Yenching
Covics.
Murphy, Henry Killam
1927-1932

Peking University

January 24, 1927

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

My dear Mr.Murphy:

I think I have not communicated to you formally the action of theCommittee on Finance of the Trustees of Peking University with reference to the dormitories on the north shore of the lake.

You are hereby authorized to prepare the complete working drawings for these dormitories in general accordance with the layout and preliminary sketches previously submitted, but we are clear in our desire that the transition in appearance from the dormitories at present erected to the new type shall not be too radical and that it shall not appear that we have erected a cheap building because it was somewhat out of the direct view. You have this in mind and will be working upon modifications of the preliminary sketches. It would be our desire that when you have carried out in pencil form the modification of these preliminary sketches you give us an opportunity to examine them before you go too far with the working drawings.

When the whole process is at the point where it would be effective and appropriate to do so we authorize you to prepare a perspective not in color or not of too large scale to show three buildings of this unit.

The Finance Committee has agreed that in view of the character of these buildings the work done by you upon the plans for them shall be placed under the paragraph in our contract of January 2, 1924 by which the payment for the work shall be "equivalent to costs incurred by the architect on such work (as shown in his accountant's reports) plus an equal amount for profit."

We further desire that all possible expedition be used in the preparation of these plans. My latest word is that President Stuart has been fairly successful in securing gifts from the Chinese and that they will be wanting to staft work this spring seems to me to be quite likely. In any case, we are anxious that the plans should be carried to completion at the earliest possible moment. We trust you will let nothing interfere with this desirable achievement.

Cordially yours,

EMN-H

Secretary
Peking University

Peking University

January 24, 1927

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

My dear Mr.Murphy:

You will recollect that in your discussions with the Finance Committee on the matter of the President's residence, you were good enough to say that you would incorporate the suggestions you had in a sketch. Will you not do this with such written comment as you think is necessary, and let us have four or five copies of it so that we can send it out to the field and thereby get something stirred up in the way of getting the donor to supply the funds.

This is not that we expect to use your sketch with the donor but to get President Stuart's ideas about the house crystalized so that he can get the donor to move forward on the basis of a definite house scheme. Do not hesitate to confer with us on a ny phase of this that seems to you desirable. We hope you can let us have this sketch before very long. I may add that we have cabled to Peking for the drawings called for by paragraph 10 of your letter of May 10th to President Stuart.

Cordially yours,

Secretary
Peking University

EMN-H

Peking University

January 24, 1927

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

My dear Mr.Murphy:

I have delayed in communicating to you the conclusions upon the matter of the chapel for Peking University pending some conferences we have been having upon the matter of size. The present status is this: Mr.Barker is to review the whole matter with the authorities on the field on his arrival there, especially with reference to the matter of the desirability of larger seating capacity. We are not convinced that a program of 550 is right, and we are anxious to make sure that the factor of cost did not put limits in the minds of those who were considering the matter of capacity.

Meanwhile, as you have opportunity, we would like to have you continue your studies of this problem, especially to see if there is any way whereby, while still maintaining the chapel as the most attractive exterior on the campus, we can keep its present seating capacity at a figure about large enough to take in the present student body, but with provision for additions later that might provide for two or three hundred more, say up to a total of 850 or 900. I admit the problem is one of very considerable difficulty, but I think we ought to try to work toward some solution of it in the interest of meeting more adequately and perhaps more permanently the requirements of the University in respect to this building.

When we have further word, or further light upon this problem, we will let you know. Meanwhile, may I raise the question as to whether the long axis of the chapel is not a little too much east and west in your layout of the grounds, and whether it would not be more attractive from the point of view of the western end of the campus if it were turned so that the long axis was a few degrees nearer a northeast southwest line? I do not mean a very marked change, but enough so that the building is somewhat less "end end on" than it is now.

Cordially yours,

Secretary
Peking University

EMN-H

Peking University

January 25, 1927

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

My dear Mr.Murphy:

We have sent out to President Stuart our recommendations that some competent Chinese authority, such as Sohtsu King, undertake the responsibility of working out the landscaping of our grounds, including the location of paths and roads, shrubbery, water courses, etc.

If I recollect correctly you indicated that it was important that such plans as were made be checked up in order to be sure that they fitted in with the architectural conception of the whole, and we have directed that this be done. It seems to me, however, that some time may be saved if you will indicate by a series of notes the significant elements in the conception which the landscaping designer will need to have in mind; for instance, the fact that a distinct landscaping break or barrier should appear between Ninde Hall and the first dormitory so that these two would not be brought together as parallel buildings around a court. No doubt there are other features of a similar nature involved and the Finance Committee would like to have you furnish, as soon as possible, a definite statement as to these phases of the matter. I think that this will not be difficult as you have most of these already in mind.

Faithfully yours,

Secretary
Peking University

EMN-H

Additional copies sent to Mr. Murphy. 2/23

Peking University

February 15, 1927

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

My dear Mr.Murphy:

I have been informed by President Stuart that when you were in Peking you were good enough to pledge the sum of $1000.00 gold for the purchase of stone ornaments and similar matters for the beautification of the University's grounds and buildings, and also that you hoped to secure from your friends an additional $4000.00 for this purpose. This evidence of your interest in this whole matter is very heartily appreciated. Is it at all possible for you to make these funds available now? We are advised that about three miles south of the University there is an old ancestral temple which has been sold to a firm of contractors. There is here a beautiful main gateway, the entire eaves of which are made of carved stone instead of the usual wood. There are also some bits of carving which can be gotten at reasonable prices. There are some art objects from the old Summer Palace which are put on the market. If we can make available some of the funds to secure some of these items it will be of very great value to us as you yourself will undoubtedly fully appreciate.

Cordially yours,

Secretary
Peking University

EMN-H

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

March, 1927.

re: YENCHING UNIVERSITY.

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

Dear Dr. North:-

In accordance with your letter of 1 March, we are sending you herewith four copies of a new "Summary of Bldgs. Built or Authorized", dated today, to supersede that dated 2 Feb. 1926, which we found to be incorrect as to Men's Dormitories, and hence as to totals, etc.

Sincerely yours,

Henry K. Murphy

HKM/ack
4 encls.

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

2 March, 1927.

YENCHING UNIVERSITY

SUMMARY OF BLDGS. BUILT OR AUTHORIZED

BUILDING	CUBIC FEET	ASSUMED U.S.A. COSTS (at uniform flat rate)	ACTUAL CHINA COSTS (data from R.M.McGILL)
Men's Dormitory #1	250,000	@ .50 = $125,000	@ .18 = $ 45,000
" " #2	250,000	@ .50 = 125,000	@ .18 = 45,000
" " #3	250,000	@ .50 = 125,000	@ .18 = 45,000
" " #4	250,000	@ .50 = 125,000	@ .18 = 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.	480,000	@ .50 = 240,000	@ .13 = 65,000
Chapel	285,000	@ .50 = 142,500	@ .17 = 50,000
Infirmary	100,000	@ .50 = 50,000	@ .17 = 17,000
Students' Center	350,000	@ .50 = 175,000	@ .17 = 60,000
Women'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.	520,000	@ .50 = 260,000	@ .13 = 70,000
TOTAL	6,155,000 cu.ft.	$3,077,500	Aver. @ .17 $1,022,000
4 Units of Women's Dormitories		500,000	170,000
		$3,577.500	$1,192,000

燕京大學

YENCHING UNIVERSITY

(INCORPORATED IN 1909 AS PEKING UNIVERSITY)

PEKING, CHINA.

