

October 29th, 1942.

Mrs. Beatrix Farrand,
Reef Point,
Bar Harbor, Maine.

Dear Mrs. Farrand:

First, thank you for the Manual of Weeds which arrived last week and my apologies for tardiness in acknowledging its receipt. I have just given it the most cursory examination but I am sure it will prove helpful. The N.Y. Botanical Dept. returned my specimens duly named but I have not been able to find but one of them in any of my reference books. Anyway, I'll arm myself with the names given them in case anyone asks again.

The other book 'The Garden Month by Month' has not arrived, but a lady was in to see the gardens on Saturday and had one in her hand and told me she had picked it up in a second hand book shop for \$1.00 but I probably would not be so lucky.

Enclosed is the current instalment of planting list which is all the notes I have made to date. Washington has had its feet soaked so long it has been difficult to get around some of the gardens for the deluge. Worst of all this outpouring was that on Monday we had a dreadfully hard driving rain and the temperature dropped sharply at night, with the result that the herbaceous border got a wicked frost and just when we were planning on such a beautiful showing this week. They were beautiful on Saturday but not many were opened though showing color, now we have hopes that those buds which were tight may be able to give us a little show later on. The Fountain Terrace did not get nipped and poor Kearney is heartsick to see the results of his work and his pride in the garden. They have been covering the upper garden with tarpaulin at nights and the Blaze of color is much admired. Saturday we had 37 visitors and 21 yesterday morning. In fact we had to turn many away who came in after hours on Saturday.

About ordering the drinking cups; I spoke to Miss Carpenter and she said inasmuch as we were not being visited by the school children she did not believe it was in order to put in a quantity of drinking cups, that if the schools should start paying us visits it would be time enough to order the envelope cups on which I had a quotation of \$15.00 for 10,000.

I'm enclosing also my report to Mr. Thacher to October 15th, and copy of a little bit of verse which appeared in the Star written by one of our frequent garden visitors.

Miss Draper and Miss Stackpole were here for a visit on Tuesday.

I received from Mrs. Bliss a lovely painting of eucalyptus trees done by Mr. Parshall for her Mother in 1921 and I am pleased and proud as Punch.

Looking forward to your visit next month,
Sincerely,

REPORT OF GARDEN VISITORS TO DUMBARTON OAKS GARDENS

October 1, 1941 - October 1, 1942.

The Garden Guide Service at Dumbarton Oaks opened on October 12, 1941.

From October 1th, 1941 to October 1, 1942 - 1722 visitors were escorted through the gardens on the regular open days - i.e. Wednesday mornings and Saturday afternoons.

School children made up the largest attendance during October 1941 but since then we have had no school children except an occasional class.

Gardens were closed during the month of August.

Tours were again resumed September 1st, 1942.

The above does not, of course, take into account the number of people who visited the grounds, only those who made up the groups on open days.

TOTAL 1722.

Monday forenoon is completely occupied with filing away the prints, magazines and books used on Saturday afternoon's garden tour. Monday afternoon is supposed to be a half holiday for me.

Tuesday may call for making out cards, writing notes and looking up information for visitors and for garden guide notes.

Wednesday morning before the garden tour starts is spent in assembling a display for the Orangery made up of prints and articles relating to certain prominent trees, flowers, or shrubs which call for attention at certain seasons.

The morning tours take from 10:30 to 12:00 and often later, consequently there is the same routine in the afternoon of rearranging the material used in the morning's work.

Once a day, sometimes morning, and sometimes in the early afternoon, whichever fits in best with other work, I walk around the grounds, making notes for my own use and paying attention to changes in planting &c.

Thursday (unless some visitors arrive,) is spent in doing office work, letters, filing, mounting of prints &c.

Friday is much the same procedure as Thursday sometimes a trip to the library or in search of print material

Saturday morning is fully taken up with getting ready for the afternoon garden tour. Sometimes a walk around is made in the morning to map a course for the afternoon.

Recently an effort has been made to list all plant material on the place, taking the garden in sections, turning the list over to Mrs. Farrand, when completed, for her History of Dumbarton Oaks planting.

See between - changing Catalogue House display

the garden - garden - garden - garden

THE CHRYSANTHEMUMS ARE NOW AT THEIR BEST AT DUMBARTON OAKS
AND THE BORDERS ARE GAY WITH GORGEOUS AUTUMN SHADES.

THE DISPLAY OF AUTUMN FLOWERS IS LOOKED FORWARD TO BY THOSE
WHO HAVE BEEN FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO HAVE SEEN THE GARDENS AT
THIS TIME OF YEAR.

THE GARDENS ARE OPEN FOR GARDEN TOURS WEDNESDAY MORNINGS
AT 10:30 AND SATURDAY AFTERNOONS AT 2:30

In re signs of Direction for Garden Tours:

Even though there is a sign at the entrance gate directing visitors to 32d Street gate, and also a sign at the gate giving days and hours of garden tours, many persons are confused because of the sign at the service steps pointing through the garden gate to the Library and it is only when they reach the main entrance steps that a sign points to the gardens. It would seem that a larger sign, or a more prominently placed one at the Orangery is needed. I would suggest its being placed at the left of the walk where it is more easily read and to say - something like the following:

GARDEN TOURS START HERE.

PLEASE WAIT IN THE ORANGERY FOR
THE GARDEN GUIDE.

A few markers should be placed directing people to the walk leading to the Orangery, i.e., unless it is decided to change the entrance to the gates at 3101 R Street and have them open only on days when tours are in progress. In either case, it would be well to have a means of approach marked plainly for the benefit of newcomers.