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March 21, 1921

Mr. William Randolph Hearst
137 Riverside Drive
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Hearst:

As regards garden progress; A large shipment of plants, as near as per list as obtainable, went down Saturday on the little gas schooner finally chartered for you. A landscape man, Gardiner Dailey, who had his architectural training in this office some years ago, went down to meet them and see they were properly handled and placed. He has had fine experience in Mexico and South America, knows European gardens and is a plant enthusiast. Our practical gardener throw up his hands and departed. Dailey is taking down another man tonight. The labor already up there is used for handling dirt, making beds, etc. so no other special men are needed. Most of the good gardeners available have families which is not practical for the top at present.

The roots of the very old oak in the center of the plaza are so interwoven with the rocks it is not likely it would survive removal. The younger oak might possibly, if enough time were given it to grow new roots before lifting it, although no one holds out any encouragement who has seen it. One of the other oaks needs a tree doctor very soon, as the split it originally had has been much widened by the winter's storms. Mr. Dailey suggests a rod run through each trunk, the two rods joined by a chain, which would allow a certain amount of play while stopping the strain.

I enclose an alternate study for a long pool for the plaza, as requested.

Yours very truly,