

Bennington College
March 15, 1966

To Edward J. Bloustein

from Bill Sherman

re: New Faculty Housing

A. Design preference --

1. Depends on site
 - a. if near existing buildings it should resemble them--natural choice would be for Hodgson House.
 - b. on sloping site, slightly removed from existing buildings the Techbuilts could also work.
2. Techbuilt offers more flexible floor planning and more flexible use of any given floor plan.

Hodgson offers, in some versions, more rooms but they are less flexible and would tend to control interior decoration.

3. Hodgson usually includes garage space.
- 4. Neither include basement or attic and both have minimal storage.

(3 & 4 are important for faculty with children where bikes, sleds, doll carriages and other toys clutter either the yard or are inconvenient to interior storage. Storm windows, lawn mowers, gardening tools cause similar problems.)
- 5. Heating cost may be higher in Techbuilt.
6. Style of Techbuilt is better than Hodgson especially in interior.

Conclusion:

Predominance of sites that would lead towards Hodgson as preference.

B. Sites --

1. Economically, because of taxes and nearness to sewer facilities, the orchard area offers good possibilities.
 - a. one house (maybe two, although I wouldn't recommend it) to the north of Rosen house where storage sheds are now located. Leave old barn but remove sheds and landscape. (Sheds ought to go near maintenance building or near Ludlow sheds or near Rockwell house we just bought).
 - b. one house in apple orchard behind Peggy Smith's house and facing space between Malamud & Schonbeck. There is a break in the trees presently there.

B. Sites con't

Both A and B should be Hodgson type houses.

- c. one house off the lower road, behind Jennings and any possible Jennings expansion and screened by trees. This could be a Techbuilt house.
- 2. The area north of the Scott house might also be developed. The houses would run along the road (College drive?) with their backs to that road. Garage and barbage service would be from that road as well as giving them snow removal. The houses should face in towards the field and the Scott house and all should be included on a circular road. Sewerage might be connected with the town (Prospect Nursing Home). These houses might be Hodgson or less preferably Techbuilt. The area would need landscaping. This would make a third balancing on campus housing group. It would have the advantages of being on campus and off. Higher taxes (I personally like this area).
- 3. Rowe house area: the problem here would be hitting rocky ledge as far as facilities are concerned. Borings necessary.
 - a. 3 houses might be planned on a curve above the brook surrounding this property. The site is well suited to Techbuilt construction.
- 4. Ludlow property east of Stroud house.
 - a. 3 houses might be built here although the same ledge condition may exist as at Rowe site. Houses could be either Hodgson or Techbuilt.

Conclusion:

My first preference is the area near the Scott house.
The major preference is for adding to the orchard area.