

345 5295

UBCHEA ARCHIVES
COLLEGE FILES
RG 11

Yenching
Corres.
Murphy, Henry Killam
1926

3
4
5
5
2
9
5

0418

YENCHING

HENRY KILLAM MURPHY
ARCHITECT

1906-HENRY KILLAM MURPHY
1908-MURPHY AND DANA
1921-MURPHY, MCGILL & HAMLIN
1923-HENRY KILLAM MURPHY

HEAD OFFICE-NEW YORK CITY
PERSHING SQUARE BUILDING
PARK AVENUE AND 42nd STREET

TELEPHONE MURRAY HILL 5800
CABLE ADDRESS "MURDAN" NEW YORK
TELEPHONE ASHLAND 5080

MANILA OFFICE
PACIFIC BUILDING

MAIN ORIENTAL OFFICE-SHANGHAI
UNION BUILDING
CANTON ROAD AND THE BUND

TELEPHONE CENTRAL 4706
CABLE ADDRESS "MURDAN" SHANGHAI

2 February, 1926.

TRANSFER

PEKING UNIVERSITY.

SUMMARY OF BLDGS. BUILT OR AUTHORIZED

BUILDING	CUBIC FEET	ASSUMED U.S.A. COSTS (at uniform flat rate)	ACTUAL CHINA COSTS (data from E.M.NORTH)
Men's Dormitory #1 ✓	210,000	@ .50 = C \$105,000	@ .21 = \$ 45,000
" " #2 ✓	210,000	@ .50 = 105,000	@ .21 = 45,000
" " #3 ✓	210,000	@ .50 = 105,000	@ .21 = 45,000
" " #4 ✓	210,000	@ .50 = 105,000	@ .21 = 45,000
" Dining Hall #1 ✓	220,000	@ .50 = 110,000	@ .18 = 40,000
" " #2 ✓	220,000	@ .50 = 110,000	@ .18 = 40,000
Science Bldg. (A) ✓	540,000	@ .50 = 270,000	@ .14 = 75,000
Science Bldg. (B) ✓	540,000	@ .50 = 270,000	@ .14 = 75,000
Theology Bldg. ✓	240,000	@ .50 = 120,000	@ .18 = 44,000
Library Bldg. ✓	300,000	@ .50 = 150,000	@ .20 = 60,000
Gen. Admin. Bldg. ✓	700,000	@ .50 = 350,000	@ .20 = 140,000
Men's Gym. X	480,000	@ .50 = 240,000	@ .13 = 65,000
Chapel X	285,000	@ .50 = 142,500	@ .17 ^c = 50,000
Infirmery X	100,000	@ .50 = 50,000	@ .17 ^c = 17,000
Students' Center X	350,000	@ .50 = 175,000	@ .17 ^c = 60,000
Woman's Admin. ✓	150,000	@ .50 = 75,000	@ .19 = 28,000
" Fac. Ho. ✓	150,000	@ .50 = 75,000	@ .19 = 28,000
" Recit. Bldg. ✓	360,000	@ .50 = 180,000	@ .14 = 50,000
" Gym. X	520,000	@ .50 = 260,000	@ .13 = 70,000
4 Dorm. Units ✓		500,000	170,000
TOTAL	5,995,000 cu.ft.	\$3,497,500	Aver. @ .17 1,192,000

0419

HENRY KILLAM MURPHY
ARCHITECT

PERSHING SQUARE BUILDING
PARK AVENUE AND 42nd STREET
NEW YORK CITY

1906-HENRY KILLAM MURPHY
1908-MURPHY AND DANA
1921-MURPHY, MCGILL & HAMLIN
1923-HENRY KILLAM MURPHY

TELEPHONE ASHLAND 8080
CABLE ADDRESS "MURDAN" NEW YORK

re: YENCHING UNIVERSITY.

REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF YENCHING UNIVERSITY
BY HENRY KILLAM MURPHY, ARCHITECT
ON HIS VISIT TO PEKING FROM 7 APRIL TO 8 MAY, 1926.

GENERAL:-

I want to emphasize at the outset my definite conviction that we are getting, at Haitien, very much the finest group of Mission College buildings in China — indeed, so far as my not inconsiderable acquaintance with such developments goes, the finest group of Mission College buildings in the world; — and that Mr. Warner and his associate Trustees are entitled to feel the greatest pride in what is being accomplished at Yenching. As I said in my first communication to the Home authorities — a letter written to Dr. Luce, at the suggestion of Pres. Stuart, immediately on my arrival in Shanghai from Peking the middle of May:-

"My immediate reaction at my first visit to the new Yenching, when I saw for the first time the realization in actual buildings of the first parts of the picture I had worked out five years before, was one of exaltation.Dignity, stately beauty, seriousness of purpose, the true scholastic atmosphere of a university — I could see all these qualities in the group; and I knew at once that we were on the right track."

And later in the same letter:-

"I was delighted to find so large a number of those on the Field eager and willing to give me their help in my study of the Yenching problems; and so fine and widespread a spirit of co-operation with my efforts to raise the standards. Pres. Stuart, Deans Frame, Hung and Lew, and — most of all — Lucius Porter, were of great assistance in my work; and I feel like taking this opportunity to praise them before attention is focussed on the matters on which the Report I am preparing, for the Trustees, is adverse."

I found no longer, in the minds of any of those familiar with what we are doing at

0420

TRANSFER

Yenching, any of the doubts - (which were still strong, even among some of those most closely connected with the work, at the time of my last visit to China four years before) - as to the success of our adaptation of Chinese architecture. I found this to be true not only of the foreigners, but also - much to my delight - of the Chinese as well; and this in spite of serious architectural defects, - more readily apparent to the Chinese than to the foreigners, - due to the repeated departures, made by the Building Bureau, from our carefully studied working-drawings; of which more will later be said. The enthusiastic approbation of the general character of our Chinese architecture, as expressed to me by such men as H.W. Yen, Hu Suh, Y.T. Tsou, Deans Hung and Lew, and the brothers Kung-pah and Soh-tau King; as well as by other distinguished Chinese critics of architecture, in Shanghai and Canton, with whom I discussed the Yenching buildings; is a sufficient answer to any who may still feel that the Chinese would have preferred the Yenching buildings to be of foreign architecture. And if the Trustees will see to it that the Building Bureau is definitely instructed that no more changes are to be made from our designs, and that (so far as is still possible) they are to correct, in accordance with our original drawings, the more glaring architectural defects in the present buildings resulting from the disastrous attempts of the Bureau to "improve on" our designs, we may feel confident of winning the most enlightened Chinese approval of the Yenching group, not only in its fundamentals, but in the more subtle details of its architecture.

ITEMS IN DR. NORTH'S MEMO OF 5 FEB. 1926 TO H.K. MURPHY:-

As a form-guide for the more technical part of my Report I cannot do better than to follow, in general the excellent Memorandum prepared for me, just before my departure for China last Feb., by Dr. Eric North, as follows:-

1.- Layout and Location:-

1 "The Character of the Informal Development of the Back Campus."

The accompanying print of our "Rearranged General Plan of Yenching University" will best show how we have answered this question.

0421

MEMORANDUM

This new drawing, as noted in its sub-title, was "made at New York, Aug. - Sept. 1926, from Drawing made at Peking by H.K. Murphy, May 1926;" and represents, not only on this point but on the many other points that had come up since the preparation of our General Plan of Jan. 1922, the results of the intensive study I made at Peking of the new elements of program, the new view-points of those on the Field - (I had already been made familiar with the new view-points of the Home authorities) - the changes in requirements, and the general aspects of the whole development as thus far executed. The new General Plan, as compared with the old, is in accord with the feeling of the Trustees, as expressed in Dr. North's Memorandum; in favor of "a more informal development of the Campus to the Eastward;" the change in character occurring at the East line of the fourth Men's Dormitory and the East line of the Women's College Group. The strongly defined axis of our original scheme, so characteristic of Chinese group-planning, is preserved from the highway Entrance Gate to the westerly end of the Island; being carried across the westerly arm of the lake by a Boat Landing and a Pavilion, arranged to face each other, in true Chinese fashion, on opposite banks. Everything to the eastward of this terminal Pavilion is composed on a more informal basis; without axial planning or uniform orientation, but with careful regard for general balance. In view of the feeling on the part of the authorities, both at Home and on the Field, that it is no longer necessary to economize in land as we had first planned, by utilizing some of the outlying portions of the lake as building-sites, it seemed logical to leave the boundaries of the Lake just as laid out by its Manchu designer; reclaiming only enough at its narrow westerly mouth to give the required space around the central building of the group, at the intersection of the two main axes. With this change, (from a moderate-sized Lake of generally rectangular form symmetrically enclosing the Island, as shown on our original scheme, to a Lake more than double in area, with

0422

the Island off in one corner,) we may pass easily from a formal placing of buildings around the lake to an informal arrangement by which the buildings are not composed so definitely with the lake as an architectural center. The dominance of the tremendous Pagoda now added to the group of buildings around the lake, makes it desirable to keep important buildings at a considerable distance from it; and the new site for the Warner Gymnasium has been kept well to the Northward with this consideration in mind; its exact location being fixed to center it on the center-line of the Athletic Field, which the purchase of land not originally included has made it possible to locate entirely outside of the main architectural composition. The sharp Northward bend in the Northerly edge of the lake, just East of the Easternmost of the four Men's Dormitories, makes it necessary, if the original boundaries of the lake are to be kept, to work out an arrangement of buildings entirely different from anything else in the Plan, to meet the problem of building a group on the very narrow strip of land remaining between the lake and the North property-line; thus automatically assisting in the change of architectural character to be made at the Easterly line of the Easternmost Men's Dormitory. As the Southerly edge of the Eastern part of the lake, keeping its original boundaries, skirts the foot of hills throughout its whole length, it is undesirable to try to put a further Dormitory development there; and the new General Plan shows the site for this possible Future Dormitory Group well to the Southward of the second line of hills, with an unbroken Southerly exposure over the level plateau of the Agricultural School property.

2. "Nature of Use of ex-President Hsu's Property (if secured)."

This possibility, with its opportunities for very greatly improving our whole General Plan by the addition of this magnificent property -- so much needed to help in balancing, on the North of the Main Axis, the con-

stantly increasing acquisitions to the South, as well as for protection against an undesirable future development by outsiders so close to the Main Academic Group, - has always appealed to me tremendously. But in the 8 April "Memorandum of Items referred to Mr. Murphy" prepared by the Grounds and Buildings Committee at Peking, this point in Dr. North's "Memorandum" of 5 Feb. is dismissed as "so remote that no time need be spent on the consideration of how this property should be used." I found it practically impossible to get any of those on the Field with whom I discussed this to give me data on future expansion of the University, as suggested in Dr. North's Memorandum, on which I could base constructive study of this most important matter; but I still feel, even more strongly than before, that the Trustees should keep steadily in mind the great benefits which would certainly accrue to the University from the acquisition of this property; and have extended the area shown on the new General Plan to include it. I hope the trustees' study of the "Rearranged General Plan" will help them to see, - as they would certainly see if they visited the new Yenching, - what an inestimable gain would come from the wiping out of the purely artificial barrier to natural and proper University expansion now formed by the little lane along the North property-line. As bearing on this point (and contrary to the attitude of the author of the Memorandum of the Grounds and Buildings Committee as quoted above,) I was delighted to learn that the very last act of Pres. Stuart during my Peking visit last May was a trip to Tientsin for the purpose of furthering friendly relations with the owners of this Garden-property, with a view to its possible acquisition by Yenching.

