

*m*  
*Saarinens, Eero*

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

The Octagon • 1735 New York Avenue, N. W. • Washington 6, D. C. • EXecutive 3-7050

February 7, 1964

TO: J. Roy Carroll, Jr., FAIA  
FROM: Kenneth C. Landry  
SUBJECT: Saarinen Arch, St. Louis

FILE COPY - PLEASE RETURN

Last week John Sweeney of St. Louis was here for a meeting of the Public Relations Committee. He took that opportunity to discuss with both Win Rankin and me aspects of the proposed ceremony at the Arch. This follows several discussions and communications that have reached quite a few people including you, the Saarinen office, Department of Interior, Angus McCallum, Joe Murphy and others.

Because of the complexity of these communications, I thought that they should all be recalled to you since you had very early established the fact of your personal interest in and coordination of this effort. After you read the attached correspondence, I would suggest that you outline a specific method of attack and make those instructions known to Win Rankin who can serve as the pivot (headquarters staffwise) in the furtherance of this specific effort regarding the Convention. The point I am trying to make is if too many people become involved in these negotiations without up-to-date inter-communication, this aspect of the Convention program may get pretty well fouled up. For the standpoint of information, this seems to have been the progression of events:

1. In the June 15-16 planning meeting in St. Louis of the Board Committee, local committee and staff, it was suggested and approved that a Tuesday night Arch ceremony be conducted.
2. In the August meeting of the same committees at the Octagon, this concept was reaffirmed and it was concluded that if Mrs. Saarinen agreed to such a ceremony as well as the National Park Service, that then we could proceed with invitations which may have included President Kennedy, Secretary Udall, Senator Symington, Senator Long and possibly former President Truman, to appear briefly at the ceremony with a response from Mrs. Saarinen, all of this to be done in a few minutes prior to boarding the "Admiral."
3. Hence your letter to Mrs. Saarinen of August 27, attached.

4. Mrs. Saarinen's reply of September 3, attached.
5. Action of the Board in Salt Lake City, September 19-21, attached.
6. Your memo to me of January 23, attached.
7. Your letter to Joe Lacy of January 23, attached.
8. Lacy's reply of January 26, attached. Refer to paragraph 2 of this letter wherein they indicate their further negotiation with the Park Service for an appropriate location for the plaque installation.
9. Letter of January 29 to me from Jean Schneeberger regarding Sweeney's correspondence with the Department of Interior, Park Service, attached.
10. Copy of Mr. Sweeney's letter of February 14 to Mr. Murphy.

I would imagine the points to be resolved are:

1. Is the Saarinen office continuing the negotiations with the Park Service and do they need additional help from the Institute. If so, who does it?
2. Once the decision is reached who will pursue with the Saarinen office the final design and fabrication of the plaque?
3. After these details are pinned down, who will decide on the final invitation list of public officials and who will transmit those letters of invitation?

KCL:ekb  
Enclosures

cc: Mr. McCallum  
Mr. Murphy  
Mr. Sweeney  
Mr. Scheick  
Mr. Rankin

SIC # 100  
WG 100  
WVA 100

AUG 27 1963

100  
100  
100

August 27, 1963

Mrs. Aline Saarinen  
Ten St. Roman Terrace  
New Haven, Connecticut

Dear Mrs. Saarinen:

As you may know, the 1964 Convention of The American Institute of Architects will be held in St. Louis in June. Our hope had been that the Jefferson Memorial Arch would be completed by that time, but we now know that it will not be possible.

Nevertheless, the Institute would like to honor the architect who designed it by having an appropriate plaque placed on the Arch, and by having a brief ceremony at the Arch one day of the Convention.

The Institute would provide one thousand dollars for the plaque, to be designed by Eero Saarinen and Associates.

The ceremony at the Arch would take place late Tuesday afternoon, June 16, 1964, and we would further hope that you could be present. The Institute would plan to invite President Kennedy, Secretary Udall, and Senators Symington and Long of Missouri.

I seek your approval of the plans I have outlined, and hope very much that you would be able to be present with us on that day.

