

BEATRIX FARRAND
LANDSCAPE GARDENER
REEF POINT
BAR HARBOR, MAINE

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

June 17, 1947

u 18 u

Dearest Mildred:

Truly your long letter is deeply appreciated as I know from the past - and indeed from the present - how much sacrifice of sleep and time it has meant for you to write me so fully and so comprehensively.

It would be cruel to answer your whole letter so that you might have to plough through it before you start for California, but later a longish letter will go to you speaking of the garden enterprise at Dumbarton Oaks and of my "rejoicement" that you want to leave at Dumbarton as scholarly a garden library as you have for Byzantium and the middle ages. The lists sent me are of use but to only a very limited extent as both Harvard and the Horticultural Society have mentioned only comparatively and commonplace modern books - these should of course be part of the Garden Center library but aside from these you will I know want a reserve alcove where the rare books such as the Kip, LeRouge and the rare botany books (Loudon, the great Iris book, etc.) should be a part of both collections. Let me work over this group of books for you during the next weeks even though it may delay the record notes for Dumbarton, as the lists may be of use to you if you have a moment to "bouquiner" in Paris or London.

And please don't ever think that my interest and enthusiasm for Dumbarton will ever flag or diminish. Physically I am not as strong as I was but I shall always hope that wherever there is anything in which you and Mr. Thecherer feel I can be of use or help that I shall be brought into the question, as I know Mr. Patterson hopes also that this will be the case. So please never think that you are asking me to do something that I may not be interested in in helping Dumbarton in every way of which I am capable.

I moan over the loss of branches and trees in the hail storms and twisters. That lovely maple - I can't bear to think of it minus one of its arms. Thank goodness you and I are not guilty of having altered the grades around the big beech tree as the root grade of this tree was one of the immoveable levels we decided not to change, and moreover if it has been reasonably happy for more than 20 years one can't blame any change of level for its present illness, but oh dear how I lament its demise.

My dearest love to you and Robert and a happy journey to you both. You will soon hear from me in Santa Barbara.

Yours ever, with constant & unchanging love,

Trix -

The August-October programme
is tremendous, I wish it were not
necessary for D.O. as it will be a heavy
heavy strain. Thanks for Elizabeth's news - so relieved that things promise to
ease for her - The Indian performance is magnificent. What a race they are -
Your Trix -