RECEIVED
UNIVERSITY OF PEKING
JOINT OFFICE

RECEIVED

stantly increasing requisitions to the South, as well as for protection
 against an undesirable future development by outsiders as of one to the main
 League Group, - has always appeared to be fundamental. In the 3 April
 "Memorandum of Items referred to Mr. Murphy" prepared by the Council and
 Building Committee of the University, this point in Mr. North's "Memorandum" of
 20th. is discussed as "no remote that no time need be spent on the con-
 sideration of how far property should be used." I found it practically im-
 possible to get any of these on the field with which I discussed this to give
 me data on future expansion of the University, as suggested in Mr. North's
 Memorandum, on which I could have constructive study of the most important
 matter; but I still feel, even more strongly than before, that the Trustees
 should keep steadily in mind the point that the University should certainly secure
 to the University from the requisition of this property; and have extended
 the area shown on the new plan to include it. I hope the Trustees
 study of the "Memorandum of Items" will help them to see, - as they would
 certainly see if they visited the new building, - what an incalculable gain
 would come from the wiping out of the partly artificial barrier to natural
 and proper University expansion now formed by the 31st line and also the North
 property-line. As bearing on this point (and contrary to the attitude of the
 Editor of the Memorandum of the Council and Building Committee as given
 above), I was delighted to learn that the very last act of the Board
 during my recent visit last year was a trip to Lincoln for the purpose of
 furthering friendly relations with the owners of this garden-property, with
 a view to the possible requisition by teaching.

RECEIVED
 UNIVERSITIES
 15 1926
 JOINT OFFICE

0425

F
4
5
5
2
9
5

3. "Location of the Practise-School of the School of Education".

TRANSFER

Conferences with Dean Frame strongly confirmed my previous feeling, expressed a number of times to the Home authorities (and repeated in Dr. North's Memo of 5 Feb.,) that the entire space from the Women's Academic Group Westward to the highway must be kept permanently free from any buildings; and this requirement has been incorporated in the Rearranged General Plan, the free space being carried to the South of the Women's Academic axis of approach for a distance equal to that between this axis and the Chemistry Laboratory on the North. Starting at the Southerly boundary of this free space the new General Plan shows a group of three Academic buildings, arranged around a court opening to the South; noted on the Plan as "Possible Future Academic Expansion;" which is also in agreement with the second point noted under this heading in Dr. North's Memo. (The reservation of a suitably dignified site for such possible Academic expansion has become especially necessary in view of the change in the composition of ^{the} Main Academic Group; from which the two central buildings in the westerly row as originally shown are now omitted, giving a central court open to view from the Highway, and flanked by closed quadrangles on either side - a decided improvement.) After providing for this Future Academic Group, the space remaining, to the Westward of the Women's Dormitory Group, is almost exactly bisected by the East and West road at the line of the Sewage Disposal Plant already constructed near the Main Highway; and it seems safer to allocate to the Practise-School of Education the space to the South rather than to the North of this bisecting line; partly because the Southerly space is less definitely limited (the Southerly boundary of the whole University property being constantly shifted to the Southward;) and partly because it seems preferable not to allocate, to a University Department whose character has yet been so little determined, a site so intimately related-as is the Northerly space - to the Future Academic Expansion and to the Practise Schools of the Women's School of Household Arts. The "Site for Leather-Tanning", noted on the "Rearranged General Plan" in the Southeast corner of the property above suggested

0426

TRANSFER

- 7 -

for the School of Education, was fixed in accordance with suggestions from some of those on the Field who were especially interested in the Schools of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry, and who objected to having the Leather Tanning near them, (where I thought it should be,) on account of possible chemical contamination. I am not satisfied, however, that the Leather Tanning should be situated where I have shown it; and would suggest that its situation be kept open until more is known about this proposed feature of the University work, and perhaps until some land can be secured for it entirely remote from other work.

0427

SECRET

for the school of medicine, was linked in accordance with suggestions from some
of those on the staff who were especially interested in the school of agriculture
and animal husbandry, and who objected to a view of the school's future which
would be likely to result in a school of medicine which would be
I am not certain, however, that the report should be altered since it
has shown that the school of agriculture is being given more
attention than the school of medicine, and that a unit is
being set up for the school of agriculture.

5
4
5
5
2
9
5

0428

4. "Location of Future Men's Dormitories":-

The views of the Home authorities, of those on the Field, and my own view were in agreement that the next stage of Men's Dormitory development should be on the narrow strip of land between the North shore of the Lake and the North property line, immediately to the Eastward of the Men's Dormitory groups already under construction. As it was evident that with a satisfactory plan, and limiting the rooms to Southerly exposure, only about as many students could be accommodated on this strip as are accommodated in one of the two units already built of the first Men's Dormitory group (200 to 225 students,) it was agreed that one more similar group would be needed; which would make a total of 600 to 900 students. It was, however, the general opinion of those on the Field that we need not plan Dormitories for any more than this; as possible University expansion beyond 600 or 700 men students would undoubtedly carry with it an increasingly large proportion of students who would not reside on the Campus. The choice of location for this fourth Men's Dormitory unit just North of the site for the Agricultural School has already been discussed above in the latter part of the first heading "Character of Informal Development of Back Campus."

TRANSFER

PEKING UNIVERSITY~~(Extract from Report of the Building Bureau)~~

TRANSFER

"Location of the Chapel"

As I expected, the solution of this problem - one of the chief reasons (among purely architectural questions), for my China trip - was preceded by several very protracted discussions, and a very careful checking up, on the site, of my previously formulated ideas on this point. The eventual solution, now embodied in the Rearranged General Plan, came as the result of a happy suggestion by Pres. Stuart; and completely satisfies both the requirements of group-plan and the desired architectural characteristics of the Chapel.

From the time of my first conception of the Yenching group-plan, and all through its later arrangement in detail, the fundamental feature - the key to the whole scheme - has always been the focal building at the intersection of the main East-West and North-South axes; and it would be just as disastrous to omit this, the main feature around which the whole group-plan is composed, as it would be to omit Bashford. I could devote several pages of this Report to the exposition of this architectural point; but it should be a sufficient illustration when I say that the six buildings composing the two Men's Dormitory units already built would have been very differently composed if there were to be no building at the intersection of the axes. And it was unthinkable to me (and in this I found the best Chinese opinion in complete agreement with me) to allow the Chapel to be shoved off to one side as suggested in the General Plan which the Building Bureau proposed to substitute for that of the Architects; a plan which had obviously grown out of superficial and accidental aspects of site-topography, rather than out of a broad architectural conception of proper group-planning -- a common defect, characteristic of the work of amateurs, as compared with the work of a properly qualified Architect.

As against all these purely architectural points (on which nothing developed during my Peking discussions to modify my strong feeling of conviction) there was the equally strong feeling on the part of some of those on the Field, and especially of Pres. Stuart, that it would be undesirable to carry out the idea, as in the former General Plan, of having the Chapel the central architectural feature of the whole University group; and that it would be desirable to detach it from the ordered, regular composition expressing the academic features of the student-life. Closely bound up in this feeling for a change from the idea (as expressed in the original General Plan) that the central architectural feature of a Mission University group should be the Chapel, in the growing feeling (as expressed in the abolition of compulsory attendance at Chapel, and the marked reduction in the planned seating capacity - from 2000 as in the 1922 plan, to 500-600 as now determined) that religious worship should be something apart from the ordered, disciplined academic life of the students; something more intimate and personal, more private and retired.

This difficult impasse - growing out of the unchanging nature of the architectural requirements of a group-plan already so far along in construction, and the greatly changed nature of the requirements for the Chapel - was brilliantly solved by Pres. Stuart's suggestion that in place of only partially meeting the new Chapel requirements (by slightly shifting it from the original central and formal location) we should fully and completely

0430

"Location of the Chapel" - 2

realize these new ideals by detaching the Chapel altogether from this part of the group-plan, finding for it an attractive site somewhere in the informal development along the southerly shore of the lake; and that we should have, at the intersection of the two axes, a building completely meeting the architectural requirements of the group-plan, and devoted - very fittingly - to the students' own activities. This proposal was immediately recognized by all as the perfect solution; and was noted as agreed upon in the Committee's report of the 27 April conference between Pres. Stuart Dean Frame, Mr. Barker, Mr. Gibb and myself. It is also noted, in the Committee's report, that this new element in the University plan is to be made the main objective for solicitation of funds among the Chinese; which should be especially successful because of the fact that this building will not only have the most important site of all, around which the whole group is composed, but by its nature and use will be the most purely Chinese feature of the whole University. Thus it may well happen at Yenching, as was the case at Ginling (where the Social-Athletic Building, in its present form, was not in the original scheme) that this newly conceived Students' Centre will become the University feature best-beloved of the whole Chinese constituency.

The Rearranged General Plan shows the site chosen, along the lines suggested by Pres. Stuart, for the Chapel; but the beauty of the spot is not apparent from this drawing, and is difficult to show even in the Birdseye. The picturesque line of hills curving along the shores of the lake (and leaving just room for the belt-line drive at the water's edge) provides an ideal spot, at its highest point, for the Chapel-site; commanding a lovely view over the entire lake, in a wide sweep from the Warner Gymnasium at the easterly end to the Students' Centre at the westerly end; with the picturesque Lakefront Dormitory Group reflected in the Lake directly opposite the Chapel, and the Island Pavilions in the immediate foreground. In the same way the Chapel itself is seen from a wide range of viewpoints; and the purity of its Chinese architecture will make it a high point of beauty. The loftiness of its hill-top site, with its approach by a wooded path winding picturesquely up the slope on the south and west, will help to give the Chapel the quiet air of seclusion which is felt to be desirable for the house of worship in an institution like Yenching.

6. "Location of the (Men's) Gymnasium":-

As noted above, under the first heading ("character of informal Development of Back Campus") the site of the Warner Gymnasium, as shown on the Rearranged General Plan, has been kept well to the Northward of the site formerly shown, in order properly to compare with the Pagoda; its exact location being fixed to center the Gymnasium on the East-West axis of the Athletic Field. The present contours at this point are to be so modified as to give a naturalistic slope up from the lake to the West front of the Gymnasium; so as to prevent it from appearing to be built on the edge of a cliff, and at the same time to preserve the necessary uniformity in the height of the West facade. As the requirements of appearance allow of a certain degree of flexibility in the exact level of the First Floor, this has been left to the Building Bureau to decide on the basis of economy; with a minimum height above the lake fixed at fifteen feet.