Sincerely yours,

J. Roy Carroll, Jr.

JRC:bae  
cc: Dr. William H. Schnick  
Dr. Kenneth C. Landry

JGC LR  
JTG  
WUVA

SEP - 4 1963

ES  
ABC  
ZAC

Send copy to  
Messrs. Schiel,  
London

September 3, 1963

Mr. J. Roy Carroll, Jr.  
FAIA, President  
6 Penn Center Plaza  
Philadelphia 3, Pennsylvania

*ST - [unclear]*

Dear Mr. Carroll:

Thank you for your very nice letter of August 27.  
We are touched and pleased that the A.I.A. would like  
to honor Eero with an appropriate plaque on the Arch.

We have several ideas on how this might best be designed  
and fabricated, and we will be in touch with you shortly.

Meanwhile, our gratitude again.

Sincerely,

*Aline B. Saarinen*

Aline B. Saarinen

ABS/mj  
cc- K.Roche

257-B-9-63

COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM FOR 1964 CONVENTION

Angus McCallum, Chairman


Kenneth C. Landry, Staff Executive

One of the activities proposed by the 1964 Convention Committee is a simple ceremony at the foot of the Jefferson Expansion Memorial Arch in St. Louis. The ceremony may include the dedication of an architect's plaque possibly by President Kennedy with a *Réponse* from Mrs. Aline Saarinen. It has been suggested that the sum of \$1,000 be appropriated for the fabrication of such a plaque and that the Saarinen office be asked to design it, subject to final Board approval.

RESOLVED, That subject to budget consideration, the sum of \$1,000 be appropriated for the fabrication of an architect's plaque to be placed at the base of the Saarinen Arch in St. Louis and that the Saarinen firm be requested to design this plaque subject to final approval by The Board of Directors.

258-B-9-63

Mr. Oehl suggested that the word "architect" be the only modifier of Mr. Saarinen's name.

*KL 1/28*  
*KLH - photo copy to win & Argon*  
  
*Jan 31*

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MEMO TO: Kenneth C. Landry  
Director - Public Services

FROM: J. Roy Carroll, Jr., President

SUBJECT: Saarinen Arch - St. Louis

Date: January 23, 1964

Yesterday you asked me about the interest of Mrs. Saarinen in having a placque put on the arch and having an appropriate ceremony there at the time of the Annual Convention.

Enclosed herewith are copies of my letter dated August 27, 1963 to Mrs. Saarinen, together with a copy of her letter to me dated September 3, 1963. It would seem that Mrs. Saarinen would favor both the ceremony and the placque.

Nevertheless, I shall write a personal note to Joe Lacy today, copy of which I enclose, asking him the present status of the design of the placque.

JRCJr:mbc  
enclosure

cc: Mr. William H. Scheick

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THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

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January 23, 1964

J. Roy Carroll, Jr., FAIA  
President  
Penn Center Plaza  
Philadelphia 3, Pennsylvania

Mr. Joseph N. Lacy, AIA  
Eero Saarinen & Associates  
20 Davis Street  
Hartford, Connecticut

Dear Joe:

Re: Eero Saarinen Arch - St. Louis

Enclosed herewith is a copy of a letter I wrote to Mrs. Saarinen on August 27, 1963, together with a copy of her reply to me dated September 3, 1963. By means of this correspondence we established the fact that Mrs. Saarinen was favorably disposed toward the idea of having a brief ceremony to honor Eero Saarinen, the architect of the Arch, in a brief ceremony to take place during one day of the annual convention, and also her approval to have an appropriate plaque placed on the Arch.

As the result of queries by many friends at the Octagon, may I ask you what has been done with regard to the design and fabrication of the plaque as indicated in the second paragraph of Mrs. Saarinen's letter.

I count upon you to handle this matter with Mrs. Saarinen in the most appropriate and discreet manner, and to give me whatever advice I should have.

