

OLMSTED BROTHERS  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS, BROOKLINE, MASS.

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OLMSTED BROTHERS	
REC'D	AUG 25 1911
ACK'D	BY .....
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READ BY	.....

25th August, 1911.

Mr. Harold H. Blossom,

621 Timken Building, San Diego, California.

Dear Mr. Blossom;

We have received your planting plan for Riverside Park and plan and profile for West Drive in Balboa Park.

Your plan so far as the center line <sup>of</sup> ~~and~~ the main west drive is concerned is satisfactory from Station 5 to Date Street. North of Station 5 it needs more study, as described in a previous letter.

I do not altogether like your Quince Street entrance. The little triangle at the north is small and fussy, and the sharp bend in the drive from Quince Street to the road down into the cañon seems awkwardly sharp. It occurs to me that we might possibly improve the scheme at this point by making the drive down into the cañon come in with a reverse curve at or near Station 13, arriving at West Drive practically normal

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to that drive.

The walk east of the drive from Station 14 to Station 24 I think is a little too far from the drive. It would probably be better to move it west 15 feet or so, but you could judge that better after it is staked on the ground.

I want to omit the Maple Street entrance and have one at Nutmeg if conditions upon examination prove to be favorable.

I like your Juniper Street entrance very much better than mine, and approve of it subject to the agreement of the Park Commission to omit the alternative drive from opposite the Juniper Street entrance to Station 59. With the improvement of the profile which you propose by means of a cut 2 feet or so at Station 55, I think the grade will be so appreciably improved that there is no adequate necessity for the alternative drive. It will simply be an added and unnecessary expense both for construction and maintenance, and so far as I can judge opens up no more or better views. Its only real excuse appears to be to form the connection with the

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drive down the hill. I think by all odds the best scheme for connecting West Drive with the drive in Cabrillo Cañon at La Glorietta is that which I worked out on preliminary plan #3. But this scheme does not seem to work in right<sup>ly</sup> with the Exposition fence and gates. It is so far superior to the arrangement shown on your plan for West Drive that I am inclined to think it might be worth while to revert to it even at the expense of an additional gate-keeper during the exposition. It seems to be about the only way in which the important idea of a circuit drive in the park can be worked out with such reasonably direct lines as to properly express the purpose in view. This part of the plan should, therefore, receive further consideration, and I do not think it would affect the construction of West Drive.

Yours very truly,

*John C. Olmsted*