7. "Location of the Infirmary":-

Careful consideration of all the questions involved developed no reasons for changing the site for the Infirmary. In line with the informal treatment of this portion of the University group, the orientation of the infirmary, as shown on the Rearranged General Plan, is determined by the topography; and the desirable Southern exposure is utilized to the utmost by keeping the building as far as practicable to the North side of the level plain just back of the first line of hills at the edge of the Lake. The second line of hills is thus kept far enough away not to interfere with South sun, and at the same time serves as a barrier satisfactorily separating the Infirmary and Future Men's Dormitory group.

8. "The Presidents' House and Other Administrative Houses."

I found a strong feeling on the part of most of the leading members of the Yenching Faculty that the President should, for the sake of his own peace and quiet, live off the Campus; but Pres. Stuart's own feeling is strongly for a Campus residence, as the only way in which it would be physically possible for him to keep that close touch he feels to be so desirable between President and student-body. As I feel that the successful weathering of the present storm-and-stress-period by Yenching is largely dependent on keeping Pres. Stuart free to handle in his own way the difficult and delicate situations that are increasingly developing in the relations between students and Faculty, it seems wise to accept his own judgment that he must, at any cost, always be easily accessible to the students; so they may be encouraged rather than discouraged in seeking his immediate counsel.

Before settling, however, on the location for the President's House, it was necessary to answer the question raised in Mr. North's Memorandum, under this heading, as to the possibility of having one or two other administrative officers live on the Campus; in order to decide how much space must be reserved for such a residential development. On this point, I was glad to find a general agreement that this idea should not be allowed to extend beyond the one house, for the President.

After careful consideration of other suggested sites, the general location already tentatively chosen, on the southerly slope of the wooded hill between Sage and the Lake, seemed the best. The elevation of this site will make for coolness in Summer; while the thickly wooded character of the crest of the hill will help to protect it from the North winds in Winter, and at the same time partially screening the house from view, and so helping to avoid any tendency to undue dominance.

9. "Woman's College Academic Quadrangle Development":-

Dr. North's memorandum, under this heading, calls attention to the fact that "it may not be necessary at the present time to determine just what these buildings should contain." Dean Frame, in her final talk with me on this point went further and gave it as her opinion that it is practically impossible to determine these requirements now; and asked me to fix the size and form of the future Women's Academic Buildings purely on the basis of the best possible architectural effect for the completed group. The future buildings indicated on the Rearranged General Plan, and more fully explained in the new Birdseye Perspective, give the result of my study along these lines.

From the view-point of group-plan, the building at the head, opposite the entrance, should dominate; and as this building, Sage, has already been built (from a design we prepared for one of the side-buildings of the original seven-building Women's Academic Quadrangle) the chief element of the problem is to preserve its dominance while at the same time making the flanking buildings long enough adequately to fill the space at the long sides of the quadrangle. This is finally accomplished by keeping the end-wings of the side-buildings down to a single story; which enables us to get the necessary total length, and at the same time to keep the length of the two-story central portion enough less than the length of Sage to insure the mass-dominance of the latter. This is further helped by keeping the width of the central portion of the side-buildings considerably less than the width of Sage, resulting automatically in proportionately lowering their ridge-line below that of Sage. The success of these two devices in preserving the dominance of Sage is best appreciated from the new Birdseye Perspective.

The only detailed point settled in regard to these two future Women's Academic Buildings is that the one on the South side of the Academic Quadrangle should be built first; as it is more essential to separate the Dormitory group (and Playing Field) from the Academic Quadrangle than it is to close the latter on its North side.

Also, there is a considerable hill which will have to be levelled off before the North building of the Academic Quadrangle can be built; whereas the site of the South building is already practically at the level of the rest of the Academic Quadrangle.

0436

3
4
5
5
2
9
5

Also, there is a considerable hill which will have to be leveled off before the
 North building of the Academic Quadrangle can be built; whereas the site of the
 South building is already practically at the level of the rest of the Academic
 Quadrangle.

RECEIVED
 UNIVERSITIES
 OCT 18 1926
 JOINT OFFICE

0437

10. "Woman's College Household Arts Practise House:"

After considerable discussion of other available sites, that immediately South-West of the westerly half of the Women's Dormitory Group was chosen as the best. This site brings the buildings of this Practise School in close relationship to the Women's Dormitories; keeps them entirely remote from the purely Academic buildings, thus helping to emphasize the distinctly different character of the work to be done in the Practise School; and, best of all, it enables us to start a series of low buildings between the westernmost of the Women's Dormitories and the Highway, which will help to correct the present unpleasant appearance of excessive height in the Dormitory buildings. It will be noted from the Rearranged General Plan that there is room to build two small units, (each in a purely Chinese form around three sides of a court opening toward the South) on the narrow strip of land already owned at this point.

11. "Women's College Music Building":-

No real progress was made toward a solution of the problem of locating the Music School where the noise would not prove objectionable - always a difficult problem in college-planning - until the adoption of Pres. Stuart's suggestion for the Students' Centre provided a perfectly satisfactory place to house this department well away from all other class-room work. It has never seemed to me logical to consider the School of Music (or the proposed School of Fine Arts) as distinctly a function of the Women's College; and the transfer of this department to the Students' Centre - a University building rather than a Men's or Women's College building - is a great improvement over the previous idea.

12. "Department of Agriculture Building":-

I first located this building in the extreme South-westerly corner of the large tract assigned, on the Rearranged General Plan, to the School of Agriculture, etc; but moved it to the North-westerly corner at the urgent wish of the Faculty of this School, who felt that the length of walk to this building from the main Academic Group should be reduced to the minimum.

In view of the very unsettled state of program for the School of Agriculture, which makes it undesirable to hasten the construction of a building to be designed exclusively for this work; and in view of the urgent necessity of building, at the very earliest possible time, the Recitation Building on the North side of Bashford Court, (without which the main entrance group is so hopelessly unbalanced and unintelligible,) attention is called to the Note on the new General Plan under the Agricultural Class-Room Building "to be built after completion of Class-Room Building on North side of Bashford Court." In other words, whatever Class-rooms the School of Agriculture needs at the start are to be provided in the Recitation Building on the North side of the main Entrance Court of the University; and the matter of a separate building for the Agricultural work must wait until the completion of that Court is accomplished.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
ARCHIVE
SERIALS
SECTION

ARCHITECTURAL PROBLEMS:

I have already referred, in Section I of this Report ("5-Location of the Chapel") to the change which has gradually come about, (in the half dozen years since we made the original General Plan) in the function of the Chapel; and the decision there noted: - to give up the original idea of making the Chapel the central architectural feature of the University, in favor of the newly developed idea that the Chapel should be more private and retired, and should be re-located somewhere apart from the Academic Centre; - made it advisable to consider anew the question of its architectural treatment. On this question I made a special point, as suggested in Dr. North's Memorandum, of consulting Pres. Stuart and Dean^s Hung, Low and Porter; and I also went quite deeply into it with Mr. Bentley, the College preacher.

The decision already made (as noted in Section I) to reduce the seating capacity of the Chapel from 2,000 to 500-600, very much simplified the problem of the exterior - for the architectural treatment of which I was glad to find, at the outset of my Peking discussions, an almost complete

The Chapel - 3

ARCHITECTURAL PROBLEMS (cont.)

disappearance of the objections (formerly fairly widespread) to the use of Chinese architecture, as recommended in Dr. North's Memorandum; and as I had always felt that the Chapel should be more rather than less purely Chinese in its architecture than the rest of the buildings, it only remained to decide on the Chinese model on which we should base our adaptation. On this point, (as on so many other matters) I found Dean Porter of the greatest assistance; in fact he had already picked out, during the months preceding my China visit, some half-dozen old buildings in Peking which he felt to be suggestive, either in whole or in part, of possible architectural forms, both exterior and interior, for the Yenching Chapel; and the visits I made with him to these old buildings were of the greatest value in my study on this point.

The principal point brought out by Dean Lew - and on this point I found Mr. Bentley even more insistent than Dean Lew - was a strong preference for a relatively long and narrow Chapel over the more nearly square form we had in mind in the original scheme; their feeling being that they wanted a sense of depth from the speaker to the opposite end of the Chapel. Pres. Stuart also agreed that this quality is desirable - though, with his usual freedom of spirit, he felt that he could preach equally effectively in either form of room. As the greatly reduced seating program made it perfectly feasible to comply with the strong preference of Dean Lew and Mr. Bentley for a relatively long Chapel without danger of having the actual length too great, I eliminated from the Chinese models under consideration all those types which would not give this feeling of depth - which brought our field of choice down to variations on the typical Chinese rectangular form of building. That finally chosen (as will be seen from the photograph of the Forbidden City Building on which we are basing our drawings of the Yenching Chapel) combines quiet dignity with beauty, simplicity of form with richness of detail, and the most characteristically Chinese architecture with complete adaptability to the purpose of the building. Because of the fact that the practical requirements of a Chapel carry with them no need of changing the essential architectural elements of the Chinese original, this building will be architecturally the purest - as it should be - of the whole group; in fact the Yenching Chapel will be, so far as I know, the purest modern example of Chinese architecture in China.

I am glad to be able to report that the opposition to a purely Chinese interior for the Chapel is also fast disappearing. I found no feeling among the Chinese that we ought to introduce foreign architectural treatment on the interior of the Chapel on account of the fact that Yenching is a Christian institution; and I found a strong feeling among some of the foreigners, (notably Dean Porter) that it would be a great mistake to do so, as it would tend to stamp the Christian religion as something alien to the Chinese spirit - almost as something incompatible with it. I consider that one of the chief reasons for using Chinese architecture for institutions like Yenching is to minimize rather than emphasize the differences between our education and religion and those of China; and to emphasize the essential oneness of the best of what we have to give with the best of the genius of her own people. No really open-minded person who understands what is now going on in China will deny that just as really worth while progress in her present national difficulties can only be through Chinese solutions, so really worth while Christian development in China can only be through Chinese Christianity. And one of the ways in which we can help in developing

TRANSFER

~~The Chapel~~ - 4

ARCHITECTURAL PROBLEMS (cont.)

Chinese Christianity is to make it clear that we do not feel it necessary to give up, in adapting Chinese architecture for use in a Christian Chapel, any of its essentially native elements of beauty. When it comes to the details of decoration, we can carry out this principle by using in a Chinese way such Christian symbols as it is felt desirable to introduce to replace any distinctly non-Christian religious symbols in the Chinese original. As Dean Porter put it to me, the interior should be so designed that any Chinese student, no matter how new to Christianity, would immediately feel at home in the Yenching Chapel.

