

STATES OF JERSEY

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MR. WILLIAM RICHMOND-PICKERING: ACCEPTANCE OF BEQUEST AND ESTABLISHMENT OF RIVINGTON TRAVELLING SCHOLARSHIP

Lodged au Greffe on 22nd June 2004
by the Education, Sport and Culture Committee

STATES GREFFE

PROPOSITION

THE STATES are asked to decide whether they are of opinion –

- (a) to accept on behalf of the Public the generous bequest of Immovable Estate made by the late William Richmond-Pickering, which includes the property known as Petit Zinj, Park Estate, St. Brelade, and the residue of his Movable Estate;
- (b) **to authorise the sale of the said property at a price to be agreed with the Finance and Economics Committee;**
- (c) to agree that the administration and all benefits received from the property, which is bequeathed to the States of Jersey by the late William Richmond-Pickering, be vested in the Education, Sport and Culture Committee for the purpose of setting up and administrating “The Rivington Travelling Scholarship” in accordance with the wishes expressed in his last Will and Testament of Movable Estate dated the 17th day of April 1980;
- (d) to authorise the Attorney General and the Greffier of the States to sign, on behalf of the States, any documents as may be necessary; and
- (e) to authorise the Treasurer of the States to receive any monies which are receivable under the terms of the bequest.

EDUCATION, SPORT AND CULTURE COMMITTEE

Note: The Finance and Economics Committee supports this proposition.

REPORT

By his last Will and Testament of Immovable Estate, dated the 17th day of April 1980, the late Mr. William Richmond-Pickering has most generously devised all of his Real Estate to the States of Jersey for the benefit of the Education Committee, subject to payment of all rentes, rates, charges and encumbrances which may be due.

At the time of his death, his immovable estate comprised the sole property known as Petit Zinj, Park Estate, St. Brelade, which is currently unoccupied. The property, which is a three-bedroom bungalow with garage, is in need of certain remedial works and internal refurbishment. It has been valued in the region of £325,000 in its present condition.

This bequest was made in conjunction with the devise of movable estate contained in Mr. Richmond-Pickering's Last Will and Testament of Movable Estate dated the 17th day of April 1980. Under the terms of this Will, following distribution of bequests to other beneficiaries, the deceased left the residue of his movable estate to the States of Jersey, subject to certain conditions. In a letter dated 17th April 1980, to the President of the Education Committee, Mr. Richmond-Pickering referred to his will of moveable estate under which he had sought to set up the Rivington Travelling Scholarship, and said that he anticipated that the Education Committee would utilise his real estate for the purposes of financially assisting the setting-up of the Travelling Scholarship.

As a condition of the Will, the residue of the estate is to be used to set up a scholarship to be known as "The Rivington Travelling Scholarship", which is to be administered by the Education Committee of the States of Jersey. The Scholarship is to enable a person, male or female, of any age, to visit such museums or art galleries out of the Island as would further his or her appreciation of art, crafts and/or history. The only other criteria of the award of the Scholarship are to be the sincerity of the applicant's intention and their lack of funds.

The will further provides that in the event that the States should not be prepared to accept the legacy on the terms set out by the testator, he gives and bequeaths the residue of his estate to the Société Jersiaise.

Her Majesty's Solicitor General has advised that the most appropriate Committee to administer and benefit from the property and residue of the Movable Estate is the Education, Sport and Culture Committee, being the Committee to which the functions of the Education Committee have been transferred by the States, which now seeks the authority of the States to accept and undertake the administration of the property under the terms of the Will and use any proceeds from the **proposed sale of the property on the open market** for the purpose of setting up "The Rivington Travelling Scholarship" in accordance with the wish expressed by Mr. Richmond-Pickering.

There are no financial or manpower implications for the States arising from this proposition.