

December 10, 1940

Mr. Ira A. Schur
The Institute for Advanced Study
125 Park Avenue
New York City

Dear Mr. Schur:

I send you herewith Borough of Princeton
tax bills for the first and second quarters of
1941 on the property of Professor John von Neumann,
26 Westcott Road, Princeton, New Jersey.

153.90	
153.90	
<hr/>	
307.80	total

Sincerely yours,

ESB

Sent by registered mail

*Housing
von Neumann*

March 6, 1940

Mr. Ira A. Schur
The Institute for Advanced Study
125 Park Avenue
New York City

My dear Mr. Schur:

I am very happy to send to you herewith
the life insurance policy of Professor John von Neumann
and the assignment of the policy to the Institute for
Advanced Study - Home Life Insurance Company, Policy No.
448,180, amount \$13,500.00.

Very truly yours,

ESTHER S. BARLEY

ESB

Secretary

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

MR. LOUIS BAMBERGER AND MRS. FELIX FULD FOUNDATION

OFFICE OF THE TREASURER

125 PARK AVENUE

NEW YORK, N. Y.

TREASURER

SAMUEL D. LEIDESDORF

ASSISTANT TREASURER

IRA A. SCHUR

March 7, 1940

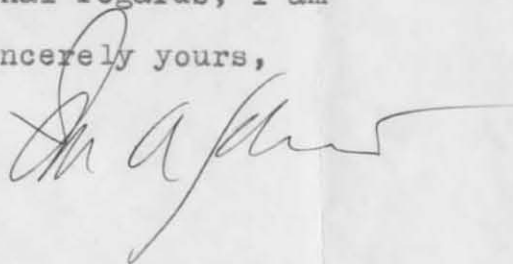
Mrs. Esther S. Bailey
Institute for Advanced Study
Princeton, N. J.

My dear Mrs. Bailey:

It affords me great pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your letter of March 6th and Professor von Neumann's life insurance policy. The absence of this policy from our files caused us a great deal of anxiety during the past year.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



Housing

September 14, 1939

Mr. Ira A. Schur
125 Park Avenue
New York City

My dear Mr. Schur:

Thank you for the copy of your letter
of September 12 to Professor von Neumann. I note
your request for the real estate tax bill, and am
sending it to you herewith.

I was sorry to have missed you when I was
in New York on Tuesday and regret that you had such
difficulty in reaching me over the telephone.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

ESTHER S. BARLEY

ESB-MGH

P. S. Thank you also for sending so promptly the
check for petty cash.

Aug. 2, 1945

TO
Professor von Neumann

Re: MORTGAGE

From B. A. Miller

Per Mr. Schnell from Treasurer's Office:

<u>Original</u> mortgage of May 1, 1939	\$26,528.68
---	-------------

Mortgage as of July 31, 1945	\$20,467.87
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original given Prof. von Neumann —

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

MR. LOUIS BAMBERGER AND MRS. FELIX FULD FOUNDATION

OFFICE OF THE TREASURER

125 PARK AVENUE

NEW YORK, N. Y.

TREASURER

SAMUEL D. LEIDESDORF

ASSISTANT TREASURER

IRA A. SCHUR

September 12, 1939

Professor John von Neumann
The Institute for Advanced Study
20 Nassau Street
Princeton, N. J.

My dear Professor von Neumann:

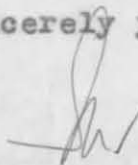
In answer to yours of August 19th, I am enclosing a statement of advances made for your account by the "Institute" totaling \$26,328.26.

In your summary you mention an item for M. Beck, architect, for \$220.00. We have not received a bill for this to date. If you have paid this bill, please advise.

If you have received the real estate tax bill, will you please send it to me, as we will need it to pay the last quarter of the 1939 tax.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



Professor John von Neumann
In Account With
The Institute for Advanced Study

Advances Made to September 12, 1939:

May 4, 1937	Evans, Moore & Woodbridge	\$502.68	✓
June 3, 1937	Evans, Moore & Woodbridge	1,000.00	✓
Jan. 8, 1938	Charles S. Sincerbeau	26.00	✓
Mar. 2, 1939	Cash	2,000.00	✓
Apr. 28, 1929	Cash	18,500.00	?
June 13, 1939	S. H. Stillwell, Inc.	1,571.47	✓
July 31, 1939	S. H. Stillwell, Inc.	2,455.30	✓
Aug. 31, 1939	S. H. Stillwell, Inc.	<u>272.81</u>	?
Total Advances		<u>\$26,328.26</u>	

Index

Insurance Account Book - 1914-3 - last Sept 30/39

Housing?