It will be of interest to the Trustees to know of a discussion I had on this point, at luncheon at the American Legation with Minister MacMurray. I had known that whereas two of his three immediate predecessors, Drs. Schurman and Reinsch, had taken active part in Yenching affairs; and the third, Mr. Crane, had taken considerable interest; Mr. MacMurray himself (although like the others, a member of the Board of Managers) had never yet attended a single meeting. He was under the common misapprehension that Yenching was a narrow-gauge institution under the control of religious bigots of the old missionary type; and the impression he had picked up, that in an otherwise Chinese group the Chapel was to be in foreign architecture, because it was Christian, had strengthened his feeling against Yenching. When Mr. MacMurray had finished a rather violently worded outburst against the supposed Yenching decision for foreign architecture in the Chapel, I informed him that not only had the local authorities of Yenching decided in favor of Chinese architecture for this building, but that a suggestion had even been made, by a foreign member of the Theological Faculty, that small portions of the Yenching Chapel be reserved for worship, in the form to which they might have been accustomed, by new students who had not yet decided in favor of Christianity; and that the interior treatment of the Chapel should be designed to express to the utmost a spirit of worship, without architectural emphasis on the fact that it was to be Christian worship. This breadth of viewpoint so impressed Mr. MacMurray that he inquired further into the Yenching attitude, as I understood it; and asked if such questions as this matter of foreign vs. Chinese architecture for the Chapel came up for discussion in the meetings of the Board. When I told him they did, he said: "I'm a member of the Board, and I think I'll attend its meetings in the future; I've never before thought I'd care to." When I reported this change of attitude to Pres. Stuart and Dean Porter, they were much pleased; and the latter wrote me, soon after I left Peking, that he had an appointment to go with Minister MacMurray to study an old Chinese building which the latter thought might be of interest to the Yenching authorities in determining the particular form of Chinese architecture to be adapted for the Yenching Chapel.

0444

"2 - New Type of Men's Dormitories:"

Among the chief reasons for my China trip of last Spring, the most important, (next to a correct decision on the proposal for abandoning the focal building at the intersection of the main axes,) was a correct decision on the proposal for using, as a model for future Men's Dormitories, the buildings already completed for Women's Dormitories. As the designing of these Women's Dormitories had been taken out of the hands of the Architect and entrusted to the Construction-Bureau, I had not, until my arrival in Peking, been familiar with their appearance; I was however, aware that they had cost considerably more per student than the Men's Dormitories, as brought out in Dr. North's memorandum, instead of less as previously indicated by the Bureau. My study of the actual buildings proved the Women's Dormitories most disappointing architecturally, both in general form and in detail; and I found the Faculty in general agreement with my feeling as to their exterior effect. Dean Sung, in an architectural discussion with me, referred to the Women's Dormitories as "hopelessly bad." Soh-tse King wanted me to make sure that no more units should be built from the present designs; and even went so far as to express the opinion that the Northernmost unit already built should be pulled down so that a complete row of four properly designed buildings could be built along the North side of the Women's Dormitory Group to hide the rest from view. In view of this Chinese opinion as to their architectural merit, it certainly would not do to use the Women's Dormitories as a model for the new Men's Dormitories, as suggested in the 31st April memorandum prepared for me by the Grounds and Buildings Committee; and I set out at once to determine what are the successful features of the Women's Dormitories which had led to such a recommendation. As I expected, these finally narrowed down to the single feature of all-South bedrooms; being in no way connected with the idea of a U-shaped unit, (which is fundamentally wrong as a scheme for Dormitories with all rooms facing in one direction.) As there now appeared to be a general feeling

that the obvious advantages of all-South bedrooms outweigh the economy of a Dormitory with East and West bedrooms off a central corridor, (reversing the original decision of the authorities against the extra construction-cost of a narrow building with the Corridor serving only one row of bedrooms) I devoted myself to the problem of working out a combination of units which should have all-South bedrooms; should avoid the defect of having the outlook from the bedrooms directly into the bare backs of the next building, (as in the Women's Dormitories;) should be more Chinese in their grouping than the latter; should be picturesque; should fit the exigencies of the very narrow strip of land to the North of the Northeast portion of the Lake; and should provide dormitory and refectory accommodations for the maximum number of students possible in a satisfactory plan. The key to the solution I finally worked out is in the "staggering" of the units of a double row of buildings, thus giving all the bedrooms an unbroken South view across the Lake. As will be seen from the Rearranged General Plan, all the unit-buildings of this new Lakefront Dormitory Group are cross-connected by Covered Ways; each has its own Social Room, Proctor's Room and General Lavatory, and is in close connection with one of the two Dining Halls extending back from the North side of the two central front units. Added picturesqueness is given to the Group, and the Southern exposure of the second row of buildings enhanced, by keeping the latter units a whole story above the corresponding levels of the front row of buildings; to which the present line of artificial hills along the North boundary of the University-property at that point, ^{ends} ~~levels~~ itself naturally. Any tendency to too mathematical an appearance in the whole Group, or too great a contrast with the relatively richer architecture of the 2-room deep buildings already built for the Men's Dormitories, is met by terminating the new Lakefront Group by a small square building at each end, somewhat like the very successful "Twin Buildings" at the entrance to the Women's Academic Quadrangle. The accompanying set of prints of the 1/16" scale plans we have now completed for the Lakefront Dormitory Group will give the details more clearly than they could be described in this Report.

With regard to the suggestion for going still further along the line of simplification in another group of special dormitories for short-time students, I am glad to be able to report that the excellent arguments noted in Dr. North's Memorandum against such a distinctly second-class development have apparently prevailed; as the matter was hardly more than touched upon during my Peking stay.

0447

"3 - Infirmary":

In Dr. North's Memorandum it was suggested that I should look over the plans already drawn for the Infirmary "with a view to their architectural suitability to the location and their harmonious relations to the other buildings of the Campus; especially with reference to the exterior." While the details of the Chinese architecture, in the 1/8" scale drawings by the Construction Bureau, are not entirely satisfactory, the building as drawn is "architecturally suitable," and sufficiently in harmony with the other buildings. There are, however, so many practical points in which the plans are unsatisfactory that I was unable to give them my approval. For example, no provision has been made for outdoor sleeping accommodations, which are an essential in any well-designed infirmary for a climate like Peking. When I asked Dr. Learmonth why he did not have such provision, he said he would have liked to have outdoor-sleeping accommodations included, but had thought the plans were too far along to make this possible. I told him I did not think there was anything so good about the plans that he ought to hesitate to have them changed. Another instance of poor planning was the inclusion, on the valuable southerly side of the building, of several features which should be located on the northerly side, in order to release the south exposure for patients' rooms. Similar lack of thought appeared in the failure to pierce the outer wall at the east end of the building to let in the morning sun which is so desirable for patients during the greater part of the College year, and can be easily curtailed out during the short hot season. Also, it did not seem to me that the plans made the best possible provision for the period (which, I judge from Dr. North's memorandum, may be some years,) during which the middle portion alone will have to do duty as the whole infirmary. I heard very little discussion of the point made in Dr. North's memorandum that "full understanding be reached as to the use of the Infirmary by the Woman's College"; and so I cannot say that the design is "adapted to meet the needs of the entire University". I brought back to New York a set of blue-prints of the Infirmary drawings prepared by the Construction Bureau; but have not been authorized to correct their defects in planning.

0448

"4 - President's House:"

Discussion of the details of the President's House proved very embarrassing during my Peking stay, as the plans (of which I brought copies to New York) had been drawn up by the Construction Bureau in a valiant attempt to carry out, in Chinese domestic architecture, a perfectly impossible scheme which had occurred (just before going to sleep) to the donor of the funds for this building; and if built would produce an architectural monstrosity which no amount of tree-planting could sufficiently hide. The main idea of the plans (which I gathered no one in the Bureau really likes) is an attempt to have a Court which shall be permanently roofed over and enclosed - in other words a court which is not a court. The resulting design is appalling; and as I found no one at Yenching had really visualized the building itself from the Elevations, I had a Chinese draftsman in the Construction Bureau draw up a Perspective accurately representing the building as it would actually appear; and this drawing (which I brought to New York) should be enough to condemn the design. The idea of having the President's House as purely Chinese in design as possible appealed to me, (especially as Pres. Stuart had told me that it is more than likely that all the Presidents to follow him will be Chinese;) so I consulted Sh-tsu King, whose ideas I found most valuable throughout my Peking stay, and whose advice, - he is already a member of the Board of Managers - should be welcomed much more than it has been. He was aghast at the Perspective drawing I showed him; and after considerable urging, he gave me his ideas as to how the President's House should be designed. The Rearranged General Plan, and the new birdseye Perspective represent, as clearly as it can be done at so small a scale, the Chinese viewpoint, as expressed to me by King, on the proper design of a President's House for Yenching. Here again lack of authorization has prevented me from putting the design of this building in proper shape.

"5 - North and South Buildings of the Women's College Academic Quadrangle":-

(See Section 9, above, under I.)

RECEIVED
UNIVERSITIES
OFFICE
JOINT OFFICE

0450

12
- 23 -

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
CHICAGO, ILL.

RECEIVED
UNIVERSITIES
JUN 6 1926
JOINT OFFICE

0451

HENRY KILLAM MURPHY
ARCHITECT

1906-HENRY KILLAM MURPHY
1908-MURPHY AND DANA
1921-MURPHY, MCGILL & HAMLIN
1923-HENRY KILLAM MURPHY

HEAD OFFICE-NEW YORK CITY
PERSHING SQUARE BUILDING
PARK AVENUE AND 42nd STREET
TELEPHONE MURRAY HILL 5800
CABLE ADDRESS "MURDAN" NEW YORK

MANILA OFFICE
PACIFIC BUILDING

MAIN ORIENTAL OFFICE-SHANGHAI
UNION BUILDING
CANTON ROAD AND THE BUND
TELEPHONE CENTRAL 4706
CABLE ADDRESS "MURDAN" SHANGHAI

TRANSFER

On board "Fengtien" Peking
to Shanghai.
Mon. 10 May, 1926.

J. Leighton Stuart, Esq.,
President, Yenching University,
30 Ma Pi Ch'ang,
Peking.

Dear Dr. Stuart:-

I am taking advantage of this ship's call at Chefoo to send back to you immediately the following memoranda for instructions to be issued immediately by you to the Construction Bureau:-

1. Stop all work on stone bunding of shores of Lake until the Committee on Landscaping, (Shoh-tsu King and Etter,) can give their instructions to Gibb as to the exact outlines to be followed, and the elimination, so far as now possible, of much of the stone work.
2. Stop all work on bridge and roads in Beshford Court; relocate the bridge as shown on the "Re-arranged General Plan" (of which I handed you 2 blue-prints in Tientsin on May;) at the same time effecting the necessary increase in its width to allow freely-moving 2-way traffic.
3. Make necessary modifications in present plans to ensure maintenance of water-level not more than 2 feet below general level of campus.
4. Remove immediately finials at ends of ridges on Chemistry Bldg., Physics Bldg., Ninde, and Sage; and replace by finials of the sizes called for on the architectural drawings.
5. Remove immediately horizontal mouldings at top of roofs of Woman's Administration Bldg., and Dean's Residence, and carry hip mouldings up as called for on drawings, dying out against vertical faces of finial base.
6. Remove immediately Rockery now blocking the Woman's Academic Quadrangle; and instruct Lund that other places must be found for flush-tanks for sewers which he had intended to locate inside Rockery.
7. Remove immediately the animal-head, ring, and swag which have been introduced as ornaments at each side of Ninde entrances, under small roof; and leave these places plain, if it is found that so many other changes have been made from drawings that original bracket-scheme is not feasible.

