

JULIA MORGAN
ARCHITECT
MERCHANTS EXCHANGE
SAN FRANCISCO

March 20, 1924.

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

Dear Mr. Hearst:

Would you think well of this change in plan for the esplanade where it leaves the main cross axe? The increase in size of the Main Building over what it was when the cross axe was put in makes the white wall seem too close to the towers to provide satisfactory support, to the eye. I have studied it over all winter and think that by swinging the pavement out until the esplanade is on axe with the well terraces, an added interest, as well as an adequate base could be had. Also, standing on the well terrace or anywhere on the esplanade in this region, seeing another "motif" about symmetrically placed with regard to the main stairs, would be very decorative. The repetition of these motifs, small in scale, all around the Main Building would be a happy way to tie the small house scale into that of the main building -- which would have at intervals its own scale repeated in the approaches, entrances and terrace fountain group.

Your telegram was received regarding pushing work on the esplanade. I had told Mr. Rossi after asking you, to get the horses as soon as really needed -- but the dryness has made plowing, road work, etc. so far behind they have been able to get along up to now.

We will push this work while finishing the towers, as the scaffolding, machinery, etc. cannot be moved profitably till these are done, and they go slowly as men cannot work up there in the high winds.

I will send you a number of rough sketch suggestions for the "motifs" and then work up in detail any you think interesting.

Yours very truly,

Julia Morgan

I like this idea very much indeed

We should have decent weather in April and a lot can be done, I hope we can get the esplanade finished with the modifications you suggest - also the rear wings and patio and the rear entrance - which is really TH F entrance

I know some of the interiors must be unfinished but if we can get the lower part of the refectory done and the kitchen wing we will be fixed for commissary and an important part done. W.R. Hearst

I am anxious to know whether you can combine with this the north and south towers under the big square grade that I would like to have. Please send sketches.

Thank Aracuen it has rained some.

Yes Mr.

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NEW YORK EXCHANGE
NEW YORK

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