

BEATRIX FARRAND  
~~1650 CORKLAND ROAD~~ Reef Point  
~~BAR HARBOR, MAINE~~ Bar Harbor, Maine,  
~~SAN MARINO, CALIFORNIA~~

May 23, 1942

Miss Anne Sweeney  
3101 R Street  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Sweeney:

Your letter of the 19th came and gave me real satisfaction. First, your reports of the period from April 1st to May 15th seem to me admirable, exactly what is wanted and to embody the suggestions and reports that should be put before Mr. Thacher. They should be made a matter of record and you should keep carbons in your files as they are part of your stock-in-trade.

In a way I am very glad you are not going to be within immediate range of the going to and fro of the main building. In the first place you will have far more privacy and quiet and while it will mean more steps for the length of the building it will mean that you will not be as much on exhibition as you would have to be if you had been installed in the drawing room. Perhaps I was a little to blame for your not being put in the drawing room as I explained to Mr. Thacher that you always would need a place where you could use your press, your glue, and your cutting machines and naturally a drawing room is not the place where you would feel comfortable in doing that.

Of course all the confusion about transferring the whole basement to the other organization is understandable but you are such a good soldier that I know you will accept the inconvenience with your usual serenity.

Thank you also for your little notices. Mr. Bryce may not be the final person who will decide whether the entrance to the swimming pool should be marked "private keep out" or whether it should be marked "for students only". This might be well to draw to Mr. Thacher's notice some time later on when things quiet down.

Also I thought your pattern of the D.O. gardens and the grounds was admirable. Keep me informed please as to whether any signs are put up on the gate posts where Mr. Thacher thought they ought to go so that visitors are informed where to go for the entrance and what days are open. Probably these few days before the arrival of our family will not be the most tactful to open these questions!

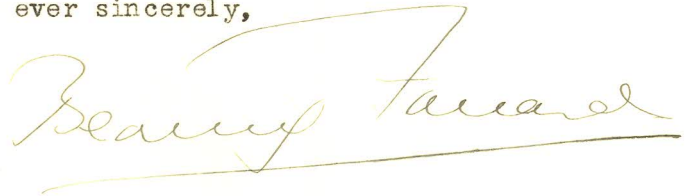
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The gardens here really are enchanting. The tulips are just coming out; the Japanese Quince just retreating, Rhodora coming out; Pieris disappearing, and white violets, which I am told from the Gray herbarium probably are an albino form of *Viola papilionacea*. The *Azalea Poukhanense* is coming out and so is *Vaseyi*; also White Forgetme-nots and blue; *Shortia*, the California dog-toothed violets, and about a myriad other things. I wish you were here to enjoy them with us.

Won't it be nice to be all together at Dumbarton Oaks again? Perhaps you and I may not get the doses we had before but I always enjoy working with you and think you are doing a grand job.

Your messages have been given to the household, to Mr. Farrand, and to myself. Thank you for all of them, and with a special message from Mrs. Stover and Miss Walter, and an extra special one from me, I am,

Yours ever sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Beatrix Farrand", written in dark ink. The signature is fluid and elegant, with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.