SUBJECT: Planting or removal of woody plants on campus

In 1970 Dr. E.K. Fretwell assigned me to determine the species of woody plants (trees and shrubs) to be planted on our campus or their removal. This related to my expertise in this area of study. Up to this time many trees and shrubs had been planted at tax payers expense which died due to their inappropriateness for the Buffalo area, or even specific areas of the campus. Many thousands of dollars were lost.

I was appointed as the Director of the Maude Gordon Holmes Arboretum centered on the campus (now the Metropolitan Arboretum of Buffalo). Until recently we had increased our inventory of woody plants to over 400 species. These plants are an extremely valuable tool for a number of classes in the Biology Department. They also serve to educate the community as to species which will survive in the Buffalo area. Many of these plants have been paid for from arboretum funds and some donated and purchased by certain faculty members. Often these trees were not properly watered for the first few years after planting.

There has been considerable removal of this valuable material. I have already conferred with you regarding this problem. Most of the removed specimens should be replaced with the same species. I have already conveyed this information to you concerning removed trees east of the science building. I trust my advice will be followed. Also two valuable dwarf flowering crab apples have been removed from the sides of the arboretum boulder in front of Rockwell Hall. They were expensive specimens and should be replaced by those that cut them down.

The campus should be beautiful, but also serve as an educational function and as a liaison with the community. Certain kinds of plantings will either not survive or have limited or no educational value. You indicate that you will get lists of proposed plantings to me for my examination, but the plantings must be tied into the particular site. The campus soil conditions vary considerably from place to place.

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I might add that I have seen a number of "volunteer" trees cut down (those coming in from natural succession). This is very unwise as we know these trees will survive on the site or they would not be there. The removed trees should quickly be replaced on the campus in order to restore the campus as an educational resource.

A copy of this letter is being sent to Dr. Edna Lindemann. She is a member of the Arboretum Board of Directors.

Respectfully submitted,

George M. Laug
Professor of Biology

GML:pcc

cc: President Johnstone
Dr. Licata
Dr. Edna Lindemann ✓