April 1st, 1927.

Construction Bureau, Haitien, Peking West.
Tel. No. 4100 East
" " 4400 East

Cay to Dr North

H.

Mr. K. Murphy,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Murphy:-

Owing to disturbed conditions of the country some very fine monuments are on the market. It was reported to the Grounds and Buildings Committee that 2 stone arches(Pailous) similar to the one shown on the photograph , which we are sending by the same mail, 2 very large stone lions from the east side of the old Summer Palace, also the 4th Victory column, are being offered at a very low figure. We think that these can be gotten for less than Chinese $5,000.00., and moved and erected for, perhaps, Chinese $3,000.00. One of the members of the committee brought up the fact that when you were with us last summer you made a gift of G$1,000.00 and undertook to raise G$4,000.00 for ornamentation of the Campus. The committee instructed me as it's secretary to write to you and ask you to wire back your reply if you are willing for us to purchase these curios.

Dr. Porter wishes the two arches placed as follows: one at the boat-landing in front of the Men's Gymnasium and the other on the island, as this is a typical Chinese arrangement.

If we wish to secure these at a low figure the deal should be put through before there is another change in political conditions here, hence the committee request that you communicate with us by cable. Dr. North has the code that we ordinarily use and the University's address.

The Recitation Building is nearly ready for the first floor forms. We are handicapped by the lack of granite, which has been on the railway station in the Hills for about six months, during which time there has been no rolling stock to bring it to us. Also steel which was to have been shipped from Shanghai before the 15th of February, but which owing to strikes and political disturbances has not come. We have not been delayed by other materials and do not expect to be .

Yours sincerely,

9

The Secretary of the Grounds & Buildings Com.

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

11 April, 1927.

re: YENCHING UNIVERSITY.

Dr. Eric M. North,
Yenching University,
150 Fifth Ave., N.Y.City.

Dear Dr. North:-

In accordance with your telephone request of today we are listing below the dates and amounts of our bills issued for services rendered in connection with the Yenching Woman's College, together with dates of payments:-

Our Bill	Amount	Paid	
Nov. 10, 1921	$ 50.00	Dec. 2, 1921	1st group
Nov. 14, 1921	1575.84	Nov. 28, 1921	
Dec. 27, 1921	2757.72	Feb. 20, 1921	
Apr. 5, 1922	1181.88	Apr. 21, 1922	
Mar. 26, 1923	77.40	Mar. 30, 1923	Revision of Group Plan
Oct. 22, 1925	2950.00	Nov. 18, 1925	Gym
Feb. 15, 1926	750.00	Mar. 15, 1926	Gym
Mar. 16, 1926	1687.00	Mar. 29, 1926	Gym

Trusting this is the information desired, we are

Very truly yours,

HENRY KILLAM MURPHY.

Per

ack

Peking University

May 10, 1927

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

My dear Mr.Murphy:

You probably have had from Mr.Gibb his letter of April 1st conveying the statement from the Grounds and Buildings Committee regarding the stone arches, stone lions, etc.that have been offered to the University.

I want to convey to you the following statement in a cablegram just received from President Stuart:

> "Strongly urge Mr.Murphy to obtain gold $2500. This includes his own gift of $1000. Valuable stone. Must act promptly in order to prevent losing. Telegram if proposition is accepted."

I greatly hope that you have been successful in your efforts to secure these funds which the field is prepared to use promptly. I am sure you will appreciate even more than the rest of us the importance of the items upon which they have succeeded in securing an option. Have you some funds available on this, on the basis of which we can cable them to go ahead. In accordance with our general policy we can cable them to go ahead only after the funds are in hand.

Faithfully yours,

Secretary
Peking University

EMN-H

HENRY KILLAM MURPHY
ARCHITECT

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

1906-HENRY KILLAM MURPHY
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1923-HENRY KILLAM MURPHY

TELEPHONE ASHLAND 8080
CABLE ADDRESS "MURDAN" NEW YORK

Direct (copy sent Mr. Lamont)

14 May, 1927.

re: YENCHING UNIVERSITY.

TRANSFER

Dr. Eric M. North,
Secretary, Peking University,
150 Fifth Ave., N.Y.City.

My dear Dr. North:-

Soon after the first of this year I took up the matter of planning the best procedure in carrying through the project I had formulated in Peking last May for securing, from the artists of New York, a special fund for preserving ancient examples of Chinese sculpture by purchasing and placing within the grounds of Yenching University as many as possible of the fine pieces now scattered about the vicinity of Haitien, and in danger of being destroyed.

On receipt of your letter of 15 Feb., reporting advices from the Field as to certain desirable art-objects recently put on the market, and asking if it would be at all possible to make any of this Artists' Fund immediately available, I put the matter, in a preliminary way, before two or three of my artist-friends; and found a very favorable response. One in particular, (who unfortunately was called away from New York soon after, but is now expected back shortly) gave me the impression that she would put in $1,000 if the whole of the $5,000 I had mentioned was contributed. Others have expressed a genuine interest, and will undoubtedly contribute from $100 to $500 apiece on the same conditions. Upon my return to the office, which I hope will be early next week, (I have been laid up in bed since a week ago Saturday with a torn thigh-muscle) I expect to call together some of those on whom I am chiefly relying for this project, and take the necessary steps to get it underway.

In Mr. Gibb's letter to me of 1 April he speaks of two large stone Pailows (monumental Gateways,) two very large stone lions from the East side of the Old Summer Palace, and the fourth "Victory Column" (of which we already have the other three) as reported available for less than G $2,500; and suggests that they could be moved and erected for another G.$1500.

I should be especially glad if we could secure the fourth Victory column, as these magnificent monoliths — some twenty-five feet high — are absolutely unique, and almost priceless. The large stone lions, while not unique, should be secured if they can be had at a low enough price, as they are of the type of ancient art which would do most to give the real Chinese feeling we want in the new Campus. I am more doubtful about the Pailons, which would require the concentration of a large part of the Fund at two points in the Grounds; whereas my purpose is to spread the Fund out over as large a number of pieces as possible, and so give as much as possible of the old Chinese character to the Campus as a whole. I explained this point to Mr. Gibb while I was in Peking last Spring, (at the time when I vetoed his suggestion that the whole of my own G $1,000 contribution should be put into the purchase of one stone Pailon,) and told him I wanted it to be used a little at a time, to get as large a number as possible of separate old pieces. I am not sure that the others participating in the Fund will feel the same way; and I may be able to give you word, within a week or so, that some one of the donors wants to give a Pailou.

I suggest that you cable Peking the general situation, and at the same time ask them to advise you immediately as to the probable cost of securing a Pailou and setting it up in the Yenching Grounds.

I am sorry I cannot make my own gift immediately available; but believe you know enough of my present financial crisis to understand that this will have to be deferred a little. However, I hope to be able to make a substantial part of the Fund available, very shortly, from the gifts of others.

