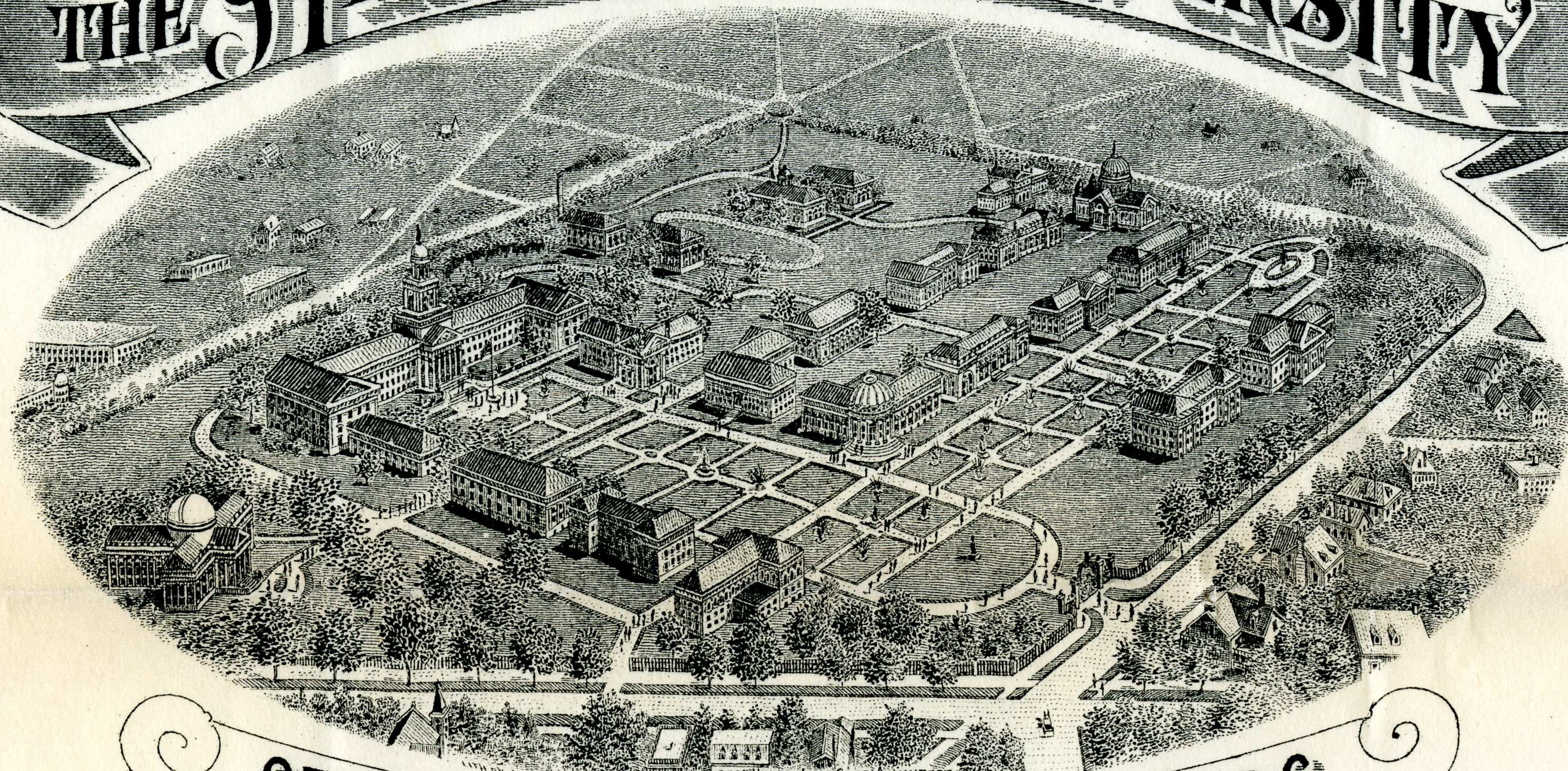


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Albert Smiley Esq
 Dear Sir

The Grafton
 2708 Broadway
 New York Feb. 14th 1906

I am spending a short time in New York in the interest of The American University & asking the favor of a brief personal interview with a few representative Citizens in the neighborhood known to our Trustees - We wish to bring to your attention our very important interest & my friend Mr. Rathbun of Albany has frequently spoken to me of your generosity - I should be grateful to you, Mr. Smiley, if you would kindly grant me an interview at Lake Mohonk or elsewhere. Should a personal interview not be convenient I pray I should be glad to further correspond with you - If however you are sufficiently satisfied as to the merits of our cause from the distinguished gentlemen above named and you are disposed to aid us kindly draw check in favor of The American University & forward to me & the same will be gratefully received & duly acknowledged -

Very Resp^{ly} John A. Gutteridge
 Fin. Secy. The American University

2.15.1906.

Mr. J. A. Gutteridge.
Advised.

[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

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