Sincerely yours,

JRCjr:mbs

J. Roy Carroll, Jr.

cc: Mr. William H. Schriek  
Mr. Kenneth C. Leach

*Mr. H. Scheick  
Kenneth Lambry* } *for your information sent 1-30-64*

ARC # [ ] JCL [ ]  
JTG [ ] JBA [ ]  
WLVA [ ] GF [ ]

JAN 29 1964

ES [ ] SK [ ]  
MBC [ ] CB [ ]  
JAC [ ] RR [ ]

January 28, 1964

Mr. J. Roy Carroll, Jr., F.A.I.A., President  
The American Institute of Architects  
6 Penn Center Plaza  
Philadelphia 3, Pennsylvania

Re: Jefferson National Expansion Memorial  
Arch - St. Louis

Dear Roy:

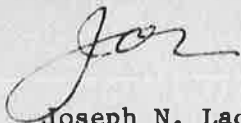
Thank you for your letter of January 23, 1964 concerning the plaque in connection with ceremony to honor Eero Saarinen, designer of the St. Louis Arch.

We have been advised by the National Park Service that they will not permit the application of a plaque to the Arch. We are now negotiating with the Park Service for an appropriate location in the Visitor Center which is just below the Arch Plaza. As soon as a suitable location has been agreed to, we will design a plaque.

I will be glad to keep you informed. I am also aware of the fact that time is getting short.

Sincerely yours,

EERO SAARINEN AND ASSOCIATES



Joseph N. Lacy

JNL/mj

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*My memo to Wi 9  
Feb 9*

SAINT LOUIS CHAPTER / AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS / 1126 LOCUST STREET

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- V. PRES.** Angelo G. Corrubia
- SEC.** William B. Lane
- TREAS.** Donald L. Freeman
- DIR.** Nolan L. Stinson, Jr.
- DIR.** Charles E. King
- EX. OFF.** John D. Sweeney

Jean Schneeberger  
Executive Secretary

- 1964 CONVENTION  
STEERING COMMITTEE**
- Joseph D. Murphy
- Rex L. Becker
- Betty Lou Guster
- George E. Kassabaum
- John D. Sweeney

Mr. Ken Landry  
The American Institute of Architects  
1735 New York Avenue, N. W.  
Washington 6, D. C.

Dear Ken:

Attached is a copy of a letter, received today, from George Hartzog to John Sweeney. Letter of explanation from John Sweeney will be forthcoming.

Sincerely,

*Jean Schneeberger*  
Jean Schneeberger  
Executive Secretary

cc: John Sweeney

29 January 1964

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*are following up on all the items*

January 6, 1964

Mr. George Hartzog

Washington 6, D. C.

Re: Old Courthouse -  
A.I.A. Convention.

Dear George:

Now that we are somewhat closer to our Convention in June, we must continue to resolve some of the pertinent details.

As you know, we have considered many ways of handling the proposed ceremony at the Arch.

We have been told that in no sense should we consider this a "dedication", and, of course this will not be the case since the dedication of the Arch will be reserved for others.

The purpose of this letter is to solicit your assistance in the proper selection of appropriate speakers for a short (not to exceed 30 minutes) ceremony. At one time, we thought that it might be possible to invite the President for this particular ceremony since it would be short and in the event that he couldn't make it, nothing would be too seriously disturbed. At the present time, the President of course, is Johnson.

In the order of our thinking, we have as other potential speakers, Senator Symington, Mr. Udall, Mayor Tucker or any others whom you may consider important to the occasion. Since we are already scheduled to have Mayor Tucker at our program in two other spots, maybe this would be an imposition on his time, to have him at the Arch as well.

If, by any chance, you intend to be in St. Louis any time in the near future, perhaps we can arrange a conference. In the meantime, if one of our members happens to be in Washington, perhaps we can talk to you there.

1100 1200  
Mr. Dale Wharton

January 6, 1964

Page 2

We have been somewhat disturbed by the closing of Third Street and the resulting traffic confusion. It appears now that we cannot escort our visitors in the manner we thought possible to begin with, however, I am certain that we can work out some interesting procedures for the evening.

To refresh your memory, it is our intention to begin depositing people by bus at 5:30 on Wharf Street at the east side of the Arch.

This assumes the completion of some kind of stairway, even though it may be only temporary from Wharf Street to the top of the slope. This, of course, may be completely impossible. If such is the case, we would like to know.