Very truly yours,

Henry William Meyer

HKM/ack

CHINA UNION UNIVERSITIES

Fukien Christian University
University of Nanking
Shantung Christian University
Peking University
West China Union University

Cable Address
Nanfushan, New York

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

Telephone
Chelsea 2130

Peking University

May 26, 1927

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

My dear Mr.Murphy:

I am sorry to learn from your letter of the 14th of May of your difficulties of which I had not heard before, and of your physical ailment and hope that you will make speedy recovery in both matters. I have forwarded copy of your letter to President Stuart. We have cabled that the funds were not available. I have information that Mr.Gibb will be here about a month from now.

I earnestly hope you will make as a matter of first attention the answering of the questions concerning the steel trusses for the north end of the Gymnasium as referred to in my letters of March 10 and March 31 to you. This is a matter which ought to be cleared so that these can be manufactured and sent forward without further delay. The field asked for cabled information upon this matter more than two months ago.

May I also ask that you follow up, as soon as may be practicable, the matter of the sketch for President Stuart's residence and the notes on landscaping, the latter being referred to in my letter of January 25?

Faithfully yours,

Eric M. North

Secretary
Peking University

EMN-H

CC: Mr.Evans
Mr.Warner

PEKING UNIVERSITY

July 12, 1927.

Memorandum to Miss McCoy:

As I told you a short time ago, Dr. North wished me to give you as much data as we had on the pledge of Mr. Henry Killam Murphy. Under date of November 8, 1926, Dr. Stuart wrote to Dr. North stating:

> "In this connection try to secure from Mr. Murphy the cash for his promise of $1,000. Gold with which to purchase stone ornaments, etc., and urge him to secure from his friends the additional $4,000. which he promised to undertake."

On February 15, 1927, Dr. North wrote to Mr. Murphy in regard to this. On May 7, 1927, we received a cablegram from Peking as follows:

> "Strongly urge Mr. Murphy to obtain Gold $2,500. This includes his own gift of $1,000. Valuable stone. Must act promptly in order to prevent losing. Telegraph if proposition is accepted."

This was communicated to Mr. Murphy on May 10, 1927, and on May 14, 1927, Mr. Murphy replied as per the attached copy of his letter.

For your information, this statement from Mr. Murphy was reported to Dr. Stuart briefly by cablegram on May 24, 1927, and more fully by letter on May 25, 1927, when a copy of the letter of May 14th was forwarded on.

K. J. Linehan

Carbon attached.

L.

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

Campaign Office files

15 November, 1927.

re: YENCHING UNIVERSITY.

Dr. H. W. Luce,
Peking University,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Luce:-

In accordance with your telephone request to me a week ago yesterday, we have finished two (2) new preliminary perspective studies of the Lake Front Dormitory group for the Yenching University. We telephoned your secretary today to tell you that the drawings are ready, but she was unable to get in touch with you.

It is our idea that these two drawings, which are at small scale, should serve as a basis for a larger drawing to be made for Dr. Stuart's use, in his campaign in this country; immediately after we have received any suggestions and criticisms that may be offered. For Dr. Stuart's immediate use, meanwhile, we have had blue-line prints, as well as photographs, made from the drawings; of which the former are now available, and prints of the latter will be available within a few days.

Mr. Murphy is leaving for New Haven on the one o'clock train tomorrow (Wednesday); and would like to go over these drawings with you, either Wednesday morning or some time Thursday. Please telephone us for an appointment.

Very truly yours,

Dr. Stuart says rooms to be 10' x 14'
Mr. Murphy has been told

HENRY KILLAM MURPHY

per M

at

Peking University

November 26, 1927

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

My dear Mr.Murphy:

In confirmation of our telephone conversation a few days ago I quote herewith the following action of the Grounds and Buildings Committee at a meeting on October 13th:

> "Mr.Chuan read a letter reporting an action by the Commission on Men's Welfare re size of future dormitory rooms, suggesting that future dormitory rooms be made one foot wider and one foot longer than the present rooms which are 9' x 13'; that is, that these rooms be 10' x 14' the same as the Women's College dormitory rooms. It was voted to approve the above recommendation."

The Finance Committee has not yet formally acted on this suggestion by the Grounds and Buildings Committee, but since President Stuart strongly approves the proposal I think there will be no serious objection to it.

Very cordially yours,

BAG-H

Assistant Secretary
Peking University

Mrs. Jenkins
655 Park Ave.

HENRY KILLAM MURPHY
ARCHITECT

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

1906-HENRY KILLAM MURPHY
1908-MURPHY AND DANA
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1923-HENRY KILLAM MURPHY

TELEPHONE ASHLAND 8080
CABLE ADDRESS "MURDAN" NEW YORK

Mon. Eve DEC - 5 '27

Dear Dr Stuart:—

The two framed enlargements of the first sketches I showed you in my office ten days ago are now ready. Mr Warren has seen them, and gives us some suggestions for improvements to be made in our final large promotional drawings.

Shall I send the two framed enlargements to you at 150 5th Ave., or do you want us to ship them to Rochester for you? They are not too large for you to carry under your arm.

Sincerely
H K Murphy

HENRY KILLAM MURPHY
ARCHITECT

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

1906-HENRY KILLAM MURPHY
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1923-HENRY KILLAM MURPHY

TELEPHONE ASHLAND 8080
CABLE ADDRESS "MURDAN" NEW YORK

17 January, 1928.

re: YENCHING UNIVERSITY.

Miss McCoy,
Peking University,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Miss McCoy:-

With further reference to our telephone conversation regarding the two framed sepia enlargements of the Lake Front Dormitory Group, which were left with Mrs. ~~Jennings,~~ Jenkins we have been in communication with Mr. Warner's secretary, who informed us that Mr. Warner is out of town, and that she could not find the pictures in his office.

Will you kindly endeavor to get in touch with Dr. Stuart at the earliest possible opportunity, as these enlargements must be in my hands not later than ~~Wednesday, or~~ Thursday, in order to enable me to enter them in the Architectural League Exhibit.

Very truly yours,

HENRY KILLAM MURPHY.

Per

Dr. Stuart tells us he took these 2 pictures up to the Third Presby. Church at Rochester for which they were made.

HENRY KILLAM MURPHY
ARCHITECT

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

1906-HENRY KILLAM MURPHY
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1923-HENRY KILLAM MURPHY

TELEPHONE ASHLAND 8080
CABLE ADDRESS "MURDAN" NEW YORK

26 January, 1928.

re: YENCHING UNIVERSITY.

Peking University,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

TRANSFER

Gentlemen:-

I handed to Dr. Stuart last night, three blue-prints of our 1/8" scale drawing consisting of two plans, four elevations, section, and explanatory perspective, (Drawing Number One, dated 25 January, 1928), of Unit "A" of the Lake Front Dormitory Group for Yenching University; which we have brought to this stage of completion, ahead of the other units in the group, in accordance with the expressed wish of Dr. Stuart and Mr. Warner, at my luncheon conference with them on 6 January.

I had only a short time last night in which to go over with Dr. Stuart the blue-prints I handed him of this drawing; and I understand that any suggestions that may result from further study of this drawing by the New York authorities will be communicated to us promptly; so that we may take up at once the consideration of possible changes or additions and put the drawing in final shape to send to Peking for the use of the Construction Bureau this spring.

