

PIEDRA BLANCA RANCH
SAN SIMEON
SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
CALIFORNIA

August 6, 1923

My dear Miss Morgan:

Here are a lot of shields treated differently from the shields on our frieze, which we find rather heavy. I think part of the heaviness is due to the swag - or whatever you call it - which is heavy, and part to the particularly square character of the shield. In these sheets enclosed clever use is made of the eagle with the shield as a chest protector. Please note the doorway of Casa Polintinus on Plate 18. Also a little different eagle on Plate 16. Perhaps an eagle would help us out. Then on Plate 16 there is a little different treatment of the scroll of fruit and flowers, which does not go all way around the shield. On top of the shield is a bowknot. On Plate 15 the swag comes from back of the shield and is very much lighter. This also seems a good treatment to accomplish what we want.

On Plate 17 - Elevation of Casa Polentina - there are various manners of framing the shield. The eagle appears again, also shield with crest and conventionalized dolphins.

I thought you might like these various suggestions

Then instead of the balustrade there are scrolls and heads as in Plate 17 - Scrolls and putti plate 15 - Griffins and such Plate 16. Perhaps it is the balustrade which makes the effect heavy, although I don't quite think so.

I am sending you also the measurements of the Dandolo Cornice. The cornice is fine but it is 4 ft. deep. That is tremendously big for a 14-foot room. Perhaps we can leave off the lower member which is 1 ft. 1 in. in depth.

Very sincerely yours,

W. P. Hearst