

BEATRIX FARRAND  
LANDSCAPE GARDENER  
REEF POINT  
BAR HARBOR, MAINE

July 19, 1944

Mrs. Robert Woods Bliss  
1537 28th Street  
Georgetown  
Washington, 7, D. C.

Dearest Mildred:

The last letter went to you in such a haroosh of excitement that I am afraid it was hardly intelligible. The thrill of getting a letter from you and one from Van Rensselaer in the same post was so great that probably my note to you was even madder than usual. When I think of the commotion your letter must have made in the Lassiter house and in the Van Rensselaer's surroundings it makes me wish I had been invisible in both places to see the joy and relief you have given.

Now as to the D.C. postcards. Obviously my two volumes are numbered differently from the Stewart negatives and as you added a few additional views to those I had already picked out I am sending you the packet of those chosen from my cherished volumes, minus those which were given to the mysterious Mr. Landon for "making drawings". A letter has gone to Bryce asking him please to retrieve the negatives from Stewart as rapidly as maybe so that the missing numbers may be added to your tentative postcard group. It seems to me as though probably 15 or 20 at the utmost would be sufficient to start as outdoor garden postcards, so will you look over this group and see whether you can trace my numbering to your photographs.

You doubtless remember sending me three portfolios of Dumbarton photographs, one is made up of photographs taken during the construction and the other two numbered sets are in like portfolios which are numbered from 1 to 89 inclusive. The one picture that I totally lack for our record book is the funny little snapshot taken by good Gray before we began work on the long hopeless looking slope of red clay east of the gorgeous beech on the Beech Terrace. I must have a search for this as it is essential to put it into the record book as showing what "impossible things can be believed before breakfast" as the White Queen says.

It is so piteously dry that we see two or three forest fires on our islands and this means destruction not only for the present but for many future years as the soil is so thin that when it is burned away there is nothing left but gravel and rock and it will take many many a year to rebuild anything like a growing surface.

Maxtrix send their devotion to Milrob and the constant wish to have them here enjoying the sunshine and sea air.

Yours ever with constant devotion.

*TriX*