Confirming my talk with Dr. Stuart last night, I understand that we are to write direct, in regard to this and other matters henceforth, to Mr. Carl Hildabrand, who has succeeded Mr. Gibb as head of the Yenching University Construction Bureau at Peking. In view of Mr. Hildabrand's good practical knowledge of building construction, and his other qualifications for satisfactory handling of building operations at Yenching University, (and in view of the fact that our fees on this Lake Front Dormitory Group are to be charged on the basis of the time we spend on the work), it is our present intention to ~~get~~ keep the drawings for this Group in somewhat simpler form than the drawings we have hitherto sent out to Peking, for which our fees were based on a percentage of assumed

construction cost. It is necessary to bear this in mind in studying the prints I handed Dr. Stuart last night, of our Drawing Number One; on which it will be noted that our work has been confined to pure design, no structural details being shown, and with figures only for such matters as floor heights, etc.

Pending receipt of word from you as to final approval or suggestions on our drawing of Unit "A", (which you will note also applies, reversed, for Unit "G"), we are proceeding immediately with our 1/8" scale drawings for Units "B", "C", and "D", (the two first of which, reversed, will also provide for Units "E", and "F").

Before construction work can start on Unit "A", it will be necessary for us to draw up, at small scale, a plan showing the entire Lake Front Dormitory Group; for Mr. Hildabrand's guidance in laying out on the ground the foundation lines for Unit "A". We shall proceed with this small scale general plan of the entire Group immediately on receipt of word from you as to your approval of our drawing Number One for Unit "A".

We are sending a copy of this letter, (together with a duplicate of the blue-prints we handed Dr. Stuart last night), to Mr. Franklin H. Warner, 415 Lexington Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Very truly yours,

Henry Killam Murphy

HENRY KILLAM MURPHY.

HKM/at

c.c. - Franklin H. Warner, Esq.,
415 Lexington Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Yenching Office
N.Y.

TRANSFER
PEKING

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

8 February, 1928.

re: YENCHING UNIVERSITY.

Carl Hildabrand, Esq.,
Yenching University Construction Bureau,
Peking, China.

Dear Mr. Hildabrand:-

As stated in our short letter of 7 February to you, we sent you last night by first-class mail, addressed care of the "Yenching University Construction Bureau, Peking, China", three blue-prints of our Drawing Number One, of the Lakefront Dormitory Group, showing Unit "A".

This afternoon we sent you, under separate cover, one muslin-back photograph each of our three perspective drawings of the Lakefront Dormitory Group, dated December 20, 22, and 30, 1927. These perspectives were made by three different draftsmen in order to get the best possible range of presentation, for use in campaigning for funds for this Group; and Dr. Stuart has three prints of each. Dr. Stuart has expressed a preference for the 22 December drawing; Mr. Franklin Warner, Chairman of the Board, prefers the 20 December drawing; and others prefer the 30 December drawing. For the purpose of explaining the design, the 20 December drawing — which, by the way, was made by a Chinese draftsman in my office here in New York — is the clearest.

? what

If you would like additional prints of any of these photographs, please advise us how many, and which of the three drawings you prefer; and we shall be glad to mail them out to you within a week after receiving word from you.

We have just received, from the New York office of Yenching University, carbon of their letter to you dated today; stating that they were sending you today, a carbon copy of my letter to Peking University dated 26 January, regarding the Lakefront Dormitory Group. From that letter you will already know of the decision, communicated to me by Dr. Stuart, that henceforth I am to correspond direct with you on all architectural matters regarding

the Yenching University Group, (sending carbons to the New York office of Yenching University); following the usual course of procedure between architect and builder. I am sure this change from the round-about and unsatisfactory procedure previously followed, in our relations with the Construction Bureau, (through which our opportunity properly to function in the interests of our clients was very much curtailed,) will be as welcome to you as it is to me; and should result in better results in the actual buildings, as well as, I believe, in considerable money-saving.

From my observation of your methods and ability, made during my six weeks visit to Peking in the spring of 1926, I have every confidence that you will make good in the difficult task to which you have succeeded, as the new head of the Construction Bureau; and I want you to feel that I would welcome the most full and frank suggestions from you; so that we may both function to the best advantage in the interests of the University.

From your copy of my letter of 26 January, to the New York office of Peking University, you will note that on receiving, from the New York authorities, their formal approval of our Drawing Number One, for Unit "A", we shall draw up, at small scale, a plan showing the entire Lakefront Dormitory Group, and send you prints for your guidance in laying out on the grounds the foundation lines for Unit "A". If, as I expect, we receive this formal approval immediately after the Finance Committee meeting to be held tomorrow afternoon, we shall try to get this general plan of the Lakefront Dormitory Group out to you by the next steamer. Pending receipt of this general plan, however, you will of course have an opportunity to make your preliminary calculations of quantities, etc, for the various materials you will have to begin having on hand in order to start construction on Unit "A", in the spring.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Henry Killam Murphy

HENRY KILLAM MURPHY.

HKM/et

February 17, 1928

Mr. Henry Killam Murphy,
Pershing Square Bldg.
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr.Murphy:

I am glad to be able to report that our Peking Finance Committee has now met and given its general approval to the Lake Front Dormitory plans. The vote of the Committee was as follows:

> "VOTED to give general approval to the preliminary plans for the Lake Front Dormitory group and to the working drawing of Unit "A" of this group, with the understanding that the cost of these buildings will not exceed the figures given by Mr.Murphy, viz: $6,000.00 for Unit "A" and $114,200.00 for the entire group. It is understood that authorization to begin construction on any unit of this group will be given at later dates as and when funds for such construction are in hand."

I have gone over this action with Dr.Stuart to see whether he feels it is satisfactory both to you and to the field. He states that as far as he knows it is quite acceptable. We are particularly anxious to know whether we are correct in assuming that the cost figures given on your preliminary plans for the Lake Front Dormitory group made in December 1926 are still being followed. Dr.Stuart is under the impression that this is the case but I would be glad to have your verification or correction. If any correction is found to be necessary I will be happy to take it up at a meeting of the Finance Committee to be held on Thursday, February 23rd.

The Committee also formally approved the new relationship whereby you will carry on your correspondence direct with the head of the Yenching University Construction Bureau in Peking, sending carbon copies of all correspondence to the New York office of the University. Their action on this question is as follows:

> "VOTED that the Committee approves of the new relationship between the architect in New York and the Building Committee on the field, and in the plan of forwarding copies of all letters written by both parties to the New York office of Peking University. If, however, any instructions that may be forwarded to the field by the architect are at variance with any notes of the Finance and Property Committee, said instructions shall not be adopted until they have been referred to and approved by the Committee on Finance, Property and Investment."

In addition to the actual correspondence you will, of course, see that our New York office is supplied with copies of all blue prints, drawings and other architectural material that may be sent to the field. It is important that our office keep a complete and up-to-date set of all such material.

Our office is at all times anxious to cooperate in carrying forward the construction work in Peking as rapidly and as economically as possible. I think that most of the delays in the past have been due to the fact that funds in hand are always considerably behind the building needs.

Very sincerely yours,

Assistant Secretary

BAG-H

Peking Universit

March 1, 1928

Mr. H. K. Murphy,
Pershing Square Building,
Park Ave. & 42nd Street,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Murphy:

We are sending for your information the following material recently received from Peking University in regard to a proposed change in one of the roadways of the campus:

Preliminary report of said committee dated November 10th,

Extract from Minutes of Grounds and Buildings Committee meeting of November 10th,

Comment by Dr. Howard S. Galt on Action GB-1344 extracted from Dr. Galt's letter of November 19th,

Extract from Grounds and Buildings Committee Minutes of December 1st,

Extract from Grounds and Buildings Committee Minutes of December 9th,

Copy of letter from Dr. Galt dated December 21, 1927 dealing with the subject of Motor Roads on the Campus.

