

13th May, 1931.

J.B. Cleland, Esq.,
Department of Public Works,
Union Buildings,
Pretoria.

Dear Cleland,

South Africa House.

Scott has shown me your very helpful letter of the 22nd April. This is an answer to it on general questions and Scott will elaborate details.

1. The details are all worked out and Scott will be sending them to you.

(A) There are 16 columns in the Entrance Hall and for these we suggest the green marble, as they should all be the same. The other columns in the Reading & Writing Room and the Exhibition Hall would perhaps be better in marble, but there appear to be no other monoliths available, so we may have to fall back upon granite. I think it is quite useful to have ^{specimens} ~~samples~~ of the different colours, black and red.

(B) I think the question about working the columns in South Africa depends on the facilities there and the security against risk of breakage, but it rather suggests rough turning, leaving the finishing to be done here.

2. With regard to the timber we will get our Quantity Surveyor to work out how far the timber you schedule will go, making good allowance for wastage. We will make the Stinkwood go as far as it will. I think we should try only one room in Yellowwood as it is not a very attractive colour. We cannot well use it for a beamed ceiling, which we propose to have in the High Commissioner's room, because the light wood will not look very well over a darker wood panelling, whether it is Teak or Stinkwood.