

[9.1]
No Public
Library (2)

June 1, 1923

The Rev. Harris Masterson, Jr.,
Autry House,
Houston, Texas

Dear Mr. Masterson:

We are sending you today, by special delivery, first class mail, a set of sketches for the proposed Library, with the expectation that they will reach you in time for your committee meeting on Tuesday June 5th. We have called these sketches "Scheme E".

In these plans we have carried out all the changes which you requested at the conference in Washington, with only two or three slight modifications.

In order to get as large a Children's Room as possible, we have included in it two bays which would otherwise be part of the Loggia. If you do not need all of this floor space in the Children's Room, this Loggia can, of course, be made six bays long, as it is on the floor above. If you feel that the two columns in this room are very objectionable, they can be omitted. The arrangement we have shown is preferable architecturally.

Our re-location of the service stairs and Employee's Coat Room gives increased stack space on all floors and makes it possible to wheel book trucks directly into the stack room from the two large reading rooms in the southwest wing and into music stack etc. from the Administration Wing on the third floor.

On the third floor we have indicated a possible re-location of the Cataloguing Room where it is more accessible from the stack room and the receiving and branch work spaces. If the breezes are of paramount importance, it may be wiser to locate this room where we have shown a Trustees' Room.

We feel it would be better to leave the space allotted to the Museum and Club Rooms on the third floor of the northwest wing undivided, and suggest that you give us some indication of what you wish here before we finish the show drawings.

The elevation is merely in sketch form, but will show you that the new plan offers as great possibilities for a fine exterior as did the previous plans. We have indicated a stone building throughout, which, cost permitting, is by far the best material you can use. If, however, you find this material is going to be excessively expensive, we are confident that the design we have shown can be worked out nicely in brick and stone.

Very truly yours,

GRAM AND FERGUSON

BY Wm. Masterson

Diet. J.A.R.