Action #F-2223 of Finance Committee meeting on January 27,1928.

We would be glad to have any comments you may care to make on this subject. It seems that the Grounds and Buildings Committee is making progress in solving the matter on the field but it may be that some suggestions would be sent from New York.

Very sincerely yours,

BAG/A
Encs.

Peking University

(Extract from Grounds and Buildings Committee Minutes of December 9th.)

"REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ROAD PLAN: It was reported that the sub-committee appointed at the last meeting met and the following proposal was made by Mr. King.

To respect the wishes of the members of the Faculty Com. who strongly object to having a motor road along the south shore of the lake, it is proposed to build the road which leads east from between the Bashford and the Library to the neck of the lagoon then in a southerly direction to a point east of the Sage Building, then east along the south side of the site of the future dormitories, curving to the north on the west of Mr. Gibb's house, then to the east passing out of the campus via the south side of the Power House service court. This it was pointed out would serve the President's House and get fairly close to the Chapel, at the same time leaving a considerable portion of the south bank of the lake free from motor traffic.

It was also proposed to have a road along the west side of the lake, taking off from the road which leads east from between the Bashford and the Library at a point near the architect's roof model, and joining the road which runs past the Men's Dormitories at the southeast corner of the most easterly dormitory. All other roads to be built as shown on the plan.

A proposal was also made by Mr. Hung to entirely do away with the road running through the centre of the campus, and to build only the periphery roads with branches running off to the more important place His plan would be to turn north at the northeast corner of the South Compound continuing along the east side of the site of the future Wom. Dormitories to a point east of the Sage Building. Thence east along the south side of the site of the future Men's Dormitories and out of the Campus by the same route as mentioned in the first proposal. This would necessitate branch roads to the President's Residence and Chapel.

Mr. King also proposed that if his first suggestion is not accepted that we build our motor road according to Mr. Murphy's plan and that traffic could be regulated by administrative authorities.

After some discussion the committee decided to report Mr. King's proposal with his other alternative together with different views of the members of the Faculty Com. to New York, and also that the Faculty Com. be notified of Mr. King's proposals.

The Com. voted unanimously in favour of Mr. King's first proposal, with Prof. Hung's suggestion added (by amendment of the original motive) as an alternative plan."

Peking University

(Extract from Minutes of Grounds and Buildings Committee meeting of November 10th)

"REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ROADS AND WALKS: Dr. Porter read a preliminary report on roads and walks, copy of which is attached to these minutes, and it was voted

GB-1344 - that we accept the report as presented by the sub-committee and authorize the Construction Bureau to start work on same immediately."

(Comment by Dr. Howard S. Galt on Action GB-1344 extracted from Dr. Galt's letter of November 19th.)

"You will note that appended to the minutes is a report of the sub-committee on roads and walks. Action on that report is recorded in GB-1344. I only call it to your attention with the suggestion that it might be well to transmit a copy of the sub-committee's report to Mr. Murphy. It will be a matter of interest to him at least and he may have some comments which he wishes to make regarding it."

(Extract from Grounds and Buildings Committee Minutes of December 1st.)

"MOTOR ROADS. A petition from 45 members of the Faculty objecting to a motor road being built along the south shore of the lake was submitted to this committee which was further augmented by an auxiliary petition from other members making a total of fifty five members objecting to the present plan for the motor road on the University Compound. Mr. Chuan reported that the Men Students Association had also expressed their wish that no motor road should be built along the south shore of the lake.

It was pointed out in the petition that that part of the grounds along which it is proposed to build a motor road is one of the few quiet spots on the University Compound and much enjoyed by both faculty and students. Also that the path around the south shore of the lake is already wide enough for both bicycles and rickshaws; that wagons, motors, buses etc., could go by other routes either: along the present temporary road, or through the valley in which the infirmary stands. It was also reported that owing to so much opposition on the part of the Faculty members the work on the motor road was stopped.

A letter from Mr. Sohtsu King was also read in which it was suggested that the roads be built according to Mr. Murphy's plans, but that traffic could be regulated by administrative authority.

GB-1353 - Voted that this committee, in view of the strong opposition on the part of so many faculty members, refers the matter of roads to Mr. King, Mr. Galt, Mr. Porter and Mr. Hildabrand, to be carefully studied and reported to New York."

Copy

YENCHING UNIVERSITY
Peking, China

December 21, 1927.

Motor Roads on the Campus. Earlier letters have referred to the issue of a motor road through the central part of the campus along the south border of the lake. In referring the matter now to the New York office for decision it is best to recount the steps which have been taken in the matter thus far.

1) The decision of the Grounds and Buildings committee to carry out the road plan as proposed by Mr. Murphy and endorsed by our Landscape committee of which Mr. King is chairman.

2) While the work of grading the section of road between the corner of Bashford and the nearest point of the lake was under way, a petition signed by about 45 members of the faculty was received protesting against the plan for a motor road along the south side of the lake. Upon the basis of this petition work on the road was stopped pending further consideration. A general meeting of the facutly was then called and votes were passed by those present essentially the same in content as the point of view expressed in the petition. Later a supplementary petition in briefer form objecting to the road plan as proposed but not offering any substitutes was circulated and brought in additional signatures. The total number of members of the faculty protesting against the plan for a road along the south border of the lake is about 60.

3) After the petition from the faculty had been received and the meeting of the faculty had been held, a special meeting of the Grounds and Buildings committee was called to consider the question. Mr. King was unable to attend this meeting, but a letter from him was read in which he urged that the roads be constructed according to the original plan and that traffic could be regulated upon these roads according to administrative policy at any time. After considerable discussion, the Grounds and Buildings committee voted to refer the matter for decision to the New York office, such reference to be accompanied by further representations from our committee on Landscape, if that committee wished to take action.

4) The committee on Landscape, consisting of Messrs. King, Porter and Hildabrand, Mr. Galt acting with them, held a special meeting, considered the situation carefully and made a report to another meeting of the Grounds and Buildings committee.

5) In this meeting of the Grounds and Buildings committee the procedure was approximately as follows: (The present communication is accompanied by a sketch map and letters used refer to points indicated on this map).

The special committee just referred to reported in favor of the

following plan for a motor road:

Beginning at point A at the junction between Bashford and Berry halls proceeding directly eastward to B, the nearest corner of the lake, from which one branch proceeds along the south border of the lake to C, then turns southward passing between the site for the President's house and the lagoon crossing the newly excavated canal at G, passing southward on to the high land at S, then turning eastward passing along the south of the future dormitories for men to point V, then turning northward to communicate with the road to the east gate at the point P.

Returning to the point B at the corner of the lake, another branch of the road skirts the lake on the west and joins the motor road planned for the north border of the lake at the point M. This road then follows the original plan marked by the letters M N E P R.

This plan it will be noted is a compromise plan. A motor road would proceed along the south border of the lake for approximately one third of the total distance. The section on the map colored in red between the letters D and E would not be built. This border of the lake, then, would be free from motor traffic according to the desires of the faculty. The road as indicated above would serve the chapel from the point C, and the President's house from the point F.

