

PERRY, SHAW, HEPBURN AND DEAN
ARCHITECTS
200 PARK SQUARE BUILDING
BOSTON 18, MASS.

WILLIAM G. PERRY, F.A.I.C.
THOMAS WITT SHAW, F.A.I.A.
ANDREW H. HEPBURN, F.A.I.A.
ROBERT C. DEAN, F.A.I.A.

WILLIAM F. CURR, A.I.A.
ANDREW H. HEPBURN, A.I.A.
GEORGE D. LLOYD, JR., A.I.A.

September 12, 1955

Philadelphia Sheraton

Mr. John Rhoden
205 8th Avenue
New York 1, New York

Dear Mr. Rhoden:

Allow me to describe briefly the stairway in the ballroom, which will be partially supported by the proposed screen.

First, as you can see from the plan it descends from the balcony to the main floor of the ballroom in an arc which is a segment, about $1/8$ of a circle.

Second, the stair is supported by a curved steel beam in the center. To prevent a twisting movement about this beam, a rectangular steel rod descends from the ceiling to support the outer end of each step (i.e., and farthest from the center of the circle.) This necessitates and even spacing for these rods. These rods are braced where they pass the balcony by being tied back to the balcony construction.

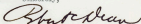
It is these rods forming a curved screen that is to be the subject of the sculpture. For structural purposes, the main supporting rods should be steel. We can have them designed and manufactured and set up in your shop for you to work on or you can have them done yourself.

As I measure the screen, it will be if flattened out 21 ft. at the lower end, 9 ft. at the upper, and 27 ft. long measured on the arc.

Sculptural elements other than the iron can be in any material but the general effect should be gold. We visualize three decorative elements in this room: 1, the stair; 2, the chandeliers; 3, the stage curtain. Each will occupy a different view of the room. All should have gold as the dominant color. Beyond this, perhaps cut glass, enamel or other means of adding sparkle to the screen might be used.

Please do nothing on this until we can have you meet the owners and have them authorize you to go ahead.

Sincerely,



EED/on