

August 10, 1933

Mr. Gutson Borglum,  
Menger Hotel.

My dear Mr. Borglum:

You know that from the first I have reacted favorably to your ideas relative to spreading the 1936 Centennial among several cities. It was, in part, because I have historical knowledge, at present generally unknown, by which Spanish South Texas can be made intensely interesting historically to Texans and to visitors, and where your penchant for signing and for historical monuments may have wide play.

The time has come when I can talk clearly on this, and if you want to build up your Centennial ideas in a large way I will sit down with you.

San Antonio and Colliad were not merely isolated settlements in a Spanish province--they were keypoints in empire-building plans that reached considerable proportions throughout Spanish South Texas. A new Kingdom north of the Rio Grande was envisioned. Texas went into history as a province of the Kingdom of New Spain because the Spanish empire weakened and crashed before the larger plans could be worked thru.

There is a "Spanish loop" of Spanish caminos reales, that thread together and embrace and reflect dynamic history. THE "SPANISH LOOP" is now half built or authorized but the highway department does not know what it means historically.

Comprehensive planning is possible that will arouse the best intelligence of South Texans and that will offer unusual visitor appeal.

Sincerely,

Gutson Borglum