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DIVISION OF WORKS,
FRANK P. ALLEN, JR.
DIRECTOR OF WORKS

SEP 6 3 40 PM '11
SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, SEP 1 1911

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*Messrs. Obvested Brothers,
Brookline, Mass.*

DAWSON.

Dear Sirs:

I have sent you night letter as follows:

Shorn streets north from Date to Jumper between fifth and west border of Park graded but not paved. No sidewalks, south side Hawthorn and both sides Fair.

Sent August records today. All July time is on Exposition. Expense card for July is already settled by you."

It seems to me that these streets can all be considered as subject to regrading. On the north side of Hawthorn is a house adjoining the Park which will be left pretty high up when Hawthorn is lowered at its east end. But it is not

a valuable house. I think there is also a house on the south side of Soy, adjoining the Park; also cheap. The block between Soy & Juniper has one big house and a stable at the N. east. Mr. Say's. Soy to Hawthorne has 2 houses on 5th. St. This block is all built up with houses and their grounds. Hawthorn to Grape has only a red barn, R. Meredith Jones. The south side of this block is 4 ft. (average) above Grape St. as graded; but there is a little filling needed at the S. W. corner, ^{along 5th.} unless this space were used for a cellar.

At Grape x 5th. the N. W. corner of the block from Grape & Fir, is a sheet metal garage. The S. W. cor., that is Fir & 5th. is the Park Garage, of sheet metal with a big fill needed behind it and a deep ravine in the Park at this point.

at Fir an existing drive runs south near the west boundary of the Park down to Date

The block Fir to Elm is a big hole especially at S. W. corner which is being gradually filled.

The N. W. cor. of next block; i. e. Cor. 5th. & Elm is occupied by a near 2 story cement bldg. "Silk Mills of California."

No soil could be obtained for fill from the block Elm to Date.

I think the only block that would supply soil (excepting cellar dirt) is the one Grape to Hawthorne, and old Mr. Jones is still living there and might not wish to be disturbed.

Other detail: -



The sidewalk a curb runs up north at the cor. Dale + 6th.
for one large lot; with a 6' wide sidewalk and
5' wide platg. strip.

The meeting of the Bd. of Comm. is set for 3rd day.
Mr. Marston has asked me to be present; but he thinks
it is all settled. I may have won Mr.
Russell Allen back to the Southern site yesterday; and
I did what I could with Mr. Belcher. He agreed
with me on some of the chief reasons for the southern
site; but was so reticent that I cannot tell whether
I persuaded him at all or not. I am trying to see Col. Collier
to-day and go out with him before the meeting.

The Park Board expect to meet at 4 after the Bd. of Comm.;
so it does look as though the whole thing were cooked.
Mr. Allen has had Mr. Kaffer, his new draughtsman
(who had been under Mr. Fletcher) prepare the 3 alternative
extensions of 6th Street. to be ready at 4 P.M. to-day.
~~It is perfect~~ I have kept my hands off this work
except to start it under protest; the fruit of which
I sent you.

It is perfectly evident therefore that when matters
of Park design and improvement come up Mr.
Allen intends to have them worked up under
his direction and present them himself to the
Park Board. I have believed for some time
that Mr. Allen intends to force Olmsted Brothers

to withdraw from this work or else to work under
his direction in all matters. If he visits his
site this afternoon I shall write you the result of
the Committee's ~~action~~ meeting and wait your in-
structions.

At the last meeting I maintained that as a landscape
architect you could never give up your consent to the
central site being ~~a~~ a ~~defensible~~, ^{or justifiable} location for public
buildings of permanent nature, neither that the Laurel
St. bridge could ever be considered other than wrongly
placed; and that the formal plazas of the central site
plan you could never consent to as the right kind
of ^{permanent} development of this part of the park. This last
proposition Mr. Belcher agreed to yesterday when we were
on the spot. But he may yield to pressure to-day.

I shall be anxious to know what action you
will take in regard to continuing such your professional
relation to this organization if they go so contrary to
every recommendation you make and follow instead
the advice of their contractor.

Very truly yours,
Harold A. Blossom