0452

8. In completing Bashford, Berry, and the 2 Refectory Bldgs., now under construction, the architectural drawings must be followed absolutely; no such re-designing by the Bureau as has seriously compromised the exteriors of Ninde and the Men's Dormitories will be allowed. The same instructions apply to the Warner Gymnasium and the Women's Gymnasium, for which architectural drawings have just been delivered from New York.

9. Remove immediately the advertising sign of Lund, Gernow & Co., which at present disfigures and cheapens the Yenching University sign at the temporary entrance to the University grounds.

10. Do no more exterior painting until receipt of instructions from Home authorities. In order to work out the most satisfactory compromise solution possible with present exterior architectural re-designs, we must have drawings showing exactly how the various facades are actually built. The Bureau is therefore to prepare immediately measured drawings of the Chemistry Bldg., Physics Bldg., (if different) Ninde, and Men's Dormitory; showing all architectural features, - panels, beams, brackets, sills, bands, lintels, etc., exactly as actually built; with notes showing decorative color-treatment thus far executed. We shall then make, from these measured drawings, as soon as they are received at our office in New York, complete color-plans from which the painting can be executed on these buildings during August and September, so that the University can open with this vital color-feature of our architectural designs brought up to the standards reached in form and line.

11. Interior painting is to be executed under the general advisory direction of Kumpah King, working through Miss Coleman, with whom I have laid out a complete basis of procedure. The interior painting to be done before opening of the new bldgs., this Fall, is to include the central entrance Halls of all bldgs, and the large Reception Rooms in the Woman's Administration Bldg., and the Dean's rooms, offices, corridors, lavatories, etc., can without too much loss be left for later execution; but the special features first enumerated must be done before the formal opening in order to give a reasonably finished effect, even at the possible cost of later retouching on acc't of dampness.

12. North exterior walls of North bldgs., of Woman's Dormitory group are to be treated with cement pilasters and band-courses in accordance with drawings which will be sent out from our office after approval by Trustees, (NKM has already taken prints of 1/8" scale elevations for this purpose).

13. Make necessary modifications in Sewage Disposal Plant (see Hogg).

14. Unless it is decided to cut up the Chapel in Ninde for Class-rooms, (which seems unwise in view of dearth of suitable Halls for Recitals, visiting speakers, etc., entirely aside from question of fitting up one of the small rooms as a Chapel for 40 or 50, for Theological students only) the following changes are required;

(a) Due to the substitution, by the Bureau, of trusses designed according to their own ideas, in place of the treatment called for on the architectural drawings, the proportions at the South end of the Chapel have been so seriously compromised that the only solution (short of restoring the lowest horizontal member of the truss to its original height) is to remove the Gallery altogether; - which in itself is also desirable in getting a more ecclesiastical feeling. In making this change the two small offices just outside the Chapel entrance are eliminated, giving a chance for a more dignified approach through a broad entrance-treatment immediately next to stair, for which we shall send out working-drawings.

(b) Restore the 2 columns called for at the north end of the Chapel, under the wall-beam which replaces truss at end of bldgs., thus restoring original composition of 3 - panels at altar end of Chapel instead of present ugly single broad low panel of plaster.

(c) Replace present needlessly wide platform by one of width called for on architectural drawings, (of which Barker gave HKM his approval, after actually laying out spaces required for altar, steps, etc.)

(d) Altar must be directly against wall; register gilles in floor of platform must be kept far enough apart not to interfere with this. Proposal to set altar forward must be vetoed, as everything possible must be done to increase feeling of length in room.

(e) Flat ceiling must be removed to restore feeling of height, and acoustics improved as required by panels of one-inch sound-absorbing material over all windows and above altar (covered with decorative Chinese materials;) rugs will greatly help acoustics.

(signed) Henry Killam Murphy

Architect.

at Yenching Univ.

HENRY KILLAM MURPHY
ARCHITECT

PERSHING SQUARE BUILDING
PARK AVENUE AND 42nd STREET
NEW YORK CITY

1906-HENRY KILLAM MURPHY
1908-MURPHY AND DANA
1921-MURPHY, MCGILL & HAMLIN
1923-HENRY KILLAM MURPHY

TELEPHONE ASHLAND 8080
CABLE ADDRESS "MURDAN" NEW YORK

Henry W. Luce, Esq.
Peking University
#150 5th Ave. N.Y. City

Shanghai, 16 May, 1926

My dear Dr. Luce:—

I have just got back here from my month's stay at Peking; and I cannot refrain from getting a letter off to you on the "Canada" tomorrow telling you something of my Yenching enthusiasms; and to let you know how very worth while I feel my trip to have been.

My immediate reaction, at my first visit to the new Yenching—(which I made entirely alone, by special request to Dr. Stuart)—when I saw for the first time the realization in actual buildings of the first part of the picture I had worked out five years ago, was one of exaltation—with perhaps an unbecoming amount of exultation, also. Dignity, stately beauty, seriousness of purpose, the true scholastic atmosphere of a University—^{and I knew at once that we are on the right track.} I could see all these qualities in the group; ~~in~~ ^{though} I could see also that these qualities do not yet appear to the ordinary observer as they do to me, because of the unavoidable confusion and mess attendant on an unfinished building operation and because also of certain serious errors in execution, both as to architectural form and color, which I am taking the necessary steps to correct, in so far as still possible.

My next reaction, after my first thrill of delight, was one

0455

2) of enthusiastic determination to let nothing interfere with the carrying out, in the best way possible, ~~with~~ ^{of} the great project on which we are embarked; and to allow no needless compromise to considerations which, however appealing on immediate and individual grounds, are really of secondary and not of primary importance.

I explained, at my meeting with the Building & Grounds Committee on 22 April, that my decision to extend my visit for at least another week was due to my feeling, resulting from the study I had already made of the Yeuching work, that the thing is so fine that I was inspired to make it still finer, by putting in still more work, on my present visit; not only a critical analysis of what has been done, but in constructive co-operation and initiative.

And this brings me to the real point of this letter to you, a point on which I feel that you have an opportunity to do more for the immediate needs, architecturally, than in anything else you have yet done. WE MUST HAVE, IMMEDIATELY, THE RECITATION BLDG TO COMPLETE ^{THE CENTRAL} BASHFORD COURT! It is impossible to over-state the vital importance of this matter. Here is the whole architectural key-stone of this great group incomplete - so (pitifully) incomplete that not a single person, from the outside, whom I took over the group, or with whom I discussed the Yeuching development, really got the picture at all. There is no use lamenting the unpardonable failure to complete the ^{Central} Bashford Court group instead of the Library Court group. The second building was built off at the South End of the Academic group; and thereby was left a void in the main composition which completely ruins the effectiveness of the whole.

I cannot stand the idea of Yeuching opening next Sept., with all the public eye critically upon it, without enough of a start on the construction of this Recitation Bldg so that the Bashford Court composition will be felt; the need for the

3) Class-rooms themselves is vital and pressing; the working drawings and all detail drawings are complete and ready for a start the day word goes to Peking from N.Y. CAN YOU NOT CONCENTRATE ON THIS RECITATION BLDG AND GET THE NECESSARY PROMISES OF FUNDS BEFORE THE SUMMER STARTS PEOPLE AWAY; SO THAT CONSTRUCTION CAN START IN JULY; AND ENOUGH BE DONE BY MID-SEPT. TO SAVE THE SITUATION? You can quote the Architect as having stated, in his very first communication to the Trustees who sent him out this Winter, that an immediate start on this Recitation Building is the most pressing need in the whole Institution; and that its architectural importance cannot be over-stated. And Dr. Stuart thoroughly approves my feeling, and is in sympathy with the appeal I am now making to you as one who has always had, it seems to me, an interest second to none of those of the Yenching authorities with whom I have come in contact, in the attainment of high architectural standards.

"I was delighted to find so large a number of those on the Field eager and willing to give me their help in my study of the Yenching problems. There is a very fine and very wide-spread spirit of co-operation with any effort to raise the standards. Dr. Stuart, Mr. Frame, Deans King and Lew, and most of all, Lucius Porter, were of great assistance in my work. And I feel like taking this opportunity to praise them, now, before attention is focussed on the matters on which the Report I am ^{now} preparing, for the Trustees, is addressed.

I shall be ready to meet with the Trustees and present my Report early in July; and I earnestly hope that before then the need will already have been removed for stressing, in my Report, the VITAL NECESSITY OF STARTING THE RECITATION BLDG.!!
With best regards to all the rest of the Yenching people
Sincerely yours
A. K. Murphy

For Dr. E. M. North

COPY

26 May 1926

Mr. H. K. Murphy
c/o International Bank
Shanghai

TRANSFER

Dear Mr. Murphy:

I am taking this opportunity to write you what will only be a brief letter. Since you left here my wife has become steadily worse and for several days we have been looking for the end at any time. I am staying by her bedside as much as possible which, in addition to the unavoidable duties of our Commencement week will explain why I shall not attempt more of a letter. However, I want you to know of certain arrangements here which would seem to me to meet your desires in our building operations. At the first meeting of the G. & B Committee after you left your communication was presented, it having been received the evening before. Meanwhile I had planned to name three committees in addition to the one already existing on Mechanical Installations. These were approved and action was taken that nothing should be done by the Construction Bureau without the approval of the Committee concerned, if this varied from working drawings, architect's or Trustees' instructions or other already formulated procedure. The new Committees are as follows:

Exterior and Interior Coloring: L. C. Porter, chairman,
K'ung P'a King, Miss Coleman.

Architecture: Dr. Hopkins, Mr. Bevan

Landscape: Soh Tzu King, Etter.

The "14 points" in your communication would thus be distributed among these committees. When necessary the whole committee will consider the report of the sub-committee and of Mr. Gibb and decisions which cannot be reached locally will be referred to New York. You can rest assured that everything possible will be done to see that the work be carried out according to your conception and that where issues arise they would be given careful consideration by a responsible group and not left to the judgment of any individuals.

I hope that you will be able to let me have as soon as possible the copy of your memorandum to the Trustee which you thought might be sent me either in sections before reaching Japan or upon arrival at the coast. I am very anxious that in completing the buildings now under construction and in starting the new one's authorized we shall all work together so as to secure the best possible results.

I hope your trip to the south was satisfactory.

With cordial regards,

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. L. Stuart

0458

*For record
for Yenching Board*

PEKING

May 31, 1926

Miss France?

Mr. Henry Killam Murphy
Isolation Hospital
Shanghai

TRANSFER

Dear Mr. Murphy:

I am sorry indeed to hear that your plans have been so delayed by your illness in Shanghai. I trust that your recovery has been rapid, and that you can carry out your plans without too much inconvenience.

You asked me to send you comments or suggestions with regard to the rearranged general plan of the university as of May 1926. I am accordingly making such comments and sending ~~them~~ you in Shanghai with copies to Mrs. Roys and Dr. North. As I told you when I first looked at it the day you left, I did approve in general of the plan including the modifications you made after your restudy of conditions as they now exist. With reference to the changes suggested for the Women's College and University buildings, I would like to make the following comments:

(1) The larger pool indicated west of Bashford will be much more effective. I have not had opportunity to measure the bridge to see whether it would long enough to span this larger pool, nor am I sure whether to double its width would not change its proportions to an unsightly degree. That would have to be decided by Chinese experts.

