Dear Sir,

I received your letter on the 2d inst. in compliance with your request visited the Capitol as soon as an opportunity occurred. No draught such as you wished could be found, and the only thing of the kind, was a very small and imperfect first plan, which I hope my industry and some exertion may enable me to give.

The Capitol you know, is a hill which gradually declines towards the West. The street marked a as a is the pavement running around the grounds, which is 20 ft in a stone and brick - bed, soft side, inside the fences. N.W. are gravel walks 10 ft wide, E.N.W. 11 the former feed walks, leading from each gateway, up to the front terraces, paved with stones, about 24 ft by 14. A, A, are two fountains, supporting casts, basin 20 ft in diameter. B, B, are circles, elevated, having a lot of the native flowers, and a tree in the center. C, C, are topiary, filled with plants and flowers, and a tree in the center. D, D, are stars, each point 45 in length. E, E, are little arbours, which served need to refill the old planting that forms branches.

In the first place with regard to trees, they are of all description and size; for sycamore, elm, a scented oak or two, and a great many oaks, which are allowed to spread their branches to the ground in many instances, and in their situation are very appropriate. Of course they can be no companion with some, most of them being transplanted; and when you do meet a native monarch of the forest, that has been permitted to live out his old age on the spot where he was born, the contrast between nature and art is striking and by comparison to the advantage of the latter. I suppose that one object at the capital is to form a retreat from the bustle and glare of the city; therefore its trees are permitted to spread their branches very low, lest give to the grounds a study.