In any case, we have to have a wet weather plan as well as a fair weather plan. If the stairs are not possible, then we would have to revert to what we call our "wet weather plan". In this case, the busses would enter the area from the parking lot at the north and work their way over to the west side of the Arch and deposit the people at some appropriate entrance, either at the east or west base of the Arch or elsewhere, as seems proper.

Tentatively, we think that the last bus should arrive at the Arch by 6:30. At this time, some appropriate ceremony would be conducted and stop at approximately 7:00. The time of 7:00 is suggested since this is the beginning of the hour for boarding the Admiral. Considering the fact that most of the women will be dressed for a party with high heels and perhaps long skirts, and the fact that the Arch is some good walking distance from the Admiral, over rather dubious ground, the busses would then re-load to take most of the people to the Arch and the Admiral. The Admiral would leave at 8:00 for a 2 and 1/2 to 3 hour trip on the river. Those people who did not take a ride on the Admiral would have the privilege of using busses at the hotel or for that matter if it were appropriate they might also wander back, if possible, to the Courthouse.

Since you plan to have an exhibit at the Courthouse, one thought which has come into our planning is that we might have some busses marked especially for the Courthouse itself. For example, when such busses would reach the Courthouse, they would turn south to Chestnut, then go east on Chestnut, deposit passengers on the sidewalk and then proceed to the Riverfront for such a stop might be pertinent. It is altogether possible that some people might like to stop at the courthouse and then work their way downhill through the City Park area, across the footbridge, pass the overlook and on to the Arch.

Since our big objective for the evening is to get as many people on the Admiral as is possible and in time, we have been somewhat fearful of "losing the group" if we have too many spots for them to stop.

It is altogether possible that by the time June arrives, certain well defined ways of getting to the Arch from the old Courthouse might develop. In the past weeks, as you know, confusion seemed to have "reigned supreme".

Handwritten: *Handwritten initials*  
Mr. ~~Dale~~ Burton

January 6, 1964

Page 3

We will appreciate any suggestions you have to offer at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely yours,

John D. Sweeney, Director

JDS:ev

P.S. We are keeping in touch with your local people here and see them from time to time about such details as may be arranged. By the time this letter reaches you, I expect to sit down with the people at the Old Courthouse.

J.D.S.

CC: John Schneiderger  
Joseph Murphy



JBC ✓ JCD  
 JTG JBA  
 WLVA GF

FEB - 3 1964

ES SK  
 MBC CB  
 JAC RR

SAINT LOUIS CHAPTER / AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS / 1126 LOCUST STREET



- ~~CHAS.~~ John D. Sweeney
- V. PRES. Lester D. Roth
- SEC. Nolan L. Stinson, Jr.
- TREAS. Angelo G. Corrubia
- DIR. Charles E. King
- DIR. Raymond R. Burns
- EX. OFF. Harris Armstrong
  
- Jean Schneeberger  
Executive Secretary
  
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- Rex L. Becker
- Betty Lou Custer
- George E. Kassabaum
- John D. Sweeney

Mr. J. Roy Carroll Jr.  
 6 Penn Center Plaza  
 Philadelphia 3, Penn.

Re: St. Louis - June -  
 Arch Ceremony.

Dear Mr. Carroll:

As you know we plan to have our fun night on Tuesday, June 16.

Locally, it is my own responsibility as a member of the Steering Committee to concern myself with overall supervision of this portion of the Convention. It was my original intention to have busses arrive at the west side of the old Courthouse and permit the membership to march through the Courthouse to the east side through the Neo Grec colonnade which you have walked through and then across Fourth Street, down the hill through the small park area to Second Street. From here the procession would go directly to the Arch and whatever ceremony seemed appropriate would take place, prior to boarding the Admiral.

This would be straight line travel directly from the old Courthouse (which as you know, centers on the Arch) to the Arch and beneath it to the grand staircase which goes down to Wharf Street.

Bit by bit, this concept has been eroded.

Departures from the hotel will commence between 5:00 and 5:30 P. M. The boarding time for the Admiral will commence at 7:00 and the sailing time will be 8:00 sharp.