The report as outlined above was made to the Grounds and Buildings committee. During the discussion it was amended by the addition of another plan to be reported to New York as an alternative plan. This plan is indicated on the sketch map by a route marked with ink cross-lined. This plan does not provide any motor road from east to west through the central portion of the campus, but from the peripheral road along the southern border of the campus a road shown on the map at T S G approaches the center of the campus from the south. At the point G, one short branch G F would serve the President's residence, and another branch G E would skirt the lagoon and serve the chapel. This road coming in from the south sould give off a branch at S running eastward over the course S V P R as indicated in the first plan. After this alternative plan was brought before the committee as an amendment, the motion as amended to the effect that the first plan and the second plan should both be reported to the New York office, was carried unanimously.

6) The above steps show what has been done here on the field and the whole matter is now referred to the New York office for decision in consultation with Mr. Murphy. The fundamental question is whether the quiet and retirement of the center of the campus as represented by the southern borderof the lake and the line of hills just south of it, shall be disturbed by motor traffic on a motor road. The members of the faculty who have protested feel that this section of the campus should be kept as quiet and retired as possible, and that there is not sufficient reason for penetrating this area with a motor road.

The plan shown on the map in blue pencil represents the

report of the special Landscape committee of which Mr. King is chairman. The plan shown in ink crosslined is the alternative plan proposed by certain members of the Grounds and Buildings committee and accepted by amendment for reference to New York.

We consider it fortunate that President Stuart will be in New York at the time this statement is received and will be glad to have his views and opinions presented when the question is under discussion there. We would appreciate it if decision can be reached in time to enable us to take up road building again as soon as the ground thaws in the early spring.

The general action of the Grounds and Buildings committee at its last meeting has been referred to the faculty and the faculty has been promised that if members wish to make further representations to New York such representations will be sent along with the present communication. Such representations have not as yet been received but it is possible that something will follow later.

Howard S. Galt.

P.S. December 22nd - At a Faculty meeting yesterday
8 persons voted in favor of the first plan, as above
30 persons voted in favor of the second or alternative plan.

H.S.G.

(Action #F-2223 of Finance Committee meeting on January 27, 1928)

"F-2223 VOTED that the location of the motor road on the south shore of the lake, described in Action GB-1344 and the preliminary report of the sub-committee on Campus, Roads and Paths, be referred to the Grounds and Buildings Committee with power."

TRANSFER

PEKING

Peking University

March 5th
~~February 24~~, 1928

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

My dear Mr.Murphy:

Mr.Carl Hildebrand of the Construction Bureau of Yenching University wrote us recently as follows:

"Due to the two extremes of climate which we have here in North China we are having considerable difficulty in making tight fitting doors and windows. It has been some time since I was in America, but I recall that there used to be several makes of felt weather stripping for use on loose fitting doors and windows. In connection with this I have thought you might be kind enough to send us some samples and prices of this material. Mr.Murphy might be able to advise you on this matter. It really is quite essential that we have something of this kind since the majority of our buildings were erected during the wet summer season, with the result that when the dry winter weather comes, doors and window sashes are very loose, which seriously affects the heating of the buildings."

We would be glad to have any suggestions you might care to make.

Very sincerely yours,

Assistant Secretary
Peking University

BAG-H

March 8, 1928.

My dear Mr. Murphy:

I have read with much interest and satisfaction your excellent letter to Lucius Porter regarding Mr. Mei Lan-fang. It covers the case very thoroughly.

The carbon copy for me I am passing on to the Chinese Vice Consul General, Mr. Feng, who you will recall is a nephew of one of the leading patrons of Mr. Mei in Peking.

I have an inquiry from a young Chinese who is studying at the University of Wisconsin in which he asks about the possibility of working with you next summer; perhaps you may care to read his rather quaint letter. He did good work with us in the Construction Bureau as outside supervisor of buildings and is a capable and trustworthy young fellow. You may care to write to him direct. In any case, please let me have his letter back with your comments.

I have been reading with great enjoyment a copy of your article for Asia. At this writing, I have not quite finished it but thus far have noted nothing to criticise. Unless I write again you man assume my thoroughgoing approval. If one wanted to be very captious, it could be pointed out that where you speak of the bamboo cocoon that the scaffolding is not always of bamboo, especially in the north but as from the context you are referring to Central China where it is used, and it sounds so picturesque, I would not change it.

Very sincerely yours,

Mr. Henry K. Murphy
Pershing Square Building
New York City

JLS:O
Enc.

P.S. I have since dictating the above finished the article. It's fine.

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

Pres. J. L. Stuart
Peking University
#150 Fifth Ave.

"Yenching Univ."
Lakefront Dorm

Wed. Eve. 11 April/28

My dear Dr. Stuart:—

After talking with Miss McCoy on the telephone this afternoon I decided to change the arrangement I had made with her regarding our conference on the plans for "Unit B" of the Lakefront Dormitory Group. I am sending two blue prints of our 1/8" scale working drawings for this to you Thurs. A.M., by Mr. Doon of my office; who will get them to you by 10:30, to give you a chance to look them over before you leave at noon for the out-of-town trip Miss McCoy spoke of.

I shall be out of town all day Thurs.; but in my all Fri. and Sat. I should like to send a blue print to Mr. Hildebrand by the Seattle mail leaving N.Y. Mon. 16 April; but first want to make sure everything is as you want it. So I should be glad to see you for a few minutes' discussion of the plans at your convenience Fri. before 2:45 (when our Lingnan Exec. Com. meets at my office, followed at 3:30 by Annual Meeting lasting until about 6:00.) This will give me Sat. & Mon.— which to make any changes you may wish in the drawings.

I think the "Unit B" much improved by the new treatment, (dropping roof a little over ends) as bldg looked very long and a little monotonous on previous plan. Yrs. H K Murphy

Please telephone me Fri. (or by Fri. air mail) when I can see you.

September 29, 1928

Dear Mr. Murphy:

I think I should talk with you before you leave the city regarding a paragraph in a recent letter from Dr. Stuart. He is negotiating with a view to purchasing the President Hsu Garden. He has authorization from the Finance Committee to proceed. Although we do not that he will actually acquire this property, it seems quite likely.

It seems that the special value of the property now would be in making it the site for the Schhol of Education. Dr. Stuart requests that I discuss this matter with you. If you feel very strongly in favor of this suggestion, Dr. Stuart would like to have you talk with Mr. Fred I. Eldridge about this matter, since Mr. Eldridge is deeply interested in the School of Education.

Will you kindly think the matter over and form your own opinion about the suitability of the property for that purpose and give me a ring? I will then, if it seems desirable and practicable for you, try to bring you and Mr. Eldridge together.

Sincerely,

Mr. H. K. Murphy
Pershing Square Building
100 East 42nd Street
New York City

ODW:BB

Called this to Mr. Wanamaker's attention in Nov. 1928. He said that as Mr. Murphy was going to Peking so soon, he could take the matter up there. BB

Murphy

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

5 December, 1928

re: Mei Lan Fang photographs

Miss Louise McCoy,
Yenching University,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Miss McCoy:

After several weeks of fruitless effort, we have at least succeeded in getting the Mei Lan Fang photographs which you wanted sent back to Dr. Stuart; and I am sending them to you herewith by bearer. There are five large mounted full length figures and one small mounted portrait-head, being sent you, together with my apologies for our long delay in getting them back to you.

