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STUART W. GENTLING

24 December 1982

Dear David,

I thought that I should drop you a line to let you know the whole book project is coming along and to wish you and your family a happy holiday season. First of all, I have hired an attorney to look after our interests in Austin. His name is Denny C. Ingram. He is a member of the firm of McGinnis, Lochridge, and Kilgore, attorneys at Law. His address: Texas State Bank Building
Fifth Floor
Austin, Texas 78701
telephone 476 - 6982

He will be reviewing and coordinating all contracts having to do with Austin people, and he will always be at your disposal. He is extremely enthusiastic about the project, and he has already offered me a number of very sound ideas about the management of this complicated enterprise. He and his staff have been reviewing the notes which you and I have made concerning our up-and-coming contract. ^{Feel} free to consult with him at any time. It is my hope that we will have the contract ready to be signed by early March at which time you will receive a payment of ^A earnest money, and the project will officially begin.

I have been working with a couple of cabinet makers to come up with a design for the box, and I think that I have a good one. I am having a mock-up of it made just to see how it all works out. It has been suggested that the box be made of pecan wood, the Texas state tree. It is less expensive than walnut and takes a variety of stains beautifully. Enclosed is a rough plan of the box and the stand. The stand will be an optional purchase to be handled separately from the rest of the project.

John Graves is at work on his end of the project. John is tight lipped, but Jane, his wife, says that he is extremely excited about his work on the text. Scott and I have decided to include about four or five purely Texas landscape subjects which will be placed in the text section of the book. I will try to make it to Austin in the next few weeks. I'll give you plenty of warning before I come. Until then

Feliz Navidad -
Stuart