September 9, 1939

Mr. Ira A. Schur
The Institute for Advanced Study
125 Park Avenue
New York City

My dear Mr. Schur:

I send you herewith premium
notice, \$191.43 due September 30, 1939, on
Policy #448160 of Professor John von Neumann.

I have received this morning
from Mr. Vandewater the papers in connection
with the property of Professor and Mrs. John A.
Wheeler and shall deliver them to you early next
week when I shall be in New York rather than send
them to you by mail, if you approve.

With all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY

ESB

August 26, 1939

Dear Johnnie:

Your letter of August 19, enclosing bill for the final payment due for work on your house, has been forwarded to me here. I have sent it to our Treasurer with a letter, a copy of which I enclose.

I am sorry that you are in Princeton during the hot weather. We have had no heat at all here at the lake, and, indeed the summer has on the whole been cooler than usual.

We are coming down to New York early in September, and I shall stop in Toronto in the hope of arranging your brother's affairs.

With all good wishes, in which Mrs. Flexner joins,

Ever sincerely,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor John von Neumann
Peacock Inn
20 Bayard Lane
Princeton, New Jersey

AF/MCE

August 26, 1939

Dear Mr. Leidesdorf:

I am sending you herewith a letter from Professor von Neumann, enclosing the final bill for work on his house on Westcott Road. I do not have here the figures on the various bills submitted, so that I do not know whether the figures he gives are correct, but you will have them.

Will you please send to him, to Fine Hall, Princeton, New Jersey, the exact figures and a check for the amount to which he is entitled towards the payment of this bill? If there is a difference, as he thinks there is, he could then add his personal check for that amount, or, if you prefer to pay the bill in full, Professor von Neumann will, as he says, send you his personal check for the amount called for over and above his loan. It is apparently immaterial to him in which way the final settlement is made.

With all good wishes to you and your family,

Sincerely yours,

Mr. S. D. Leidesdorf
125 Park Avenue
New York City

AF/MCE

PEACOCK INN
20 Bayard Lane
Princeton, New Jersey

August 19, 1939

Institute for Advanced Study
20 Nassau Street
Princeton

I am including the contractors final bill for my house at
26 Westcott Road.

If I remember correctly, the amount of this bill - \$277.81 -
is about equal to the unused balance of the loan the Institute made to
me. I think that the figures are about these: Total loan: about
\$26,560. Of this for previous payments: about \$1,560. Balance \$25,000.
Of this in connection with the purchase of the house at 26 Westcott Road
and various smaller expenses: \$2,000 and \$18,500. Paid to contractor
(S. H. Stillwell, Inc.) to date: about \$4,030. Paid to architect
(M. Beck): about \$220. Total of these four items \$24,770. Final balance:
about \$230.00. This bill: \$272.81.

If there is a small excess (it seems to me that there is one)
please charge the difference to me, and I will send you a check for it
immediately. You would also oblige me by a precise statement of the
payments made.

I am sincerely yours,

John von Neumann

MARTIN L. BECK, Architect
Princeton, New Jersey

Certificate No. 3

To Prof. and Mrs. John von Neumann, Princeton, New Jersey, Owner
THIS IS TO CERTIFY, that S. H. Stillwell, Inc., contractors and builders,
22 Edgehill Street, Princeton, N. J., are entitled to Two Hundred Seventy-two
and 81/100 Dollars (\$272.81), being the final payment on contract dated
May 12th, 1939, for renovation, alterations, and additions to residence
on Westcott Road, Princeton, N. J.

Contract	\$4,287.90
Additions \$212.36	
Deductions 200.58	4,299.68
Amt. previously certified	
\$4026.87	
Amt. certified today <u>272.81</u>	4,299.68

Approved:

MARTIN L. BECK
Architect

August 10, 1939

Approved: John von Neumann

Housing

July 18, 1939

Mr. Samuel D. Leidesdorf
125 Park Avenue
New York City

My dear Mr. Leidesdorf:

I am sending you herewith statement
of S. H. Stillwell, Inc., 22 Edgehill Street,
Princeton, New Jersey, for \$2728.11 for renova-
tions to residence of Professor and Mrs. John
von Neumann for labor and material from June 2 to
July 5, 1939, for payment by the Institute.