My tentative appointment of last August of which I told you at the time, has now been confirmed; and I am leaving tonight on the Aquitania for Europe to make a four weeks' study of a dozen or more of the northern European cities with regard to their city planning features, in preparation for my work as architect for the laying out of Nanking as the new capitol city of China. I am expecting to arrive in Nanking about the first of February; which will bring me to Peking for a few days stay, about 25-28 January. I shall, of course, see Dr. Stuart at that time but think it best to return the Mei Lan Fang photographs to him as already arranged.

I have had several good talks with Lucius Porter during the past few weeks and shall study with interest the recent color developments on the Yenking buildings. With many thanks for your courtesies to me at various

times, in connection with both Yenking and Mei Lan Fang affairs, and hoping to see you in America some time next summer, I am,

Sincerely yours,

HENRY KILLAM MURPHY

HKM:MG

Yenching University

February 6, 1929

Mr. Ralph B. Higgins
c/o Henry K. Murphy
Pershing Square Building
Park Ave. at 42nd Street
New York City

My dear Mr. Higgins:

Mrs. Murray S. Frame one of the Women's College Gymnasium Committee raises the following questions in regard to the gymnasium plans.

"One point on which I meant to ask more definite an opinion from Mr. Higgins was whether it would still be possible to include a certain number of basement rooms along the southern exposure of the gymnasium. These could be made possible by a sunken area, such as we have in the two houses, the Dean's residence and Miner Hall, and might be used for storage purposes, or, if sufficiently light and sunny, for servant's quarters, of which we stand in need.

I also wish that when the size of the building is finally settled we might still work on the question as to whether an extra room or two for social purposes for the students could be included. This would insure even more use of the gymnasium building when the classes were not being held."

We would very much appreciate your opinion at your earliest convenience of the two points raised by Mrs. Frame.

Very cordially yours,

RAG/MK

February 14, 1929

Mr. Ralph B. Higgins,
C/o Henry K.Murphy,
Pershing Square Bldg.
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr.Higgins:

I attach hereto a copy of a letter from Mrs.Murray S. Frame whom you will remember meeting at the sessions of the Yenching Women's College Gymnasium Committee.

Mrs.Frame's letter expresses the general feeling of all members of the Committee that we should make a very careful study of the Gymnasium before going ahead with final plans. I believe you have been away from the office most of the last fortnight so probably you have not been able to make much progress in any final drawings for the Gymnasium. It is quite obvious that we should wait for final decisions by the Committee before undertaking the preparation of detailed plans, particularly the floor plans.

Very cordially yours,

BAG-H

Enc.

MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE

South Hadley, Massachusetts

Office of the Dean

February 11, 1929

Mr. B. A. Garside,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Garside:

Thank you for your letter of February 4. I have made the opportunity to look at a very modern gymnasium at the Newton High School, and at Wellesley College.

The Head of the Physical Education School at the latter place gave me many points as we looked over our plans, and she made me realize the absolute necessity of not going so fast that we would have to spend money in rectifying mistakes. The Ginling gymnasium is certainly a sorry apology for a gymnasium and has been a source of regret ever since it was erected. Even the most skillful general architects are not usually familiar with the technical requirements of a modern gymnasium, even of the simplest type. Miss Elliott suggested certain rearrangements downstairs, on which I wish to check up with the Head of the Smith College Physical Education Department and one or two others before embodying it in a report to your committee, but one rather vital one is that a swimming pool ought to have a good deal of air space over it. I do not know the height of the first floor of the proposed building, nor how low the pool could be sunk in the ground, although that would certainly entail difficulties with the plumbing. The rearrangements of the lockers and showers she also criticized, owing to the difficulties of the dampness unavoidable because of the steam. The enclosure of the swimming pool is an excellent point.

I will push my inquiries with as much speed as possible, but meanwhile I beg the committee not to take any final steps until we all can report on the advice of the gymnasium experts whom we are consulting.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) ALICE B. FRAME
Acting Dean of Residence

ABF:DEH

April 8, 1929

My dear Mr. Murphy:

I was sorry I missed you that last morning I was in Pasadena but I had an appointment with Mr. and Mrs. Kellogg that I was forced to keep at a certain hour. It was for this reason that I could not wait for you.

My trip on the whole was very successful. I want to thank you for all that you did for me. I appreciated knowing you and meeting your wife and family, and I trust that when I return to Pasadena again the same privilege maybe afforded me. I hope you came out as you should come out in your political aspirations. I would be glad to hear from you.

With great regards, I am

Most sincerely,

Mr. C. B. Murphy
805 North Fair Oaks Avenue
Pasadena, California

DEJ:EB

April 18, 1929

Mr. Ralph B. Higgins,
C/o Mr.H.K.Murphy,
1 Pershing Square,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr.Higgins:

We very much appreciate the speed and skill you have given to the preparation of the Women's Gymnasium plans. We mailed the foundation and floor plans to Yenching by air mail yesterday and will send forward by regular mail at the end of this week another set of these plans, together with the elevations and sections if these are ready by that time. In my letter to the field I called their attention to the points you suggested they should note.

We also acknowledge the letter signed by Mr.Reeve giving the estimated cost of revising the plans for the Women's Gymnasium at approximately Gold $1,500.00. This financial arrangement has been approved by the Boyd Gymnasium Committee subject to final approval by the Finance Committee which meets tomorrow. I will report the arrangement to the Finance Committee and will notify you of their decision.

Very cordially yours,

BAG-H

Ralph B. Higgins
Architect
~~[illegible]~~ 100 E. 42nd St.
New York

April 22, 1929.

TRANSFER

Mr. B. A. Garside,
Yenching University,
150 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Garside:

I am sending you today by messenger three (3) cloth tracings showing front elevation, longitudinal section, transverse sections, and end elevation; also a sketch tracing showing a possible alternate arrangement for the locker room. These tracings complete the revised plans for the Gymnasium for Yenching Women's College. I am also sending you six (6) blue prints of each of the above referred to tracings.

I am happy to say that I have been able to complete these drawings for you within the estimated time of two weeks. The alternate arrangement for the locker room I am sending you at Mrs. Frahn's request. I do not recommend this arrangement but send it along for your consideration. On this alternate drawing I have also indicated the possibility of having a folding doors between the class room and the students' committee room. This arrangement may desirable to those in the field.

With warm thanks for your co-operation, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Ralph B. Higgins

RBH: RALPH B. HIGGINS

CC: H. K. Murphy, A. F. Reeve

YENCHING

TRANSFER

Yenching University

September 17, 1930

Offices of
Mr. Henry Killam Murphy,
100 East 42nd Street,
New York, N. Y.

Gentlemen:

We are endeavoring to set up on our books the approximate cost of the buildings erected at Yenching University, Peking, China. The Treasurer's office on the field has had a rather difficult task in working out this problem, but within the last year the figures have come to hand which have greatly helped our New York office in this task. Several items, however, remain unaccounted for. What we mean is this,- that the record of the disbursement of the funds is perfectly plain, but as to what building or project the disbursement is to be charged is another question. We are therefore turning to your office with the hope that you can give us a little more data.