2. We all heartily agree with your recommendation that the next building, if possible, be a recitation building to the north of the physics laboratory. The composition of that group certainly needs this, and the trustees should be urged to devote themselves to securing the sum necessary.

3. As a matter of composition, the building of the student center is also called for at an early date. Miss Stahl is not particularly enthusiastic about having the music in this building, but on further consideration she may approve.

4. The Department of Education is not very much pleased over the location of the School of Education so far from the other recitation buildings. It has the advantage of nearness to Haitien. The personnel and the policy with regard to the type of building has changed somewhat, so perhaps it is not possible to do more until we are assured of some prospect of the money necessary for putting this up.

0460

5. The planning of the lake with its boat landings, bridges, etc. looks very attractive. I presume this was specially approved by Sohstu King.

6. The planning for the new men's dormitories for 250 men also seems to use the north shore of the lake to best advantage, and I think will be very effective as well as economical of space and sunlight.

7. I still feel that the new site for the chapel is very good. I wish, however, that in the designing there be arrangement made for more than one door. From the students' point of view it is particularly unfortunate not to be able to hurry out of the assembly hall to classes. The girls would stand a poor show with a large class of men all trying to issue forth from a rather constricted area. Again, it is good Chinese construction to have more than one door in an impressive structure. Do you recall that in the assembly hall in the Tung Fu here, there are three large doors on the south or front side? Would it be possible to modify this idea of three doors in such a way as to make a rapid emptying of the hall one of its advantages?

Now with regard to the items more specifically related to the Women's College:

1. I have already expressed to Mrs. Hoys my approval of the entrance to our academic quadrangle from a point directly west of its center. It is most unfortunate that in planning this quadrangle you did not take advantage of the yellow tiled Ying Pi across the road. This would have made a delightful vista, but it is too late now. I am taking up with Mr. Gibb the possibility of clearing the pond of the rushes which are filling up the space too much to allow the reflection to be seen.

2. I would also like to suggest that if possible the two foot paths leading from the proposed faculty social building to the space between the two square buildings and the corresponding path opposite should be moved out a little further away from the two west terraces of the buildings. It might be a little unpleasant to people sitting on the terraces to have foot passengers pass by quite so closely.

3. I have already expressed to you my acquiescence in your opinion of the two great height of the rockery and the desirability of its removal. I also hope that the artificial height which can be given to Sage by the slant in the grading toward that building will be beneficial.

Mr. Henry Killam Murphy

3

4. I have not yet had a chance to talk with Mr. Etter in detail as to how to plan the indicated gardens east of Sage and south of the Dean's Residence, as well as on the site of the future building directly opposite the gymnasium. This latter unit is particularly important and must be carefully studied. The space is large and could be used very effectively.

5. The Women's College reservation lines which you have indicated on the east and west are a good idea, as this will protect the women's dormitories from too close encroachment. The waterway which you have indicated as passing between Sage and the President's House is also valuable in this line, though not absolutely essential. Mr. Gibb fears that the expense of this will be very great - about L.C. \$12,000. It remains to be seen whether the Trustees and the Yenching College Committee are prepared to spend this sum for this purpose.

6. The Building Committee of the Yenching College Committee were particularly anxious as I told you that you should give us the dimensions of the two future buildings to be erected on the north and south sides of the academic quadrangle. This is necessary to know for the purpose of estimating the cost and securing the gifts to meet it as well as to make further plans for the use of these buildings. You promised to give me these figures, but hitherto I have not received them. Though you told me in general your plan to suggest a second story building in the center with one story wings running east and west, I am sure the Yenching College Committee will wish you to give them the exact figures and location of these buildings.

7. No more detailed plans regarding the gymnasium have yet come from New York, and those left by you are hardly sufficiently detailed for going on with the building when the money is secured. On the blue print, you have indicated a possible swimming pool to the south, but in the plans for the building itself, there is no indication whatever of a door on the south side. Could not this be planned for on the erection of the building, even though the doors are locked for some years? I have not had time to go over these plans in detail with the Construction Bureau, but I understand that the sub-committee on architectural problems will make a preliminary study and ask for any details which may not have been supplied.

8. I am sorry that you so thoroughly disapprove of the women's College dormitories, though the north walls are indubitably ugly. The faculty of the Women's College is recommending the expenditure of sufficient money to apply the pilasters you have suggested in your restudy of the north walls of the northernmost dormitories. On the inside north walls, ivy has already been planted and will probably be attached to the walls to the height of four or five feet this first season. It grows very rapidly in North China, and we

0462

Henry Killam Murphy

4

will plant it as soon as possible on all the north walls. After four or five years those walls will be practically covered and it will have distributed itself well over the terrace walls lining the two sides of the athletic field, as well as the east and west ends of the dormitory wings.

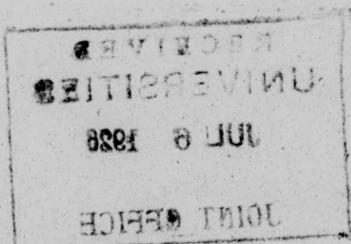
9. Your suggestion of building a faculty social building veiling the sunken service road running between the backs of the two rows of west dormitories is a good one. At present it is planned that the college teachers living in the faculty suites in the dormitories, where it is impossible to entertain any but intimate women friends, will use the Dean's Residence as their place for entertaining. While there are only six or eight faculty members doing this, it is quite possible an arrangement, but as the members of the faculty in the dormitories increase in number, it will be somewhat crowded, and they should have a place where they can entertain for meals or overnight, and where they can be quite free in their social life, as they cannot in a Chinese girls' dormitory. The providing of this building will also make a good architectural provision for veiling the road and breaking the long line of north dormitory walls.

10. The Department of Home Economics approves of your tentative location of the Home Management Practice House to the southwest of the women's dormitories. The Yenching College Committee has authorized us to proceed with practical plans for letting the contract of this Chinese house and having it put up this summer.

11. I was glad to note your tentative approval of the suggestion of a possible difference in level of the easternmost and westernmost proposed dormitories. This question will not be immediate for some time, but should be kept in mind in planning landscape features.

I think that this covers in general my impressions on looking over this blue print. I am hoping to make an appointment this week with Mr. Etter and Mr. Sohatsu King to go into a little more detail with regard to some of the suggestions there indicated, and will send you any further results if they differ from these comments indicated above.

Very sincerely yours,



0463

Henry William Murphy

will plant it as soon as possible on all the north walls. After four or five years those walls will be practically covered and it will have distributed itself well over the terrace walls lining the two sides of the athletic field, as well as the east and west ends of the dormitory wings.

9. Your suggestion of building a faculty social building veiling the sunken service road running between the backs of the two rows of west dormitories is a good one. At present it is planned that the college teachers living in the faculty suites in the dormitories, where it is impossible to entertain any but intimate women friends, will use the Dean's Residence as their place for entertaining. While there are only six or eight faculty members doing this, it is quite possible an arrangement, but as the members of the faculty in the dormitories increase in number, it will be somewhat crowded, and they should have a place where they can entertain for meals or overnight, and where they can be quite free in their social life, as they cannot in a Chinese girls' dormitory. The providing of this building will also make a good architectural provision for veiling the road and creating the long line of north dormitory walls.

10. The Department of Home Economics approves of your tentative location of the Home Management Practice House to the northwest of the women's dormitories. The Yenching College Committee has authorized us to proceed with practical plans for letting the contract of this Chinese house and having it put up this summer.

11. I was glad to note your tentative approval of the suggestion of a possible difference in level of the east-west and west-east proposed dormitories. This question will not be immediate for some time, but should be kept in mind in planning landscape features.

I think that this covers in general my impressions on looking over this site print. I am hoping to make an appointment this week with Mr. Ritter and Mr. Robert King to go into a little more detail with regard to some of the suggestions there indicated, and will send you any further results if they differ from these comments indicated above.

Very sincerely yours,

RECEIVED
UNIVERSITIES
JUL 6 1926
JOINT OFFICE

0464

HENRY KILLAM MURPHY
ARCHITECT

1906-HENRY KILLAM MURPHY
1908-MURPHY AND DANA
1921-MURPHY, MCGILL & HAMLIN
1923-HENRY KILLAM MURPHY

HEAD OFFICE-NEW YORK CITY
PERSHING SQUARE BUILDING
PARK AVENUE AND 42nd STREET
TELEPHONE ASHLAND 8080
CABLE ADDRESS "MURDAN" NEW YORK

MANILA OFFICE
PACIFIC BUILDING
CABLE ADDRESS "MURDAN" MANILA

MAIN ORIENTAL OFFICE-SHANGHAI
UNION BUILDING
CANTON ROAD AND THE BUND
TELEPHONE CENTRAL 4706
CABLE ADDRESS "MURDAN" SHANGHAI

New York City.
2 July, 1926.

re: YENCHING UNIVERSITY.

TRANSFER

Dr. Eric M. North,
c/o Peking University,
150 5th Ave., N.Y. City;

Dear Dr. North:-

We have just received the following letter from Mr. Murphy with the request that we type and transmit it to you:-

"Isolation Hospital - #1A Range Rd.,
"Shanghai 11 June, 1926.

"Dr. Eric M. North,
c/o Peking University,
150 5th Ave., N.Y. City.

"Dear Dr. North:-

"You may perhaps know of the 5 week's delay I have suffered, through an attack of scarlet fever which laid me low immediately after my return, early in May, from my Peking visit; which, together with the extra time required to travel to and from Tientsin by boat, and the wait in Shanghai (in March) until word came from Dr. Stuart to make the try (to get through the fighting lines,) has made a total of eight weeks' "retard" in my schedule. Instead of being able to present my Report to the Trustess by June first, as expected, it will now be early August before this can be done. I am hoping to get out of the Hospital in less than a week; make my much belated visit to the Canton Christian College, and sail for Home (after visiting Kobe College again) on the "Empress

0465

TRANSFER

of Canada" leaving Yokohama 17 July and due Victoria 26 July; whence I shall take the Ferry to Seattle and home via Chicago, stopping there a day to confer with the Kobe College authorities. I should arrive N.Y. Aug. 1 or 2, and be ready for a preliminary conference Aug. 3 or 4.

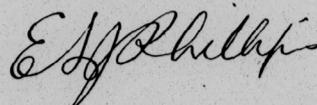
"As I have planned all along to do the actual writing of my formal "Report to the Trustees" on the steamer from Yokohama to Victoria, it will not be possible for me to get it to you in advance of my own arrival in N.Y.; and it will probably not be possible for me to have it typed until after I get to my office. I do not know how much may have been sent to the N.Y. authorities by the Yenching people on the field, bearing on my visit and matters discussed or settled. I notice, however, in Mrs. Frame's letter to me of 31 May, that she said she was sending copies of it "to Mrs. Rove and Dr. North". It is confusing not to have the plan itself; and I assume you will feel, as I do, that it is better not to try to take up any of the new Yenching matters until I can present and explain the whole thing. There are, however, a few points in Mrs. Frame's letter to me (written in accordance with my request to her, when I handed her a print of my "Rearranged General Plan" on 7 May, just before I left Peking) which showed misconceptions on her part (notably in regard to the bridge, and the plans for the Woman's Gym) on which I have written her fully. You will also be glad to know that (through a lucky mistake,) the foundations of the Woman's Gym have actually been built so much larger than the figures call for on our preliminary plans that the increase in these dimensions on our final Working Drawings is easily taken care of. The other points mentioned in Dr. North's letter to me - the inadequacy of the doors from Stair-Halls to Exercising Floor, and the question of better screening of first Dressing Room from Corridor, - I have corrected on the original cloth tracings I left with the Construction Bureau, and on the prints I gave Mrs. Frame.