Very truly yours,

ESTHER S. BARLEY

Secretary

COPY

Princeton, N. J.

July 6, 1939

Prof. and Mrs. John von Neumann

To S. H. STILLWELL, INC.

22 Edgehill Street

1939

Renovations to residence No. 26 Westcott Road
Labor and material from June 2, to July 5, 1939.

Plumbing and Heating	518.37
Mason work	94.79
Mill Work	93.94
Painting	857.00
Electric Work	71.00
Building Permit	4.00
Tiling Work	128.00
Plate Glass	15.00
Weather Stripping	88.60
Linoleum	124.00
Copper Screen Wire and Tacks	5.82
Tin For Roof Repairs	1.75
Lumber	40.28
Building Paper	1.60
Nails	1.12
Hardware	32.03
Trucking	3.00
Carpenter Labor	364.80
Screens and Screen Door	35.00
	<u>\$2480.10</u>
10 per cent of above cost	<u>248.01</u>
	\$2728.11

June 3, Amount Statement Rendered	\$1571.47
Cash Cr.	\$1571.47

O.K. M.L.Beck, July 8, 1939

Retain \$272.81 (10% of final requisition)
which will be payable on or before the 8th day
of Aug. 1939.

APPROVED FOR PAYMENT
Abraham Flexner
John von Neumann

Housing

July 18, 1939

Mr. Samuel D. Leidesdorf
125 Park Avenue
New York City

My dear Mr. Leidesdorf:

I am sending you herewith bills in
connection with the residence of Professor John
von Neumann, for payment by the Institute, as follow

S. H. Stillwell, Inc. \$2,728.11
22 Edgehill Street
Princeton, New Jersey
for renovations to residence
labor and material
June 2 - July 5, 1939

Martin L. Beck 272.81
Princeton, New Jersey
10% of final requisition
payable on or before August 8, 1939

Very truly yours,

ESTHER S. SANLEY

Secretary

ESB

June 27, 1959

Professor John von Neumann
Nassau Tavern
Princeton, New Jersey

My dear Professor von Neumann:

Will you please send to

Mr. Ira A. Schur, The Institute for Advanced Study,
125 Park Avenue, New York City, your life insurance
policy to be filed with the other documents in the
possession of the Institute? If it is not con-
venient for you to attend to this, I shall be glad
to do so if you will bring in the policy.

With much appreciation, I am

Sincerely yours,

ESB

ESTHER S. BAILEY

June 20, 1939

Mr. Ira A. Schur
The Institute for Advanced Study
125 Park Avenue
New York City

Dear Mr. Schur:

Thank you for your letter of the nineteenth acknowledging receipt of the documents in connection with the mortgage of Professor von Neumann and the Institute. I was sorry not to have seen you when I called on Saturday.

Professor von Neumann has asked me to send to you the enclosed tax notice, and he told me that deductions were to be made from his salary, beginning July, 1939. He wishes to know on what basis the monthly deductions are to be made. He will be glad to make the computation himself if he knows the basis.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY

ESB

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

MR. LOUIS BAMBERGER AND MRS. FELIX FULD FOUNDATION

OFFICE OF THE TREASURER

125 PARK AVENUE

NEW YORK, N. Y.

TREASURER

SAMUEL D. LEIDESDORF

ASSISTANT TREASURER

IRA A. SCHUR

June 19, 1939

Mrs. Esther S. Bailey,
The Institute for Advanced Study,
20 Nassau Street,
Princeton, N. J.

Dear Mrs. Bailey:

I hereby acknowledge receipt of the following papers in connection with the mortgage of Professor John von Neumann and the Institute:

1. Bond - John von Neumann and Klara Dan von Neumann, his wife, to Institute for Advanced Study - Louis Bamberger and Mrs. Felix Fuld Foundation.
2. Mortgage - John von Neumann and Klara Dan von Neumann, his wife, to Institute for Advanced Study - Louis Bamberger and Mrs. Felix Fuld Foundation dated May 1st, 1939 and recorded in the Mercer County Clerk's Office in Book 604 of Mortgages, pages 529, etc.
3. Agreement between John von Neumann and Klara Dan von Neumann, his wife, and the Institute for Advanced Study - Louis Bamberger and Mrs. Felix Fuld Foundation dated May 1st, 1939.
4. The Continental Insurance Company Policy #2825 in the sum of \$13,000.00 on dwelling and garage of Dr. John von Neumann which expires May 1st, 1942.
5. United States Fire Insurance Company N. J. No. 80898 in the sum of \$13,600.00 on dwelling of Dr. John von Neumann which expires May 1st, 1942.
6. Search for Municipal Liens #921.
7. United States District Court Search against Sarah B. Stockton, Ex., et als dated March 23rd, 1939.
8. United States District Court Search against The First National Bank of Princeton, New Jersey, et al dated May 15th, 1939.
9. Real Estate Title Company Search #114,649 against The First National Bank of Princeton, New Jersey dated March 23rd, 1939.

Mrs. Esther S. Bailey

-2-

June 19, 1939

10. Real Estate Title Company Search #115,107 against John von Neumann dated May 17th, 1939.
11. Cancelled Mortgage - Harold M. Manser and Gay Powers Manser, his wife, to First National Bank of Princeton dated November 7th, 1935 and recorded in the Mercer County Clerk's Office in Book 574 of Mortgages, pages 553, etc.

Sincerely yours,

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY


Assistant Treasurer

June 17, 1939

Mr. Ira A. Schur
The Institute for Advanced Study
125 Park Avenue
New York City

My dear Mr. Schur:

I am sending to you herewith the
documents in connection with the mortgage of
Professor John von Neumann and the covering letter
of Mr. Vandewater.

Sincerely yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY

ESB

ASSOCIATES
—
W. DOUGLAS SMITH
EDGAR S. SMITH

LAW OFFICES
WM. C. VANDEWATER
FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
PRINCETON, N. J.

TELEPHONE
—
PRINCETON 1331

June 12th, 1939.

Dr. Abraham Flexner,
20 Nassau Street,
Princeton, New Jersey.

My dear Dr. Flexner: Re: Institute for Advanced Study -
John von Neumann

We are returning herewith the following:

1. Bond - John von Neumann and Klara Dan von Neumann, his wife, to the Institute for Advanced Study - Louis Bamberger and Mrs. Felix Fuld Foundation dated May 1st, 1939.

2. Mortgage - John von Neumann and Klara Dan von Neumann, his wife, to the Institute for Advanced Study - Louis Bamberger and Mrs. Felix Fuld Foundation dated May 1st, 1939 and recorded in the Mercer County Clerk's Office on May 6th, 1939 in Book 604 of Mortgages, pages 529, etc.

3. Agreement between John von Neumann and Klara Dan von Neumann, his wife, and the Institute for Advanced Study - Louis Bamberger and Mrs. Felix Fuld Foundation.

Very truly yours,
WM. C. VANDEWATER
by:

W. Douglas Smith

WDS.CB
Enc.

June 10, 1939

Mr. Samuel D. Leidesdorf
125 Park Avenue
New York City

My dear Mr. Leidesdorf:

I am sending you herewith, for
payment by the Institute, bills as follows
in connection with the residence of Professor
John von Neumann:

<u>S. H. Stillwell, Inc.</u>	\$1,571.47
22 Edgemoor Street	
Princeton, New Jersey	
Renovations to residence	
Labor and material to date	

<u>Walter B. Howe, Inc.</u>	\$ 133.30
94 Nassau Street	
Princeton, New Jersey	
Continental Fire Ins.	\$67.00
United States " "	66.30
Policies	

Very truly yours,

ESTHER S. BAILEY

Secretary

ESB

June 9, 1939

Mr. Ira A. Schur
The Institute for Advanced Study
125 Park Avenue
New York City

My dear Mr. Schur:

I have your letter of the eighth
and shall send to you for safekeeping the
von Neumann papers together with covering
letter from Mr. William C. Vandewater. Mr. Vande-
water's office has asked for a few of the documents,
but he will return them to us promptly and I shall
then forward them to you.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

ESB

June 9, 1939

Mr. David C. Weston
c/o Messrs. Mess & Davidson
20 Exchange Place
New York City

Dear Mr. Weston:

Thank you for your note of
June 6 regarding the documents in connection
with the loan made by the Institute to Professor
von Neumann. I have communicated with Mr. Schur
and am sending them to him for safekeeping.

