

BEATRIX FARRAND
LANDSCAPE GARDENER
REEF POINT
BAR HARBOR, MAINE

July 12, 1941

Miss Anne Sweeney
c/o Mr. James Bryce
3203 S Street
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Sweeney:

You and I both know what a busy pair of Chiefs we are dealing with and it will make you laugh when you hear that Mr. Thacher came over to see me here with regard to Dumbarton Oaks affairs and looked at me in utter astonishment because he had received no answer to a long letter full of questions addressed to either Mr. or Mrs. Bliss. He seemed so perturbed and so agitated that I told him, with as nearly a straight face as possible, that he need in no way worry himself as to whether or not he had hurt their feelings by some thoughtless expression because over the many years of happy relationship with them I had sometimes had to wait months for an important answer, or go ahead and do the thing and take the responsibility for it. This seemed to relieve his mind somewhat since I told him that equally important letters which I had sent to Mrs. Bliss regarding various Dumbarton Oaks matters, including your own nice self, had remained unanswered.

I wrote Mrs. Bliss telling her that Harvard was keen to have you stay on as guide and curator of the Catalogue House and its belongings, but that this year with the alterations in the house they didn't see how they could arrange to add a salary to a budget already squeezed rather dry. When I told Mr. Thacher that I thought I saw in my own limited perspective a certain four, and probable five, months salary for you he beamed and seemed greatly relieved. This whole matter was put before Mrs. Bliss with the request that she consider the possibility of either advising me as to the future, but making no direct or indirect request to her for a continuation of the salary. I am taking the personal responsibility of telling Mr. Russell that you should have your salary for this whole month and your salary for August which should be your month's holiday. If you take your holiday in August as we spoke of your doing in early June, I think you said you would be willing to come here to Reef Point for a day or two so that you and I might rehearse the talks which you would give to the school teachers and school children when the autumn season opened. This would mean that we could have one or two days to go over this work together, map out a talk or two and that you could start in September on your first trial trips, as Mr. Thacher said the other