0466

"I am sorry not to be able to send you more; but I want to get this off by the "Pres. Jackson" sailing day after tomorrow, as the copies of Mrs. Frame's letter will probably go on that boat; and I must send this at once to be disinfected. I hope Dr. Luce showed you my letter to him of 16 May; if not, please ask to see it. I am bringing some 50 interesting photos I took of Yenching; and have already used them in a lecture I gave at the Language School on "Adaptation of Chinese Architecture".

"Sincerely yours,

"HENRY KILLAM MURPHY".



HKL/ack

0467

RECEIVED
UNIVERSITIES
JUL 8 1926
JOINT OFFICE

0468

PEKING

INDEXED

TRANSFER

Peking University

July 31, 1926

Mr. Henry K. Murphy,
Pershing Square Building,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Murphy:

Through Mr. Phillips I have had your letter of June 11th with the word which we had had earlier by cable of your unfortunate illness in Shanghai and the consequent delay to your plans. I certainly am very sorry that you have had this experience and had it under those circumstances. Father and I spent two weeks in the Harvard Hospital in Shanghai some years ago and can sympathize with the restraint which the experience put upon your plans.

I note that you have planned for a conference with us early in August. It happens that four of the six members of the Finance Committee are in Europe and two others are practically out of reach and I do not believe it will be possible to have a meeting before September. I myself will be away practically all of the time from the first of August until September. Mrs. Roys has left for Vancouver from which she sails August 5th and her work in connection with the Yenching Building Committee has come to me. I have noted what Mrs. Frame has written but no consideration has been given to it in particular by myself or by others, and we are holding everything that has come awaiting your full report.

I was delighted to see in your letter to Dr. Luce your enthusiasm for the results obtained and am certain that the further plans we shall make will only serve to enhance the beauty and adequacy of what we have all been anxious to promote. I venture to urge that you arrange to make your report to the Trustees cover every possible item that we shall want to take up with you and you with us, so that, upon so large a matter with so many details involved, we may not be dependent upon recollections of verbal statements of your judgment. This will also be of much value in getting the Committee to give adequate consideration to the whole program. I am glad to know you have some good photos and we would appreciate copies of them when you can get to having them made. I see that your Canton friends have succeeded in quoting you at length in the New York Times on their buildings which to me is somewhat amusing considering the impressions I have been able to get so far as to the architectural difference between the two institutions.

0469

H.K.Murphy-2

7-1-26

I sincerely hope that you have recovered fully from your experience in Shanghai and that the voyage back has freshened you from what must have been the wearying work of your conferences.

Cordially yours,

Secretary
Peking University

EMM-A

penned postscript - Please be sure and have your full report ready by the third week in August so we can get started in good season

0470

HENRY KILLAM MURPHY
ARCHITECT

PERSHING SQUARE BUILDING
PARK AVENUE AND 42nd STREET
NEW YORK CITY

1906-HENRY KILLAM MURPHY
1908-MURPHY AND DANA
1921-MURPHY, MCGILL & HAMLIN
1923-HENRY KILLAM MURPHY

PEKING
TELEPHONE ASHLAND 8080
CABLE ADDRESS "MURDAN" NEW YORK

New York City.
13 August, 1926.

re: YENCHING UNIVERSITY.

TRANSFER

Dr. Eric M. North,
150 5th Ave., N.Y. City.

Dear Dr. North:-

I arrived in New York a few days ago, fairly well recovered from my siege of scarlet fever in June, though not yet quite up to full-speed work in hot weather.

In response to a letter from Mr. Warner which I found awaiting my steamer at Victoria I stopped off for a conference with him at Walla Walla, Wash.; and left with him for further study my original notes on Yenching, and some of my correspondence with Drs. Stuart and Porter, and Mrs. Frame, which I have just this morning received back from him. Mr. Warner gave it as his opinion, after we had gone over things in a general way, that it would be best to defer the formal presentation of my full Report to the Trustees until his return to New York about September first; but to proceed at once with the drawing out of the new General Plan, embodying the decisions reached during my Peking visit on purely architectural matters. This new drawing is now far enough along so that you could stop in at my office to see it any time now, if you would be interested to know, in advance of the Report, how we have solved the questions of Chapel location, informal treatment around Lake, etc. Meanwhile, I am putting into definite form a number of separate Sections of the Report, covering individual headings, preparatory to the preparation of the final document.

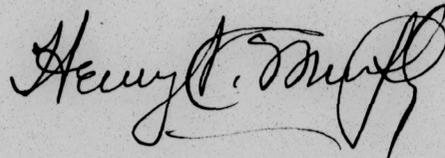
As I find the office treasury very low, due to the unexpected prolongation of my China trip, it is necessary for me to make immediate collection of the balance

0471

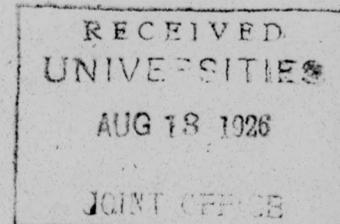
remaining to be paid to me on the Yenching visit. I am therefore enclosing, (in triplicate) "Memo of Expenses" showing G.\$1,000 due; on which I should be glad if you would send me check for as large a portion as possible, if you cannot draw an immediate check for the full amount.

Complying with your request that I approximate the proportion of the total (Mex.\$4,950 + G.\$500) to be allocated to the Woman's College, I should say that one-fifth would be about right.

Sincerely yours,



HKM/ack



0472

PEKING

HENRY KILLAM MURPHY
ARCHITECT

PERSHING SQUARE BUILDING
PARK AVENUE AND 42nd STREET
NEW YORK CITY

1906-HENRY KILLAM MURPHY
1908-MURPHY AND DANA
1921-MURPHY, MCGILL & HAMLIN
1923-HENRY KILLAM MURPHY

TELEPHONE ASHLAND 8080
CABLE ADDRESS "MURDAN" NEW YORK

New York City.
13 August, 1926.

re: YENCHING UNIVERSITY.

Memo of Expenses to be repaid by Yenching Univ.
to H.K. Murphy in connection with his Peking Visit
of 1926; in accordance with Contract dated 8 Jan., 1924.

(A) "For the time spent in connection with Peking University work,
including the time required for travelling from Shanghai to
Peking and return; @ \$100 Local Currency per day."

1 April (left Shanghai for Peking) to
12 May (arrived Shanghai from Peking) = 42 days----- (Mex.) \$4,200

(B) "Actual living and travelling expenses for the same time."

Steamer, Shanghai to Tientsin-----	(Mex.) \$75.00
Hotel, Tientsin-----	15.00
Motor, Tientsin to Peking-----	(no charge)
hotel, Peking (7 Apr.-8 May) 31 days @ 12.50--	387.50
Motors, Peking-----	150.00
Train, Peking to Tientsin-----	7.50
Hotel, Tientsin-----	10.00
Steamer, Tientsin to Shanghai-----	75.00
Miscel. -----	30.00
	(Mex.) \$750.00 --- <u>750</u>
	(Mex.) \$4,950

Credit by Cash rec'd by H.K.M. at Peking from Treasurer of Yenching University -----	<u>3.000</u>
Bal. due H.K.M. on local expense account-----	(Mex.) \$1,950 = G. \$1,000

(C) "If the Architect makes a trip to the Orient from New York
at the request of the Owner, a further supplementary
payment shall be made by the Owner to the Architect of
Gold \$1,000."

	<u>G. \$1,000</u>
	G. \$2,000
Credit by Check rec'd by H.K.M. in N.Y. from Dr. Eric North (Feb. 13, 1926)-----	G. \$500
Credit by special rebate at request of Trustees of one-half the amount (G. \$1,000) called for in contract for trip from New York to Orient-----	<u>500</u>
	(G.) \$1,000 ----- <u>\$1,000</u>
Balance due-----	G. \$1,000

RECEIVED
UNIVERSITIES
AUG 13 1926

0473

HENRY KILLAM MURPHY
ARCHITECT

1906-HENRY KILLAM MURPHY
1908-MURPHY AND DANA
1921-MURPHY, MCGILL & HAMLIN
1923-HENRY KILLAM MURPHY

HEAD OFFICE-NEW YORK CITY
PERSHING SQUARE BUILDING
PARK AVENUE AND 42nd STREET
TELEPHONE ASHLAND 8080
CABLE ADDRESS "MURDAN" NEW YORK

MANILA OFFICE
PACIFIC BUILDING
CABLE ADDRESS "MURDAN" MANILA

MAIN ORIENTAL OFFICE-SHANGHAI
UNION BUILDING
CANTON ROAD AND THE BUND
TELEPHONE CENTRAL 4706
CABLE ADDRESS "MURDAN" SHANGHAI

New York City.
1 October, 1926.

re: YENCHING UNIVERSITY.

Dr. Eric North,
c/o Yenching University,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

TRANSFER

Dear Dr. North:-

Your Secretary telephoned me this morning that when you had presented our bill of 29 Sept. to yesterday's meeting of the Finance Committee they had laid it on the table pending a statement from me as to the authorization for the four items^{work} represented by this bill, as follows:-

1. Rearranged General Plan:-

The revision of the general plan to meet the many and varied new conditions and changes of Program developed since we made the last rendered drawing of this in 1922, was the chief purpose of my trip to Peking Last Spring. On my return to New York in August the first Yenching work I took up was the preparation of this new drawing, embodying our solutions of the various problems roughly worked out during my stay at Peking. Quite early in our work on this new General Plan, (while it was still in preliminary form as a pencil drawing on tracing paper,) Mr. Warner went over it with me, to make suggestions for possible modifications; and a few days later you also visited our office for the same purpose. At each of these conferences I explained that we were planning to get this Rearranged General Plan as early as possible in its final form as an ink drawing on tracing cloth; as it was to form the chief document in the new procedure resulting from my Peking visit. At various times during

0474

our work on the final ink drawing, Dr. Luce and Mr. Lewis also inspected it at our office.

In view of all the above, I was much astonished to hear that anyone was raising the technical point of written authorization.

2. New Birdseye Perspective of Complete Group:-

The same general points apply to this drawing, which is a necessary supplement to the new General Plan; presenting graphically, for general use among prospective donors as well as by the authorities themselves, what is shown diagrammatically on the more technical General Plan.

