

UN-Secretariat matters A-Pe:
UN-Secretariat matters A-Pe -
34

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UN/ Secretariat matters 1954

H Q Building

7 June 54 - 21 Dec 54

2 letters from David B. Vaughan (Office of General Services)

- to Wallace K. Harrison (architect, N. York)

7 June 1954

Dear Mr. Harrison,

I know that you are aware of the Secretary-General's feelings about the present location of the Japanese Pagoda and the proposed location for the Yugoslav monument. In view of this, other sites have been proposed; namely (a) that the Japanese Pagoda and bell be removed from its present location in the West Court Garden and shifted to a location in the northern end of the Garden just west of the playground in a setting of cherry trees, and (b) that the Yugoslav monument location be changed from the originally selected site at the northeast corner of the podium wall of the General Assembly Building to a spot on the 47th Street line and east of the General Assembly Building. This location is open and the monument would not abut any structure.

The Secretary-General has requested that a mock up of the monument be constructed at the new location in order that he can view the resultant effect of locating it at this place and this is being done.

It was originally planned that the pedestal of the monument would rise to a height of 30 feet and the equestrian statuary placed on top thereof, which is 16.4 feet, giving a total height to the monument of 46.4 feet. I believe this height was somewhat dictated by the fact that the monument abutted the wall in front of the General Assembly Building to a height of approximately 12 feet, and the majority of the viewing public would observe the statue from this level, which would arise at this point only about 34 feet. In placing the monument in an open space, it might be that this height is not required, and to cut the monument pedestal down by 10 feet would have the overall effect of raising the top of the monument to 36.4 feet rather than that previously contemplated.

We want to proceed with this work as early as possible, and would

Mr. Wallace K. Harrison
630 Fifth Avenue
New York 20, N.Y.

/like

Mr. Harrison

-2-

7 June 1954

like to have your advice as to the selection of the two sites in question, as well as a discussion as to their alignment generally. The Secretary-General would like to discuss the matter with you at your convenience.

Yours sincerely,

David B. Vaughan
Director
Office of General Services

cc. Secretary-General
Mr. Cordier - attention Mr. Correa
Mr. Begley
Mr. McLeod
Mr. Bennett

21 December 1954

Dear Mr. Harrison,

We are now ready to proceed with the partitioning of the South Lobby of the Secretariat building along the lines we discussed to provide a Permanent Exhibit Hall.

.... While our original proposal was for simple glass partitions, matching the windows on the East and West walls, it may be desirable to have a more ornamental design if the cost is not prohibitive; and I would appreciate it if you would look over the attached sketches and let me know your views.

Sincerely,

David B. Vaughan
Director
Office of General Services

Mr. Wallace Harrison
Harrison & Abramovitz
630 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

cc: The Secretary-General ✓
Mr. Begley
Mr. Bennett
Mr. Van Name
Mr. Zunser
Mr. Sterman