Sincerely yours,

ESB

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

MR. LOUIS DAMBERGER AND MRS. FELIX FULD FOUNDATION

OFFICE OF THE TREASURER

125 PARK AVENUE

NEW YORK, N. Y.

TREASURER

SAMUEL D. LEIDESDORF

ASSISTANT TREASURER

IRA A. SCHUR

June 8, 1939

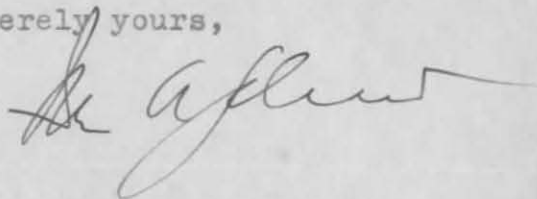
Mrs. Esther S. Bailey,
The Institute for Advanced Study,
Princeton, New Jersey.

Dear Mrs. Bailey:

I am in receipt of your letter of June 7th regarding the von Neumann papers. Inasmuch as we have all the papers in connection with the other mortgages, I feel that it might be just as well if you forwarded the von Neumann papers to us for safekeeping here.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'J. von Neumann', written in a cursive style.

June 7, 1959

My dear Mr. Schur:

We have received from Mr. William C. Vandewater of Princeton eleven documents in connection with the loan made by the Institute to Professor von Neumann - bond, mortgage, agreement, insurance policies, searches, etc. Shall I send them to you for safe keeping or place them in the safe deposit box of the Institute in Princeton?

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Ira A. Schur
Institute for Advanced Study
125 Park Avenue
New York City

ESB

June 7, 1939

My dear Professor von Neumann:

Before forwarding the enclosed bills to the Treasurer of the Institute for payment it is necessary to have your signature of approval. Will you therefore sign on the place indicated on the red stamp dotted line?

On the Walter B. Howe, Inc. bill will you please indicate after your signature the amount which is to be paid by the Institute? Am I right in understanding that the first three items will be taken care of by you personally?

Sincerely yours,

Professor John von Neumann
78 Stockton Street
Princeton, New Jersey

ESB

Maass & Davidson
Attorneys

Cable Address "Maashert"

Herbert H. Maass
Willbur C. Davidson
Monroe L. Friedman
David J. Levy

20 Exchange Place

New York, June 6, 1939.

Mrs. Esther S. Bailey,
Institute For Advanced Study,
20 Nassau Street,
Princeton, N. J.

Dear Mrs. Bailey:

Mr. Maass requested that I acknowledge receipt of your letter of June 5th, together with the enclosure, relating to the loan made by the Institute to Professor Von Neumann. I do not know but that Mr. Leidesdorf's office may want the mortgage documents in their possession, as all mortgages of the Institute are being serviced through Mr. Leidesdorf's office. I therefore suggest that you communicate with Mr. Schur and ascertain from him whether the mortgages be placed in the Institute's safe deposit box or turned over to Mr. Leidesdorf.

Yours very truly,

David C. Weston

DCW:IS

June 5, 1959

Mr. Herbert H. Maass
20 Exchange Place
New York City

My dear Mr. Maass:

I am sending you herewith a copy of
a letter which was sent to Dr. Flexner by
Mr. Vandewater enclosing the documents in con-
nection with the house purchased by Professor John
von Neumann. I shall have them put in the safe
deposit box of the Institute unless you advise me
otherwise.

Sincerely yours,

ESB

WILLIAM C. VANDEWATER

First National Bank Bldg.

Princeton, N. J.

June 1, 1939

Dr. Abraham Flexner
20 Nassau Street
Princeton, New Jersey

My dear Dr. Flexner: Re. Institute for Advanced Study - von Neumann

Enclosed herewith find the following papers:

1. Bond - John von Neumann and Klara Dan von Neumann, his wife, to Institute for Advanced Study- Louis Bamberger and Mrs. Felix Fuld Foundation.

2. Mortgage - John von Neumann and Klara Dan von Neumann, his wife, to Institute for Advanced Study - Louis Bamberger and Mrs. Felix Fuld Foundation dated May 1, 1939 and recorded in the Mercer County Clerk's Office in Book 604 of Mortgages, pages 529, etc.

3. Agreement between John von Neumann and Klara Dan von Neumann, his wife, and the Institute for Advanced Study - Louis Bamberger and Mrs. Felix Fuld Foundation dated May 1, 1939.

