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21st July, 1911.

Mr. Bertram G. Goodhue,
U. S. Grant Hotel, San Diego, Cal.

Dear Goodhue:

I have delayed replying to your letter of the 30th June until I should learn of the decision of the committee on the site question. I now understand that they have decided in favor of the southern site.

I am sorry to make recommendations which will inevitably disappoint you but of course my first duty is toward the Park Commission by whom I am employed.

I have advised Mr. Dawson to ask the Park Commission to abandon the idea of constructing the permanent auditorium out of the park funds. I feel obliged to do so in order to find the money for the bridges which it seems to me would be of far greater permanent value

in the development and use of the park both during and after the Exposition than an auditorium would be. The bridges I have advised Mr. Dawson to include in the plan are those shown on my first preliminary plan, one crossing Cabrillo Canyon to the southwest corner of the Mesa Viscaïno and the other crossing the Spanish Canyon.

Another recommendation which will disappoint you, but which I have not felt it necessary to urge as yet very strongly is that the Art Museum be placed on the little knoll or spur now covered with coniferous trees a short distance north of Date Street and with the center of the building on the axis of 9th Street.

The principal advantage of this location is that it would be the building within convenient walking distance from the street railway on 5th Street and would make it therefore convenient of access from a portion of the city which so far as I can judge contains the larger number of citizens who will be likely, after the Exposition is over, to take an interest in helping to form art collections and to share in the burden of maintenance.

In this position the building would be conveniently accessible, especially at night, from exterior streets so that in case of lectures and receptions and other entertainments, especially in the evening, it would be more attractive and more conveniently accessible for ladies particularly, than a site in connection with the main group of Exposition buildings either west of Plaza Musica or adjoining El Camino Real. It seems to me that the Art Building at Date Street and Ninth Street might very properly be made smaller at this time than would seem suitable in connection with the main group of Exposition buildings. I should think it ought to be planned, however, so that considerable additions could be made to it in the future as they become necessary and the money for them becomes available through gifts or otherwise. It strikes me that the demands of the Exposition for a greater extent of improved grounds than was estimated upon in connection with my preliminary plan No. 3 will be so great, especially for drives, walks, sewers, water supply, surface water drains and electric conduits, that it would be advisable to delay the construction of this Art Museum for a while until we determine how we are coming out with the Exposition grounds proper. It might easily be that the appropriation for the Art Museum would have to be reduced perhaps to \$100,000.

This I should think would be enough to build the central mass of a \$300,000 design.

I have advised Mr. Dawson that in my opinion the California State Building should be on a site which I marked "U.S. Government Building" in my plan No. 3; that is to say, with its east and west axis on the center line (extended) of Cedar Street and its north and south axis on the center line (extended) of 13th Street. With El Camine Real carried out as planned, with a circle in front of this building site it would be conveniently accessible in a dignified way for students and others having business in the building after the Exposition is over. It would have the advantage of being in some degree associated with the group of educational buildings which will grow up around the Russ High School and it would leave the central portion of Balboa Park free from any permanent building. I know that this site will not please you, as you wanted to get the permanent buildings in a group on the west side of Plaza Musica, but I am sure this would not be nearly as convenient a site after the Exposition is over and I am also sure that it would not be as justifiable a site from the point of view of park design as that which I have suggested at Cedar and 13th Streets.

If the committee and the park commission agree to my recommendation as to the site for the California Building ^{next} my suggestion to you is that the comparatively large site west of the Plaza Musica be used for the combined Agriculture and Horticulture building and that you embody in your design for it whatever domes, pinnacles, towers, roof pergolas and ground floor arcades and outside terraces you deem necessary to afford a striking and picturesque sky line and to make that quality the climax of the Exposition group. I believe that using this site for one of the temporary buildings will enable you to create a great deal more mass and to secure a higher and more interesting and elaborate sky line than you would be able to with the limited appropriation that would be available for a permanent building at that site.

I have suggested to Mr. Dawson that he advise you to leave out the restaurants in the main group of buildings because they are apt to be such a bad fire risk and would endanger the rest of the group, tied together as it would be by the proposed arcades. I did not go so far as to suggest any particular sites for restaurants but we can take up that matter later.

I asked Mr. Dawson, in discussing the size and shape of buildings on the Plaza Larga with you, to call attention to the desirability of reducing the length of their frontage along the arcade as much as practicable on account of inconvenience of the rising grade of the arcade which in the case of buildings with long frontage would require several flights of steps and of greater length than would be required with buildings of less frontage.

It seems to me the best place for comparatively elaborate garden terraces, paths, steps, etc. of a distinctly formal and architectural character is the space west of the Plaza Larga which you elaborated so attractively in your sketch plan for the Exposition on this southern site. You will remember that the principal criticism I offered to you on this part of your design was that of having the bandstand west of the Plaza Larga. It seemed to me that this would be open to the objection that a large part of the audience would be compelled to face the sun in the afternoon. Although I do not think it would do to have the bandstand shown on my plan in the center of the Plaza Musica a permanent feature after the Exposition is over, yet it still seems to me that it is the most advantageous site for a bandstand during the Exposition, as the music will help to make this the social and architectural center of the group of main buildings.

I still think the Plaza Musica ought to be as much as 300 feet square in the clear inside the arcade in order to afford ample accommodation for the crowds when there is music there. I am confident it would not do to reduce it to 200 feet square in the clear as you did on your plan, but it might be reduced to 250 feet square in the clear. If it should be decided to make it 300 feet in the clear and if it is desired to occupy the east site by an Exhibition building (instead of by the block of buildings for Latin-American Republics, as shown on my preliminary plan No. 3,) I think that object could be accomplished by extending the Exhibition building over the service drive which could be carried under the east edge of the building through an arcade some 12 or 14 feet high with very little difficulty and at moderate expense.

Mr. Allen does not like the Administration Building west of the circle at 13th Street and El Camino Real as I had it on my preliminary plan No. 3, but it seems to me it is a very practical and desirable site and possibly Mr. Allen may yield his objections to it. My idea in favor of that site is that the outside public would have access to the building~~s~~ to do business with the officials without having

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to pay admission or without being notified after obtaining permission by telephone from the gate, as in the case of Mr. Allen north of Plaza Musica, to pass into the Exposition grounds, in which case after doing business with an official they could, for all I see, spend the rest of the day or as long as they liked, in the Exposition, having gained admission without paying for it. It seems to me it would be very easy for a great many people to imagine some more or less plausible excuse for consulting an official at Mr. Allen's site and so gain admission free. Mr. Allen I understand raises the objection to my site that he and other officials will be bothered by many people calling upon him and them, seeking employment and the like, to whom it would be easy to refuse admission in the case of his site, but I do not see why a doorkeeper could not telephone from the door of the building at my site to either of the officials and obtain their consent to being interviewed just as readily as in the case of his site. However, as this is a practical matter with which he is more concerned than I am I do not feel that I need to urge my site upon the committee against his judgment.

I trust you will write me freely as to matters affecting the distribution of buildings or the arrangement of the grounds.

Very truly yours,