On the books of the Yenching Women's College we find the following expenditures:-

Nov. 26, 1921	-	Murphy, McGill & Hamlin, Architects	- $1,875.84
Feb. 10, 1922	-	-do-	- 2,757.72
Apr. 19, 1922	-	-do-	- 1,181.88
May 24, 1922	-	-do-	- 43.04

We would greatly appreciate the courtesy if you can give us any information as to what particular buildings these disbursements should be charged to. This may seem a rather large order, going back to these dates, but if it is not perfectly clear as to what we desire, we should be very glad indeed to personally investigage these disbursements with one of your clerks and if there are sufficient supporting documents we should be able to tell very quickly just what these funds were used for.

There are also two items, one dated Nov. 19, 1925 for $2,950. and one dated March 25, 1926 for $1,687, both of which apparently were for the gymnasium plans. Will you not kindly verify these two items. The undersigned will be very happy to call at your office if you so desire.

Very cordially yours,

C. A. Evans,
Assistant Treasurer

CAE:A

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

November 17, 1930

YENCHING

TRANSFER

Mr. C. A. Evans
Asst. Treasurer
China Union Universities
150 Fifth Ave., New York City

Dear Mr. Evans:

In accordance with request in your letter to my office dated 17 Sept., and repeated in your letter to me of 11 Nov., I have gone over my old files on Yenching University work, and find from our bills rendered to you for architectural services the following details for the items on which you ask information:-

Chk. 26 Nov. 1921	- Sage Memorial Recitation Bldg.	- $1071.84	
	- Women's Admin. Bldg. & Dean's Residence - - - - - - - - - -	504.00	$1575.84
Chk. 10 Feb. 1922	- Sage Memorial Recitation Bldg.	- 1875.72	
	- Women's Admin. Bldg. & Dean's Residence - - - - - - - - - -	882.00	2757.72
Chk. 19 Apr. 1922	- Sage Memorial Recitation Bldg.	- 803.88	
	- Women's Admin. Bldg. & Dean's Residence - - - - - - - - - -	378.00	1181.88
Chk. 24 May 1922	- Revision of Grouping for whole Future Group of Women's Academic Quadrangle - - - - -		43.04
Chk. 19 Nov. 1925	- Women's Gymnasium - - - - - - - -		2950.00
Chk. 25 Mar. 1926	- Women's Gymnasium - - - - - - - -		1687.00

Hoping this will give you all the information you need, and with regrets for our long delay in getting it out for you,

Very truly yours,

HKMurphy

HENRY KILLAM MURPHY

HKM MB

Ref. 28

Bldgs

Nov. 1931

The Adaptation of Chinese Architecture for Modern Use

An Outline

By Henry Killam Murphy

IN the architecture of old China we have one of the great styles of the world. In the face of the proven adaptability of Classic and Gothic architecture to meet the needs of modern scientific planning and construction, I felt it was not logical to deny to Chinese architecture a similar adaptability. Therefore, I set myself the task of ascertaining:

What are the essential elements of the style—the salient aesthetic features that must be preserved in a successful adaptation of Chinese architecture?

(1) The curving roof, upturned at mitred corners, with its splendid sweeps unbroken by dormer-windows.

(2) Orderliness of arrangement—formal grouping around great rectangular courts—marked axis.

(3) Frankness of construction—exposure of structural members—decorated construction, but no "constructed decoration."

(4) Lavish use of gorgeous color, both on exterior and interior.

(5) Method of approach—start with Chinese architectural conceptions, introducing such foreign modifications (and only such) as are needed to meet definite practical needs—result, genuinely Chinese buildings.

The most distinctive man-made feature of Chinese landscape is the Pagoda, originally connected with Buddhism, developed as an element of "Feng-Shui"—useful in modern adaptation, for water-towers, etc.

Symbolism of lovely carvings—protective dogs of Fo; dragons; "Priceless Pearl;" tortoise-tablets; sea-monsters as ridge-finials; "Spirit-Way."

Richness of store from which we may draw in working out adaptations of Chinese architecture.

Difficulties and discouragements encountered and overcome in march toward goal—i.e., establishing a genuine architectural Renaissance of China. The first step in my march toward this goal came in the designing of Yale-in-China at Changsha; then the much more purely Chinese architecture of Ginling (Girls) College at Nanking; with the final crucial test in the great group for Yenching University at Peking—a beautiful garden-site of a hundred acres to be developed as a great University of fifty buildings, all in adapted Chinese architecture, and all in enduring concrete construction.

Then came the step I had especially been working for—the taking up of the work by the Chinese architects themselves—Sun Yat Sen Mausoleum at Nanking, and great Memorial Auditorium at Canton (the latter I consider to be second only to Taj Mahal in beauty in the whole of Asia), both designed by the late Y. C. Lu, whose interest in Chinese architecture was first aroused in my office in New York where Lu spent two years learning Chinese architecture, followed by a year in my office in Shanghai. Railway Ministry building in Nanking, designed by Robert Fan, Chinese graduate of University of Pennsylvania Architectural School. Proposed new Civic Center for Chinese Municipality of Greater Shanghai, for which Architect is Dayu Doon, who (like Lu) received his training in Chinese architecture in my New York office.

The final triumph came in 1928; when, in recognition of the architectural success of my college groups, in adapted Chinese architecture, for Ginling College and Yenching University, the newly-established National Government at Nanking decided to have their great government building program carried out in this adapted Chinese architecture, and engaged me to act for a year as Architectural Adviser in the planning of the new Capital at Nanking.

In spite of military, political, social, economic, and other revolutions now going on simultaneously in China, the intensely nationalistic character of the ideals underlying the turmoil of the present makes it a peculiarly favorable time for our efforts to turn the thought of the Chinese towards their own architectural heritage for inspiration, and away from their idea that only in the Occident can models be found for the successful working out of China's building problems of tomorrow; and to show the Chinese how to preserve, in modern permanent construction, for themselves and for the world, the priceless architectural heritage handed down by their own great builders of the past.

Mr. Murphy is preparing a monograph on Chinese architecture which will contain his plans for Nanking as the capital of China.

During his recent visit to this country, Mr. Murphy has lectured at Cleveland Museum of Art; Harvard University (three lectures); Oberlin College; Chicago Art Institute; University of Chicago; Princeton University; Columbia University; Hartford Theological Seminary; Annual meeting of the Shanghai Tiffin Club; Chinese Engineering Society (New York Chapter); China Institute in America.

April 20, 1932

My dear Mrs. Murphy:

You are doubtless getting an official letter from the secretary of the Harvard-Yenching Institute about the application for a fellowship. I am, however, writing this short note merely to say that it was found necessary to grant no new fellowships this year because of the very serious prospect the Institute is facing. Most of its funds are in aluminum stock, and there is a possibility that for the next one or two years, and possibly longer, it will not pay any dividends. To show you how drastic a policy of retrenchment is necessary, I myself recommended that our own Yenching budget be cut in half. We are trying to maintain commitments that affect persons, but are cutting off everything else. Needless to say, this is a keen disappointment to me, as I know it will be to you, but it is part of a very general situation in this country.

I am expecting to reach Shanghai by the Empress of Canada, May 24th, and shall hope to see Mr. Murphy and you then.

Very sincerely yours,

Mrs. Henry K. Murphy
212 Sze Chuen Road
Shanghai, China

JLS:KK