4. The Continental Insurance Company Policy #2825 in the sum of \$13,000.00 on dwelling and garage of Dr. John von Neumann which expires May 1, 1942.

5. United States Fire Insurance Company N. J. No. 80898 in the sum of \$13,600.00 on dwelling of Dr. John von Neumann which expires May 1, 1942.

6. Search for Municipal Liens #921.

7. United States District Court Search against Sarah B. Stockton, Ex., et als dated March 23, 1939

8. United States District Court Search against The First National Bank of Princeton, New Jersey, et al dated May 15, 1939.

9. Real Estate Title Company search #114,649 against The First National Bank of Princeton, New Jersey dated March 23, 1939.

10. Real Estate Title Company Search #115,107 against John von Neumann dated May 17, 1939.

11. Cancelled Mortgage-Harold M. Manser and Gay Powers Manser, his wife, to First National Bank of Princeton dated November 7, 1935 and recorded in the Mercer County Clerk's Office in Book 574 of Mortgages, pages 553, etc.

Very truly yours,
WM. C. VANDEWATER

(Signed) By W. Douglas Smith

May 26, 1939

Dear Klari:

In reference to the bond signed by yourself and your husband in connection with the house at 26 Westcott Road, I would like to give you the assurance of the Institute that "in case it is necessary to institute action on the bond the Institute would exhaust all remedies against your husband before proceeding against you." I would like to add my personal assurance in behalf of the Institute that you yourself will never be involved in any way.

I made this statement to Johnnie some weeks ago and have simply neglected to reassure you because I have been extremely busy with preparations for our Board Meeting and the laying of the corner stone, to say nothing of refugees.

My brother, who sat next to you the other day at the luncheon, gave me an account of you which made me extremely envious. The next time we lay a corner stone I propose to sit next to you myself, with nobody on your other side.

With all good wishes,

Ever sincerely,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Mrs. John von Neumann
78 Stockton Street
Princeton, New Jersey

AF/MCE

May 8, 1939

Mr. David C. Weston
Maass & Davidson
20 Exchange Place
New York City

Dear Mr. Weston:

I have received your letter of the fifth containing agreement (in duplicate) between Professor and Mrs. John von Neumann and the Institute for Advanced Study, which has been executed by Mr. Maass. I have attested the execution of the instruments and affixed the corporate seal of the Institute thereto, and I have delivered the documents to Mr. W. Douglas Smith of the office of Mr. Vandewater in Princeton, New Jersey.

Very truly yours,

ESB

Secretary

May 8, 1939

Mr. W. Douglas Smith
First National Bank Building
Princeton, New Jersey

My dear Mr. Smith:

I am handing to you herewith agreement
(in duplicate) between Professor and Mrs. John
von Neumann and the Institute for Advanced Study -
Louis Bamberger and Mrs. Felix Fuld Foundation,
which has been executed.

Very truly yours,

ESB

Secretary

Maass & Davidson
Attorneys

Cable Address "Maasherk"

Herbert H. Maass
Wilbur C. Davidson
Monroe L. Friedman
David J. Levy

20 Exchange Place
New York, May 5, 1939.

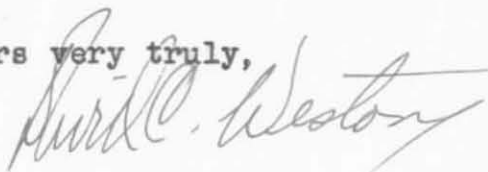
The Institute for Advanced Study,
20 Nassau Street,
Princeton, N. J.

Attention of Mrs. Bailey

Dear Mrs. Bailey:

Enclosed herewith you will find in duplicate agreement between Professor and Mrs. von Neumann and the Institute for Advanced Study, which has been executed by Mr. Maass. Will you kindly attest the execution of the instruments on page 4 thereof and affix the corporate seal of the Institute thereto. Thereupon, both copies duly executed as herein set forth should be delivered to Mr. W. Douglas Smith, of the office of William C. Vandewater, Esq., First National Bank Building, Princeton, N. J.

Yours very truly,



DCW:PT
Encls.

