

Dear Miss Morgan;

[1923] Feb. 2+

As I ~~now~~ telegraphed you I am highly delighted with the color sketches and general plans of the road approaches from San Simeon to the hill top. If we can get vistas like those indicated in the sketches, it will be wonderful.

In the general planting inside the hill wall and around the house ~~sites~~ ~~in the neighborhood~~ I think we should keep fairly close to our previous plans.

I have a general conception of Chinese hill as bearing fruits and flowers and trees of an oriental or at least a semi tropical character. I should like to see somewhat similar planting around the Moorish baths. I have written previously about these hills and the garage hill etcetera. Reservoir hill seems to follow requirements in the sketches and to promise a very effective appearance. I am not sure that Chinese hill and the other spots are not planned as suggested. I have no details of these. The general effects seems good.

Inside the wall I surely want the temple

not so much under the bay tree as against
it. It is a pretty big temple. In front of
the temple I think we should have a
fine big pool to reflect it. Around this
^{pool} I think we should have our night garden
and in the pool some night blooming water
lilies. At the further end of the pool from
the temple I think we should have that
beautiful basin supported on a ^{columnar} base
with the marble nymph above it that
I have ordered abroad. Then ~~by~~ on the
sides of this space to the right and left
of the pool I think we should have our
roses.

I am not averse to the plane trees, clipped
if you think they would be better than the
Pergola but somewhere I would like a pergola
or an arbor with grapes growing over it
etcetera. Perhaps we can find another
place for that. The plane trees would be
an interesting formal finish and the
walk along the wall is a useful and
agreeable construction.

I like the idea of the slope in clipped shrubs
with roses interspersed (liberally). I think
too the palms should remain and the other trees come out as marked.

That arrangement gives us a better chance for our pool in the middle and rose gardens on the wings.

In planting our citrus fruits we have got to consider the feelings, the predilections, of these willful plants as well as our own preferences. They must go where they will consent to grow - if there is any such place. I don't want them to cut off the view of the wall but I would like to have some where they can be seen from the houses as they are beautiful evergreens. Also as said above I would like some in our oriental courts and gardens. Perhaps some would also be well as indicated on the slopes East of house B. ~~Certainly~~ Is that a warm and protected spot.

Of course we will be out this summer and I am going to try to get out this spring.

I think there are a lot of the above ideas that you can go right ahead with.

When shall we begin building again. I suppose by the middle of March and at any rate not later than the first of April. The rains should be over then.

Sincerely W R Hearst