3. Perspective of Lakefront Dormitory Group:-

*to be
also before
drawing*

Just before I left Peking Dr. Stuart asked me to get underway among the very first things I did after reaching New York, the Preliminary Drawings of this new group for his use in campaigning for funds in China; and I have mentioned several times to Mr. Warner, Dr. Luce and yourself that we were proceeding as requested by Dr. Stuart. Mr. Warner went over these Dormitory drawings several weeks ago, while they were still in sketch-form, and we made a number of improvements at his suggestion, including the raising of the First Floor of the Northerly row of units a whole story above the First Floor of the Southerly row. As I explained to Dr. Luce early this week, we shall be able to send out within a few days the photos of this drawing in its final form; the prints given to Dr. Luce, at his request, (showing the perspective simply in the form of a line-drawing,) being for preliminary study only.

4. Perspective of Warner Gym. and Pagoda:-

This is in a different category from the first three items on our 29 Sept. bill, as it was not absolutely necessary to have such a drawing. The funds being already subscribed by Mr. Warner and his family, no further drawing was needed for campaign purposes, but we felt that it was worth while to show this

building, (architecturally second in importance only to Bashford,) the same attention, in the way of an individual perspective drawing, that had been given to smaller buildings such as the Library and Dining Hall (three duplicate color-perspectives of the latter having been made.) It is our intention, in view of Mr. Warner's generosity in undertaking the whole financing of this fine building, to finish what we have started, and complete a color-rendering of this perspective; but if the Finance Committee feel that they should not be asked to pay for it, we will ourselves assume the cost of this perspective, including the amount already billed.

Sincerely yours,



HKM/ack

0476

WINSTON STRAWN & SHAW
First National Bank Building
CHICAGO

November 27, 1926.

Dear Mr. Murphy:

When in New York last week I referred to the Taku Bar incident as an evidence of hysterical and unwise action on the part of some of our missionary friends. I promised to send you a copy of the correspondence on the subject for your own private perusal and return to me. I think you will agree that Mr. Peck deals with the subject very temperately, under the circumstances.

Please do not misunderstand my attitude toward the missionaries in China. I conceived it my duty, in the two capacities in which I went to China, to represent the interests of the missionaries as well as those of the business men. I had no occasion to criticise the interference of the latter in politics. I must confess, however, at times as to the activities of the missionaries I could not escape the conclusion that some of them were indiscreet in that they went along with the extreme views of the Chinese on false issues which tended to work the Chinese people into a frenzy of criticism and unrest.

I am quite sure, had the Extraterritoriality Commission recommended the immediate abolition of extraterritoriality, as some of our good friends in China wished the Commission to do, that before now most of the missionary compounds in the interior of China would have been taken over by the bandits and militarists who now infest the country and therefore the hundreds of millions of dollars of money, and the many years of splendid effort made by the good people of this country in attempting to do something for the Chinese people would have been at least partially lost or destroyed.

As you know, the United States for many years has been desirous of surrendering its extraterritorial rights in China but in the interest both of our American citizens and of the Chinese people, and especially the people doing

0477

missionary work there, I do not believe the time is now opportune to yield those rights. The difficulty, as you will observe from the report of the Extraterritoriality Commission which will be available to you within a few days, is that everything in China, at the present time, is controlled by the military forces.

The Extraterritoriality Commission was required only to investigate and report facts in order that the several Governments might be fully advised when conditions make it possible to consider a modification of the Extraterritorial Treaties. Meanwhile, I think that all Americans in China may rest in confidence that our diplomatic relations in China are being capably taken care of under the direction of the President and Secretary of State acting through our Minister.

Cordially yours,

(Signed) Silas H. Strawn

Henry Killam Murphy, Esquire
Pershing Square Building
Park Avenue and 42nd Street
New York, N.Y.

HENRY KILLAM MURPHY
ARCHITECT

1906-HENRY KILLAM MURPHY
1908-MURPHY AND DANA
1921-MURPHY, MCGILL & HAMLIN
1923-HENRY KILLAM MURPHY

HEAD OFFICE-NEW YORK CITY
PERSHING SQUARE BUILDING
PARK AVENUE AND 42nd STREET

TELEPHONE ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~
CABLE ADDRESS "MURDAN" NEW YORK
TELEPHONE ASHLAND 8080

MANILA OFFICE
PACIFIC BUILDING

MAIN ORIENTAL OFFICE-SHANGHAI
UNION BUILDING
CANTON ROAD AND THE BUND
TELEPHONE CENTRAL 4706
CABLE ADDRESS "MURDAN" SHANGHAI

6 December, 1926.

re: CHINA AFFAIRS.

Silas H. Strawn, Esq.,
Winston, Strawn & Shaw,
First Nat'l Bank Bldg.,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mr. Strawn:-

Thank you for your letter of 27 Nov., enclosing copy of the correspondence on the Taku Bar incident of last March; which I am returning to you herewith as requested.

I certainly do agree with you that Mr. Willys Peck's letter to Mr. Sears deals with the subject very temperately, under the circumstances; and no one, no matter how prejudiced against the attitude of the Peking Legations, could read his masterly analysis of the whole affair without realizing that the group for whom Pres. Stuart served as spokesman acted on incomplete and otherwise imperfect information, to say the least. I especially enjoyed that portion of Mr. Peck's letter in which he said:-

"It is perhaps understandable that a portion of the uninformed Chinese public, animated by a natural feeling of nationalism, might hastily read into the "ultimatum" addressed to the warring factions something addressed to and hostile to China as a whole, but it is difficult to see how intelligent American citizens with the document before them can do so."

And I feel that Mr. Peck must have had in mind a reproof to the American leaders in such student-centers as Yenching University, when he said:-

"As for the protest made by Chinese students and the resulting

0479

terrible tragedy, it appears to me that these students must have been misinformed by someone."

and

"I think they must have imagined that some pressure or threat had been offered to the Chinese Government itself, and that they were offering their support to the Government. This was a pathetic error on their part, for in urging the Government to resist the demand of the foreign Powers they were urging the Government to insist upon the right of the Fengtien and the Kuominchun forces to continue a war that the Government itself had explicitly forbidden. Those who are in any way responsible for the error of these students obviously bear a heavy responsibility."

I am really greatly obliged to you for sending me this full information; and I appreciate your confidence in making me acquainted with correspondence which of course must not be widely seen. It will enable me much better to fulfill my self-appointed part as liaison-officer between the missionary and diplomatic-business elements in the American community in China. I have a great regard for Pres. Stuart and for Lucius Porter, (both of whom were in the group calling on Minister MacMurray at the time of the "ultimatum" - in fact they are the two most intelligently enlightened men I know in China; - and I regard as one of my achievements the entente cordiale I succeeded in establishing between MacMurray and Porter (through our common interest in Chinese architecture) just before I left Peking last May. While my relations with the Trustees of Yenching, here in New York, are only those of Architect and client, yet I am in a position to exert a considerable influence on the business-men composing that Board; and in the case of Lingnan University, in Canton, I am now a Trustee myself, as well as Architect for its future developments.

All of which goes to show that in setting me right on this matter of the

0480

Taku "ultimatum", you have put in your time to good purpose.

Do not forget that I shall hope to see something of Mrs. Strawn when you are next in New York. I shall always be glad to see either or both of you at my office.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Henry Killam Murphy.

HKM/ack
encl.

0481

HENRY KILLAM MURPHY

ARCHITECT

PERSHING SQUARE BUILDING
PARK AVENUE AND 42nd STREET
NEW YORK CITY

1906-HENRY KILLAM MURPHY
1908-MURPHY AND DANA
1921-MURPHY, MCGILL & HAMLIN
1923-HENRY KILLAM MURPHY

TELEPHONE ASHLAND 8080
CABLE ADDRESS "MURDAN" NEW YORK

7 December, 1926.

re: YENCHING UNIV.

Ernest A. Evans, Esq.,
Yenching University,
150 5th Ave., N.Y. City.

Dear Mr. Evans:-

Complying with your telephone request to my office this morning we are sending you herewith, by bearer, one photo of our rendered Perspective of the Berry Memorial Library Building.

In accordance with my talk with you last night at 150 5th Ave., I have made out a bill for work we have done on Yenching since our last bill of 29 Sept.; amounting to \$1750. I understand you will ask Dr. North to send us, to use by Friday of this week, as large a payment as possible, as our funds are uncomfortably low at present.

I am enclosing a letter to T. T. Lew, inviting him to lunch with me; which I shall be obliged if you will see that he gets.

On thinking over my talk last night with you on the Taku Bar incident, and the consequent "ultimatum" sent by the Powers, I have concluded, in view of your genuine interest, and your exceptional freedom from bias, that it would not be a breach of confidence to send you the enclosed copy of letter to me dated 27 Nov., from Silas H. Strawn, American member of the Extra-Territoriality and Customs Autonomy Commissions, (who acted as Chairman of both bodies during their sessions in Peking early this year,) and of my reply to him, dated 6 Dec. I fully believe that if you and Mr. Strawn could have a talk you would both benefit by a fuller understanding, which might help to reduce the present antagonism between our Government representatives and the American Missions. Mr. Strawn is to be in

0482

New York for the dinner to be given in his honor by the China Society, on Mon.
eve 13 Dec., at the Waldorf; and if you are there I shall be glad to introduce
you, and try to make an appointment for Mr. Strawn to meet you at my office the
next day for a short talk.

Sincerely yours,

Harry K. Brown

HKM/ack
encl.

0483

CHINA UNION UNIVERSITIES

Fukien Christian University
University of Nanking

Shantung Christian University
Peking University

West China Union University

CENTRAL OFFICE

Cable Address
Nanfushan, New York

150 Fifth Avenue, New York City
ERIC M. NORTH, Secretary

Telephone
Chelsea 2130

Peking University

December 29, 1926

Mr. E. A. Evans,
120 Broadway,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Evans:

I am sending you herewith the report of Mr. Murphy on his visit to Peking and his recommendations concerning the general lay-out and similar architectural problems in response to the memorandum we gave him before he went. He is also to furnish me with a memorandum of the items where he thinks mistakes have been made in the erection of the buildings, indicating what he thinks should be altered.

In response to our request, the Reverend T.M. Barker of the staff of the University, who has been on furlough at his home in Ireland, is coming through New York on his way back to the field, the first week in January. Mr. Barker was of great assistance to President Stuart in Peking with the Construction Bureau for some time, and I am sure has a complete understanding of the problems involved. It is our desire to thresh out with Mr. Murphy the matters of question, where he thinks changes are necessary, to come to our conclusions as to what to recommend to the field, and to send these on in definite form to Peking with Mr. Barker. Thus, Mr. Barker will not only have the written statement of our thought, but will also have sufficient background as to our convictions on these matters, so as to be able to effectively assist President Stuart in dealing with them in Peking.

Mr. Barker will reach the United States on January 2nd and will need to leave New York by the tenth or eleventh, to get his boat for Peking. Will you, therefore, be so kind as to read over this report carefully, and as far as possible, hold yourself in readiness for a meeting of the Committee on Finance, Property and Investment preliminary to meeting with Mr. Murphy, a meeting with Mr. Murphy and a meeting after the conference with Mr. Murphy?

This concentrated attention to the matter, I believe, ought to enable us to get the whole thing pretty well settled and in shape for prompt consideration on the field. The time of these conferences is being taken up at once.

Cordially yours,

Eric M. North
Secretary,
Peking University

EMN-L

Enc.

0484