February 23, 1939

Dear Mr. Leidesdorf:

You will recall my speaking with you over the telephone regarding the house which Professor von Neumann wished to buy. The deal has now been closed at a purchase price of \$20,000.00. The house and lot cost about \$36,000.00, but the First National Bank here had a mortgage on it for \$20,000.00 and obtained the property for that sum at a foreclosure sale, so that Professor von Neumann has really procured a bargain. Professor von Neumann will spend several thousand dollars in addition to the purchase price, perhaps \$4,000.00 or \$5,000.00, to put the property in perfect condition, making a total of \$24,000.00 or \$25,000.00. He has to make an initial payment of \$2,000.00, the balance to be paid when the title is cleared. In the event that the title is not cleared, his payment will be returned.

I should like to have a check for \$2,000.00 made out to him - John von Neumann - so as to enable him to make his first payment as soon as possible. The remaining sum will not be needed for a month or six weeks.

Very sincerely yours,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Mr. Samuel D. Leidesdorf
125 Park Avenue
New York City

AF:ESB

Maass & Davidson
Attorneys

Cable Address "Maassherb"

Herbert H. Maass
Willur C. Davidson
Monroe L. Friedman
David J. Levy

20 Exchange Place
New York, February 21, 1939.

Dr. Abraham Flexner,
The Institute for Advanced Study,
20 Nassau Street,
Princeton, N. J.

Dear Dr. Flexner:

Confirming my telephone conversation with you of today, I wish to advise you that in recent years it has been quite customary for banking institutions upon a conveyance of real property to give only a bargain and sale deed. Under the circumstances, I see no reason why Professor von Neumann cannot accept such a deed, in view of the fact that he will be represented by counsel and his counsel will have ample opportunity to examine the title to the plot. However, if possible, a bargain and sale deed with covenant against grantor should be obtained. If such covenant cannot be obtained, a bargain and sale deed without such covenant will be sufficient.

Of course, as you know, we are not qualified to pass upon questions of New Jersey law, and we do not know for a certainty that in New Jersey there is such a thing as a bargain and sale deed with covenant against grantor. This can be answered by Professor von Neumann's attorney.

Yours very truly,

David Weinstein

DW:PT

March 9, 1939

Institute for Advanced Study--Louis
Bamberger and Mrs. Felix Fuld Foundation,
20 Nassau Street,
Princeton, N. J.

Gentlemen:

As I am about to purchase a house in the Township of Princeton, N. J. and need certain cash for the purchase price thereof, you have agreed to lend to me the sum of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000.00), which I am to use on account of said purchase price, and I acknowledge receipt of your check in that amount. I agree to repay the same to you on demand, with interest thereon from the date of the loan at the rate of four per cent (4%) per annum. It is understood and agreed that upon obtaining title to the house which I contemplate purchasing, I will deliver to you a first mortgage thereon to secure said sum of \$2,000.00 and any other sums of money which you may have loaned to me, with interest thereon at the rate of four per cent (4%) per annum from the time each additional advance is made.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) John von Neumann

April 30, 1937

Dear Professor von Neumann:

I have yours of April 28. It would seem to me that the policy should be in the hands of the Treasurer of the Institute rather than the Home Life Insurance Company. Mrs. Weyl has turned her policy over to Mrs. Bailey who will in due course turn it over to Mr. Leidesdorf.

Your supposition as respects the assignment is correct. If - God forbid - you should pass away, only that part of the insurance would go to the Institute which is required to pay off the mortgage debt. The remainder would be turned over at once to your family. No special steps are necessary, inasmuch as this is the normal course that would be followed.

The Trustees of the Institute have just as much pleasure in enabling the faculty to build homes so that they can be permanently happy as the professors themselves have.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Professor John von Neumann
65 Stockton Street
Princeton, New Jersey

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

A. F. Flexner

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS
FINE HALL
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

April 28, 1937

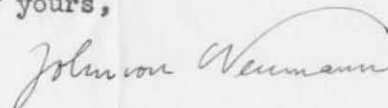
Dear Doctor Flexner:

I have received with many thanks your letter of April 24 concerning the building program. I have taken out the required life insurance, March 30, 1937, from the Home Life Insurance Company of New York, Policy No. 448,180, and on April 1 I signed an assignment of this policy to the Institute and understand that it was filed with the Company on April 7. I suppose that this is the desired arrangement.

