

*Jack  
as not to cross  
lines with pro  
please an answer for me*

BEATRIX FARRAND  
1650 ORLANDO ROAD  
SAN MARINO, CALIFORNIA

February 18, 1941

Prof. Paul J. Sachs, Chairman,  
Administrative Board,  
Dumbarton Oaks,  
3101 "R" Street,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Sachs:

A few days ago a journey to Santa Barbara gave me the pleasure of seeing Mrs. Bliss and, as your cordial invitation to continue work for Dumbarton Oaks had come and been accepted, it was possible to speak to her on certain points which you and I had already talked about in Washington. She realized that, on account of the very unfavorable weather during my brief visit in January, it was impossible to inspect the whole of Dumbarton and report on all its various details. She, therefore, explained to me that there were a few pieces of work which she had hoped to finish before leaving Dumbarton Oaks, but that lack of time prevented her overseeing the final details. Mrs. Bliss said she would like me to help her with:

1. The finials of the service gates north and south of the Museum.
2. The console at the "Underworld" entrance to the Museum, south of the Music Room wall.
3. Study of the size and emphasis of the lettering of Quod Severis and Dumbarton Oaks in the architraves over the Museum gift tablet and the entrance door.
4. Study of the shields for the gift tablet inscription - as to size - accent of carving - polychroming.
5. Remodelling the side bulges of the standards of the stone seat of the west court loggia.

Various other items were spoken of by her; the painting of the Forsythia and Hazel Walk gates, which she wished to do. Mrs. Bliss also spoke of the closing of the tennis court entrance to the Box Walk by additional

trellis and "wainscot" wall, but I did not definitely understand if she meant to include this in her other "unfinished business" and will later inform you of her decision.

Mrs. Bliss understood the need for pruning the "Bride" Magnolia south of the Orangery, and I am writing Mr. Bryce to attend to this.

The necessity for a change in the ground cover of the Green Garden was also understood by her, on account of the diseased condition of the present Vinca. Mr. Bryce is being written to, to start ivy cuttings for its replacement when possible.

Mrs. Bliss told me to keep a separate account of the work done at Dumbarton for her, and to tell Mr. Coles to send the account for his time to Mr. Russell when he was doing this work.

We also spoke of possible arrangements as to the greenhouse, and I definitely understood from her that she intended to pay Miss Sweeney's salary for work on the Catalogue House until this may be finished, perhaps after my next visit to Washington. I am telling Mr. Russell of these various decisions on Mrs. Bliss's part.

Another item Mrs. Bliss wishes to have me attend to for her is the placing of the tree lights near the new wings: Mr. ~~Bryce~~<sup>Bliss</sup> seems to think it might be possible to install a light in a nearby tree (preliminary wiring has already been done) to give light in the Museum court. Mrs. Bliss also said she hoped for suggestions for an ornament to replace the somewhat ineffective shell on either end of the inscription on the architrave of the west court loggia.

The question of the inscriptions for the R. Street piers was touched upon, but no decision made. Other details were mentioned, but not decided on. If it be possible to settle any other questions with Mrs. Bliss, you will at once be informed.

Mrs. Bliss seemed greatly pleased with the idea of the tennis and swimming club with its contributing members.

In order to save your time and to inform Mr. Thacher, a carbon copy of this letter to you goes also to

Prof. Paul J. Sachs, February 18, 1941.

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him, and in a few days I expect to send him a review of my remembrance of at least some of the many matters we spoke of in January.

With best regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Beaury Tarnand