The length of time which can be allotted for any ceremony at the Arch, must be limited to approximately 30 minutes.

In the meantime, the following things have happened:

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The grand staircase from Wharf Street up to the east side of the Arch will not be ready in June. The foundations are there but the finished step work has been deleted from the general contract. We are currently securing a cost estimate for the installation of a temporary wood, plank stair from Wharf Street up to the east side of the Arch. We are also securing the cost of some kind of plank walk from the top of the stair to the entrances at each leg of the Arch.

3<sup>rd</sup> Second Street (which borders on the west side of the Arch area) is now depressed and looks like Grand Canyon. Thus, the Arch is somewhat isolated from the area to the west and the old Courthouse. Although there is a foot bridge to accomodate the old Cathedral, it is another block south and over a questionable area to ask Convention people to walk.

It appears now that when the busses reach the riverfront, the best point for unloading will be at the west side of the Arch and as close to the entrance ways at each leg of the Arch, as possible. Actually there are four ways of entering the (Visitors Center). There is an opening at each leg of the Arch and there are two additional openings just to the west. The Visitors Center, as you know, is below ground. If we deposit people at this point, they can walk down the temporary steps to Wharf Street and then over to the Admiral. If they desire to ride, they can re-board the busses and ride over to the Admiral from the Arch. In the meantime, hundreds of visitors will be scrambling all over the area taking pictures.

Tentatively, it would appear that the <sup>time</sup> ~~commitment~~ of any ceremony would be approximately 6:30. If the entire group were assembled at some convenient point by 6:30 then it might conceivably be over at approximately 7:00 at which time the people would begin to board the Admiral.

We have been devoting considerable thought and study to the type of ceremony which might take place. In this connection, we have adopted the policy that since this is the property of the National Park Services, that their wishes must be considered. Furthermore, it is a job under construction, and some consideration must be given to the Contractor, since liability insurance is very definitely involved. We have submitted a list of possible speakers at the Arch, starting with the President of the United States, and including Mrs. Saarinen. Numerically, there would be a possibility of some twenty people being invited for this particular (simple) ceremony.

This writer, at least, is about convinced that no more than two people should speak at any ceremony at the Riverfront. Possibly all of the speaking could be conducted by one individual. The subject of his talk would be a "Capsule History" of the reasons for building the Arch, and of course, an explanation of the various spaces at the Visitors Center.

This speech could be climaxed with an appropriate Eulogy of Eero Saarinen.



Back in August when Joseph Murphy and I attended the committee meeting at the Octagon, we took time to visit with George Hartzog, who is now the National Director of the Park Service. Mr. Hartzog has been quite enthusiastic about the Arch and was employed by the Federal Government at the Jefferson Memorial during the early stages of its development. We discussed possible activities at the Arch at that time. We were led to believe that under no circumstances could any plaque of any description be attached to the stainless steel Arch structure. I should say that at that time Harris Armstrong of this Chapter, was engaged with Mrs. Saarinen and others of the Saarinen organization in the development of some kind of emblem which would commemorate the Saarinen name. At that time we were told that if any memorial is developed in honor of the Architect, that it would be placed in the Visitors Center, but not on the face of the Arch structure itself. Furthermore, when the Arch is complete, there will be a National dedication and we are led to believe now that Saarinen's name will be commemorated at that time.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of that which has happened up to date. It appears now that there might conceivably be three different concepts of a eulogy to Saarinen. The Park Service will have one at some time in the future. Harris Armstrong has been working with the Saarinen organization and now we are told that you are working directly with Mrs. Saarinen.

Since programs must be developed very soon with specific names, places and times designated, it is exceedingly important, as you know, that we arrive at some definite conclusions. I am desperately trying to recognize all protocol, ground rules, and touch all bases as I proceed. I will greatly appreciate your assistance. Where do we go from here?

It would be my suggestion, subject to any comments you care to make, that Mr. Udall, yourself, and perhaps Mrs. Saarinen, constitute the entire program ceremony at the Arch. If the weather is good, the ceremony might be conducted at the base of the Arch in some appropriate area with a simple platform provided for the speakers. And then if the weather is bad, the ceremony could take place in the Visitors Center, below ground.

