

CRAM, GOODHUE AND FERGUSON

ARCHITECTS.

170 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK.

15 BEACON STREET, BOSTON.

NEW YORK, May 25th, 1911

*Rec'd 29th*

*Ans'd in part 30th*

John C. Olmsted, Esq.

U. S. Grant Hotel,

San Diego, Cal.

Dear Olmsted:

Thank you for your long and carefully thought out report.

As I may or may not have written you, I have got two of the best men in the office, Winslow---who is going to San Diego---and another, at work on two plans for the exposition---one on your site and one on Allen's. I honestly believe that Allen's scheme is much the most economical, not only in actual money but in the ease with which an effect can be produced. However, I recognize that my opinion need not be accorded any consideration whatsoever and that you have the authority to place the exhibition where you please. Believe me, that in both plans every effort is being made to do the best possible thing. The one on the original site is, I think---and I believe you will be inclined to agree with me---a more economical lay-out even than your last one; though in it I have come to the same decision you evidently reached in your report, namely, that a Bridge to Date Street or its im-

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J C O p 2

mediate neighbourhood is a sine-qua-non and had already placed one in precisely the position you indicate before your report arrived. This, by the way, was sent from Brookline, raising the interesting question as to whether you had come east. I think, however, from the wording of the first paragraph, I am safe in assuming you to be still in San Diego; however, to make assurance doubly sure, I am sending a copy of this to your Brookline office.

I have just dictated a telegram to Allen in which I say I won't come to California after all yet awhile. As a matter of fact, it is going to be frightfully awkward for me to come at all until after the first of July. Surely a month or so at this stage of the game can't make any vital difference and if the sketch plans I send out meet with approval, a good deal of work can be done in the way of grading, etc. before the actual construction is begun ~~on the landscape work~~ in connection with the final corrected plans.

Yesterday, Col. Collier paid us a visit here and saw the drawings. He washed his hands of any question of a different site; but stated with absolute definiteness that a tram line across the park would have to be put in, not along at sometime in the vague future but almost immediately, -- that, therefore, it is im-

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J C O p 3

perative that this be considered in the plans for the fair. Much as I hate to agree to this, I believe him to be absolutely right and so believing him, have <sup>shown</sup> such a railroad ~~shown~~ tentatively on both drawings. This covers the difficulty of landing the public so far from the Auditorium and you, I know, can take the railroad on with the least possible detriment <sup>to</sup> for the park itself.

As I telegraphed Allen, I will send prints of both plans and the data we have from time to time set down to him ~~day after~~ tomorrow.

While both these drawings are tentative, I wish you would give them your closest consideration, and if they are at all right, let me have your criticism at once. I will then revise whichever plan is selected in accordance with such suggestions, and again send it back to you, then I will follow this up with myself and probably Winslow; though if Mexico gets straightened out by ~~this time~~ <sup>then</sup>, which is, of course, only a faint possibility, he will go back to our original scheme and start for San Diego by way of Vera Cruz.

Very faithfully yours,

Dict. May 24th.