In this connection may I ask something which I mentioned in one of our earlier conversations. I found it convenient to take out an insurance policy which in the course of years will give more coverage than is needed to secure the mortgage: more precisely, it will cover \$10,000 after twenty-five years when the mortgage has been completely paid off. I suppose that the assignment is meant to extend only to the amount which will be needed to secure the mortgage debt. Are any special steps needed in this connection?

I would not like to close my letter without expressing to you and to the Trustees of the Institute my gratitude for your interest in this matter and the quite exceptional generosity with which you have handled it.

Sincerely yours,



Dr. Abraham Flexner
P.O. Box 631
Princeton, N.J.
JvN:GB

John von Neumann

Professor von Neumann, who originally planned to build at the same time as Riefler, Meritt, and Weyl, abandoned the plan and bought a house at 26 Westcott Road.

Material pertaining to the mortgage on 26 Westcott Road ^{is} ~~are~~ filed under Professor von Neumann's name.

Housing

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY

MR. LOUIS BAMBERGER AND MRS. FELIX FULD FOUNDATION

OFFICE OF THE TREASURER

125 PARK AVENUE

NEW YORK, N. Y.

TREASURER

SAMUEL D. LEIDESDORF

ASSISTANT TREASURER

IRA A. SCHUR

November 15, 1938.

Dr. A. Flexner,
The Institute for Advanced Study,
Princeton, New Jersey.

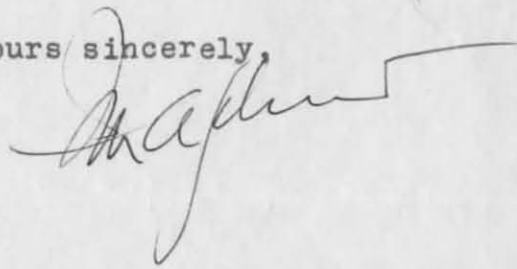
Dear Dr. Flexner:

Thank you for your letter of
November 10th, regarding Professor von Neumann. Of
course, the matter can rest until you have talked
with him. The item had been open for some time and
we had no recent information; therefore, the
inquiry.

With kindest personal regards, I

am

Yours sincerely,



Housing

March 1, 1938

Dear Professor von Neumann:

I have yours of February 23. The lot in question will be held. I do not believe that it is necessary to take any formal steps at this time. I shall notify the Chairman of the Building Committee of your desire, and I am sure that nothing further will be necessary.

With all good wishes,

Ever sincerely,

ABRAHAM FLEXNER

Professor John von Neumann
Fire Hall
Princeton, New Jersey

AF/MCE

March 1, 1938

Dear Mr. Maass:

As you will remember, Professor von Neumann had intended to build on the third of the lots facing Mercer Street. This intention he has not abandoned, and I assured him that we will hold the lot for him. I hope this meets with your approval.

Ever sincerely,

ABRAHAM FLEKNER

Mr. Herbert H. Maass
20 Exchange Place
New York City

AF/MCE

THE INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICS, FINE HALL
PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

February 28, 1938

Dear Doctor Flexner:

As you suggested, may I return to the subject of our conversation last Thursday: although I postponed my plans to build on the lot at the west corner of the Institute property on Mercer Street, I still intend to do it at a later time. For this reason I should be glad to complete all legal formalities in connection with the purchase of this lot as originally arranged between us. Will you please let me know what further steps I have to take?

Yours sincerely,



John von Neumann

Dr. Abraham Flexner
P.O.Box 631
Princeton, N.J.
JvN:GB

Housing

EVANS MOORE & WOODBRIDGE
ARCHITECTS
101 PARK AVENUE NEW YORK

ALMUS PRATT EVANS
LAWRENCE MOORE
FREDERICK J. WOODBRIDGE
SAUL EDELBAUM
LOUIS GELDERS
ROBERT SIERING

May 28, 1937

Dear Dr. Von Neumann:

The working drawings and specifications have been turned over to Messrs Schelling-Busch-Snyder, who are at present obtaining figures from various subcontractors as a basis for the contract.

It is the usual practice when working drawings and specifications are completed to bring the bill for architectural services up to $\frac{3}{5}$ of the total commission.

We are therefore enclosing our bill and, for purposes of convenience, are still using the same cost basis as on the previous bill.

Yours very truly,

Frederick J. Woodbridge

FJW:MF
Enc.

Dr. John Von Neumann
The Institute of Advanced Study
Princeton, New Jersey