

FILES NOS. 72682 & 71313

January 10, 1941

Honorable Howard W. Jackson  
Mayor of Baltimore  
City Hall  
Baltimore, Maryland

Dear Mr. Mayor:

We have the privilege of submitting herewith the report and recommendation of the committee which Your Honor appointed on December 9, 1940, to consider the proper use to be made of that part of Venable Park lying west of the Eastern High School. This tract of land lies south of 33rd Street and east of Ellerslie Avenue and is described in Pending Ordinance No. 417. The following statements and conclusions represent the opinion of a majority of the committee.

During the course of its deliberations this committee has held several public hearings and has had the benefit of the views of numerous individuals and groups, including parent-teacher associations, business and professional groups, neighborhood associations, the Junior Association of Commerce, the Superintendent of Public Schools, the Department of Recreation, the Board of School Commissioners and the Park Board.

The proposed Girls' Vocational School is to be an advanced school and will draw its student body from all sections of the city. This committee is in full accord with the desires of the School Board to construct and maintain an advanced vocational school for girls and believes that such a school should be located so as to be reasonably accessible to all, due consideration, of course, being given to the trend of population and to transportation facilities. We are not unmindful of certain advantages which might accrue to the school system if the proposed Girls' Vocational School is erected on the site in question.

The area in question comprises approximately eight acres, and although it is not as large as many of our parks, nevertheless it is a sizable tract of land and is susceptible of development for park and recreational purposes. A large number of people live to the north, west and south of it. In these sections there are very few facilities for public recreation and there is no other available site in the immediate vicinity. There are vacant areas to the east of Venable Park but, in the