



ANNIE MOORE
MEMORIAL PROJECT

October 22, 2007

Mr. Brian Andersson
Commissioner
NYC Department of Records & Information Services
31 Chambers Street, Suite 305
New York, NY 10007

Dear Brian,

We have made great progress with the memorial design for Annie Moore Schayer at Calvary Cemetery. We are in the final stages of selecting the design elements for the monument including the stone. It is our desire to use a stone quarried from Ireland to signify the importance of "Annie Moore of Ellis Island" originating from Ireland. The customary stone for gravesite monuments in Ireland is "Irish Limestone," Blue or Grey.

We have made contact with Irish Natural Stone, Inc., located in Boston. They are currently the only importers of Irish stone in the United States. On my recent trip to Boston I had the pleasure of meeting with Geraldine O'Donnell, President, and Robert Spencer, Sales Manager. I was able to obtain samples of the Irish Limestone and see beautifully carved pieces of the stone in their showroom. I have attached some of the photos of their work along with specifications of the stone.

This is the same stone that was used to construct elements of the Ireland Hunger Memorial Project erected in Battery Park, NYC in 2001. I understand that 10 containers of this stone was used for that memorial. I was privileged to review a photo book documenting the development of the project from stone quarries in Ireland, to the finished memorial in NYC. Geraldine and Robert are both very honored to have been involved in the NYC memorial and are excited at the prospect of being involved in the Annie Moore Memorial Project. They are also in contact with Francis McCormack, the master carver who worked so diligently on the Hunger Memorial, to see if he would do the honors of carving Annie's headstone. We would be honored to use the same stone and team for this important Irish American heritage project.

Unfortunately, we may have complications with the use of the Irish Limestone in Calvary Cemetery. We have recently been informed by Divine Monuments, a local Queens-based

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monument company working with us on the project, that the specifications for monuments in Calvary only allow for granite stone to be used. We are seeking your assistance in navigating the process to request a special waiver from the Catholic Diocese of New York for permission to use the Irish Limestone for this unique monument in Calvary Cemetery.

As noted in the attached email from Irish Natural Stone, the Irish Limestone is of superior quality to the conventional limestone quarried in the US. In addition, according to Juergen Riehm, one of the principal architects for the Hunger Memorial, the Irish Limestone is very dense in character and is able to withstand similar freeze/thaw cycles that would be exhibited in the NY climate. He explained that this stone was selected for the Hunger Memorial after reviewing technical data from various quarries in Ireland. He indicated that the Irish Limestone would also serve well as a cemetery monument as it would be used in a similar application and be exposed to similar climate/environmental conditions as the Hunger Memorial.

Both Robert Spencer and Juergen Riehm have offered to be professional references to support the use of the Irish Limestone for our project. They would be happy to provide any additional information that the Diocese may require in granting an exception.

We would appreciate your guidance and consult in approaching this matter with the Diocese.

Very truly yours,

Teresa Smith-DeHesus, PE
Great-Granddaughter of Annie Moore
Chair – AMMP Memorial Design Subcommittee

cc: Robert Spencer, Irish Natural Stone
Juergen Riehm, 1100 Architects
Francis McCormack, Irish Natural Stone Products
Michael Gonzales, Divine Monuments