Sincerely yours,

  
John D. Sweeney, Ex-Officio

JDS:sv

January 31, 1964

JWR/DW<sup>m</sup> Saarinen, Eero

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS



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x Copy 1964  
Burgoyne

I assume you  
will keep on top  
of this and keep  
JRC informed.  
W3

See last page  
also

MEMO TO: William H. Scheick, Executive Director  
FROM: J. Roy Carroll, Jr., President  
SUBJECT: St. Louis Convention - June 1964  
Saarinen Arch Ceremony  
Date: February 11, 1964

Enclosed herewith is a copy of a letter I received from Joe Lacy, dated January 28, 1964, regarding approval by the National Park Service to install a placque on the St. Louis Arch in honor of Eero Saarinen.

I have not been part of the detailed planning of these arrangements, but if Angus McCallum wishes to try to obtain the approval, will you take whatever steps might be necessary? We should, of course, keep Joe Lacy informed.

JRCJr:mbc  
enclosure

cc: Mr. Angus McCallum  
Mr. Joseph D. Murphy  
Mr. J. Winfield Rankin  
Mr. John D. Sweeney

PLEASE REPLY

E E R O S A A R I N E N A N D A S S O C I A T E S

JRC #     
JTG     
WLVA

FEB - 3 1964

January 31, 1964

ES     
MBC     
JAC

Mr. J. Roy Carroll, Jr., F.A.I.A., President  
The American Institute of Architects  
6 Penn Center Plaza  
Philadelphia 3, Pennsylvania

Re: Jefferson National Expansion Memorial  
Arch - St. Louis

Dear Roy:

Since writing to you on Wednesday, it has occurred to me that I should ask you whether the A.I.A. has obtained approval from the National Park Service to install a plaque in honor of Eero.


It is my understanding that some time ago Eugene Mackey informally discussed this with George Hartzog, who was then Superintendent of J.N.E.M. I do not know whether formal approval was ever requested and obtained by the St. Louis Chapter or the National office.

In the event this approval has not been formally cleared, I suggest you request approval from:

Mr. George Hartzog, Director  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C., 20240

Sincerely yours,

EERO SAARINEN AND ASSOCIATES

  
Joseph N. Lacy

JNL/mj

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KL 2/17

Mr. Joseph Murphy  
6124 Inright  
St. Louis 12, Missouri

Re: Ceremony at the  
Arch.

Dear Joe:

I have just received Angus McCallum's letter to you concerning the subject matter and J. Roy Carroll's activity.

As I indicated on the telephone, I do not feel that we need concern ourselves too seriously with the continued claim by Angus that Mr. Carroll is actively engaged.

The only concern we need feel here (I think) is:

1. What names get on the program for the affair?
2. How much of a platform must be constructed to accommodate those who will appear?
3. How long do they intend to extend the program at the Arch?

I have already stated a number of times that the time limit must be 30 minutes for any activity at the Arch itself.

We need not concern ourselves too seriously about what kind of plaque or emblem is to be designed by Saarinen's office. This is all the more true if, as Angus says, the Park Service itself is in-on the activity. I do not suppose that it would be in-appropriate for some kind of emblem to be presented by the A.I.A. in June and then to have a second emblem presented at a subsequent date when the final project is dedicated. I believe that what we needed, we now have. Names, dates, places, time.

Sincerely yours,

John D. Sweeney, Ex-Officio

JDS:sv

cc: Mr. George Kassabaum  
Mr. Kenneth Landry ✓  
Mr. Angus McCallum  
Mr. Winfield Rankin

February 14, 1964



*ms*  
*Saarinen, Eero*

February 26, 1964

FILE COPY - PLEASE RETURN

*Low (1964)  
Parsons*

Mr. John D. Sweeney, AIA  
2102 South Grand Boulevard  
St. Louis 4, Missouri

Dear John:

When he was here the other day, President Carroll went over the problems in connection with the proposed ceremony at the Arch.

