

June 30, 1953

Mrs. Robert Woods Bliss
1537 Twenty-eighth Street
Georgetown, Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Bliss,

I am enclosing a 3" scale sketch for the top of the gate and a full size drawing for the M cypher---and unfinished studies for the R and B cyphers. These last two I have studied only far enough to determine whether, by adjusting the spacing we could approximate the same sort of spot that the M makes. I think it is far enough to carry them until we see which firm is awarded the contract. I had better give Jorss or Finelli complete and definite drawings. Freund is more expert in this type of metal work than the other two and his first step would be to full size the entire gate in his shop---and by laying the iron on the drawing we can tell at a glance whether any adjustments are needed in the sizes or spacing. By going to Astoria (Heaven help me---it is something like Brooklyn, only worse to get to by subway)---many hours of work in the office could be saved---and of course the expense of Washington trips.

For the bronze parts---the wheat and the ribbons---the drawings specify these as cast bronze. For the contractor this means having these modeled in clay, a cast made and the bronze poured and finished. In writing the contract I shall specify of course that the model be submitted and worked over until it is acceptable. I should expect Freund to turn out something better than the other two. Then too, he is capable of working directly in the bronze---which means we could have wrought bronze rather than cast bronze if that turns out to be the best way to do it.

We have asked for three proposals from three different kinds of firms. For quality of work I should rank them:

- 1---Lothar A. Freund Ironworks *2000-*
23-08 Broadway, Astoria, L.I., N.Y.
- 2---District Ornamental Ironworks---Philip Finelli *9350-*
415 K Street NW, Washington, D.C.
- 3---A.F.Jorss Ironworks Co. Inc.
300 Tenth Street South, Arlington, Va.

For cost---I should expect them to run---*least* 2---3---1 *most*
Jorss and Finelli can not have their proposals ready until Thursday and I will check up on them again Wednesday afternoon.

