

W. E. Eades

C O P Y

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
Interior Department Building
Washington

July 8, 1941.

Dear Sirs:

At the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts held on July 1, 1941, the Commission heard the testimony of several Members of Congress and their representatives in favor of the use of marble for the exterior of the proposed Federal Reserve Board Annex, north of C Street.

After the Hearing the Commission considered this matter again, reviewing in particular the action taken at the meeting of the Commission held on September 10, 1940, when

"The Commission approved the use of limestone for the building, for, while the building will be occupied by offices of the Federal Reserve Board, it will be part of a composition more particularly related to the new War Department Building, which is being faced with limestone."

The members of the Commission again emphasized the fact that it is more important that the Federal Reserve Annex be in harmony with the new War Department Building, and other buildings to be erected on the remaining two sides of the Square, than to be related to the Federal Reserve Building next to it across C Street. The principal view of the Annex will be from the Square, and in the judgment of the Commission of Fine Arts it belongs to the Square and should be in complete harmony with the other structures surrounding it.

The Commission also recalled that when the architect, Paul

P. Cret, submitted the plans at the meeting held on September 10, 1940, he presented a memorandum stating that it is "the intention of the architect to have this building constructed of limestone to conform to the policy for the recent government buildings" in this area.

The members of the Commission, except Mr. Cret who did not vote on this matter, have always been and still are unanimous in their opinion concerning the use of limestone for the Federal Reserve Board Annex.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) Gilmore D. Clarke

Gilmore D. Clarke,
Chairman.

The Honorable

The Board of Governors of the
Federal Reserve System,

Washington, D. C.