After he reviewed the difficulties of getting a suitable platform, and then trying to get a crowd near the Arch for anything resembling a really dignified ceremony, he concluded that the best thing to do would be to abandon the idea, make an announcement at the Convention that The Institute's President, plus St. Louis Chapter representatives, would represent The Institute at the actual ceremonies, as may be permitted by the National Park Service, and to make sure that Aileen Saarinen would be included in the ceremonies.

We are writing to the Park Service to be assured that these wishes will be respected. We are confident there will be no problem.

You have done a tremendous amount of work on this project, and while you may be relieved to see that it can be abandoned, you may also have regrets that something which has caused you so many birth pangs cannot be born alive. We can fully appreciate this, and thank you for your untiring efforts in trying to make this difficult project workable.

Sincerely,

William H. Scheick, AIA  
Executive Director

S:R:s  
cc: Mr. Murphy

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*Saarinen, Eero*

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*F*

February 26, 1964

FILE COPY - PLEASE RETURN

Mr. George Hartzog, Director  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D. C. 20240

*conf 1964*

Dear Mr. Hartzog:

I am sure you will recall and understand the deep interest often expressed by The American Institute of Architects in the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial Arch being erected in St. Louis.

Our office and the St. Louis Chapter representatives have also been in touch with you concerning the possibility of placing a plaque on the Arch in memory of the late, great Eero Saarinen, the architect of the Arch. We understand and accept the fact that nothing should be placed on the Arch itself.

We are planning to prepare a plaque in memory of Mr. Saarinen, to be placed at a spot which will be acceptable to you. We would hope that a small pedestal somewhere near the Arch would be considered appropriate. The cost would, of course, be entirely borne by The American Institute of Architects. However, should this not be feasible, we would expect to display this plaque in a prominent position in the Visitor's Center beneath the Arch.

In order to do proper honor to the memory of Mr. Saarinen, The American Institute of Architects respectfully suggests that its President be invited to take an official part in the ceremonies at the time of the dedication. This would be without cost to the Government.

We would be very happy to discuss this with you in person, if you have any questions concerning it.

We shall look forward to a favorable response to our request at your early convenience.

Yours sincerely,

*J. W. Rankin*

J. W. Rankin  
Administrator  
Department of Institute Services

JWR:hrs  
cc: Mr. Scheick  
Mr. Landry

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**THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS**

*The Octagon • 1735 New York Avenue • Washington 6, D. C.*

**April 7, 1964**

*Dob*  
*Saarinen, Eero*

**J. Roy Carroll, Jr., FAIA**  
*President*  
**6 Penn Center Plaza**  
**Philadelphia 3, Pennsylvania**

**Mrs. Eero Saarinen**  
**Eero Saarinen & Associates**  
**20 Davis Street**  
**Hendon, Connecticut**

**Dear Mrs. Saarinen:**

Although I had learned that the programming of the thruway construction might make impracticable the proposed ceremony at the Arch at the time of our AIA convention in St. Louis, I did not wish to write you until certain other information was made available to me.

I wanted to make sure that you would be invited at the time of the official dedication of the Arch, and that it would be possible to erect a suitable plaque to the Architect at some appropriate location. The National Park Service has ruled out the idea of a plaque on the Arch itself.

In recent conversation with Mr. George B. Hartzog, Jr., Director of the National Park Service, Mr. Landry of the AIA Staff was assured that you would be invited to take part in the program at the time of the dedication. A letter from him suggests that the actual design of the plaque should wait upon its exact placement.

I am very sorry the Institute is unable to include a ceremony honoring Eero Saarinen as Architect of the St. Louis Memorial Arch at the time of its 1964 Convention. Access to the site for other than a handful of people would be impossible, we are told. It is with the greatest regret I inform you of this change in plans.

**Sincerely yours,**

JRCjr:mhc

**J. Roy Carroll, Jr., FAIA**  
**President**

cc: **Mr. Joseph Lacy**  
**Mr. William H. Scheick**  
**Mr. Arthur Gould Odell, Jr.**  
**Mr. J. Winfield Rankin**

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