

June 27, 1944

Mrs. Beatrice Farrand
Reef Point
Bar Harbor, Maine

Dear Mrs. Farrand,

It was a great pleasure, as always, to have seen you over the weekend, but I am only sorry that your visit was so short.

Before the various things that we touched upon have a chance to escape my memory I am writing to you this list of memoranda covering the various points which we discussed. Please forgive the order in which they are put down.

1. I will speak with Miss Sweeney in regard to her vacation. As far as I am concerned it makes no difference whether she takes it in August or during the winter.

I hope that you will make use of Miss Sweeney's spare time, particularly during the winter months, to type the copies of your record book. This will have the advantage of keeping her fairly busy and also of cutting down the cost of our secretarial account.

2. The Herbaceous border: I understand that the "mums" which Bryce has already started will be planted, but no further materials for the herbaceous border will be ordered until the matter has again been considered.

I understand that it would not be good judgment to replant the Yew hedge by another Yew hedge for the various reasons which you have given me in detail. However, as I told you, I would not be willing to ask the Trustees for a special grant to cover the cost of the walls, or any part thereof, at least during this coming fiscal year. Should Mrs. Bliss decide that she would want to assume the total cost, that, of course, is another matter which would have to be considered.

I understand that all of the plans for the walls of the herbaceous border are completed, so that work could be untaken.

3. The designs for the ellipse, on which you are now working, are to be charged to Dumbarton Oaks. Obviously the Dumbarton Oaks budget could not assume the cost for any construction for the same reasons as held for the herbaceous border. In any event, we all hope that the box can remain for a few more years.

4. No vegetables are to be planted at Dumbarton Oaks after this year's crops are over, either in the regular vegetable garden or in the garden behind the Fellows' Building. The vegetable garden will be plowed up and probably planted in clover.

5. No planting is to be done, for the present, to hide the dump, in view of the fact that additions may have to be made to the Fellows' Building in the near future.

6. In view of the small saving that would be gained by rearranging the heating system for the greenhouses, it is decided not to make this change. However, the number of flowers raised is to be curtailed and the space is to be given over in all greenhouses for propagation.

7. You will take up with the Blisses the possibility of establishing a nursery on their property adjoining Massachusetts Avenue, in view of the fact that the soil here is not favorable.

8. It is agreed that two small oaks will be planted in the northwest and southeast corners of the garden terrace. The placing of two magnolias is to be left for further discussion.

The paving of the green terrace should also be considered, and if possible it would be helpful if this work could be done next winter. I have no idea what this would cost.

9. You will explore the postcard situation and when you have reached a conclusion you will let me know so that I can see how many cards could be fitted into our budget.

10. Dumbarton Oaks will allocate twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) for the coming fiscal year for the purchase of garden books. All garden books are to be bought either by you or by Miss Sweeney under your direction.

11. I should be delighted to give Bryce a two weeks leave to go to Bar Harbor provided that the Dumbarton Oaks budget is in no way involved.

12. In view of the fact that Baker is no longer on our staff, every effort should be made to replace him with a good treeman. Until this is accomplished the Bartlett Tree Company will presumably have to be employed. Baker's salary was \$2600. and the Bartlett Tree Company's bill was approximately \$1000. last year. Therefore, in view of Baker's departure, it should be possible to make a considerable reduction in the amount for the care of the trees, which amount will revert to the Dumbarton Oaks general budget and not to the Garden budget, as the general budget had to meet this emergency.

13. I will, of course, do anything I can to secure Kearney's release from the army and will let you know what happens. I have made a note of the fact that you consider an extra cottage should be available for the Garden staff. Mrs. Clark's

cottage is out of the question for the time being, inasmuch as Dumbarton Oaks has informed Mrs. Clark that it hopes she will remain there indefinitely.

14. One point which I forgot to bring up with you is the question of the men's vacations. Last year we paid them double wages for the period of their vacation as Bryce said they could not be spared. We cannot afford to do this this year and in any event I feel that everyone should have a break during the year. It would seem to me that Bryce could regulate their holidays by letting them go for two weeks at a time, giving first choice according to seniority.

15. I do hope that, in view of the various curtailments, the labor problem will be made easier for Bryce and that possibly the services of one man can be dispensed with.

I am sure, in view of our conversations in regard to Dumbarton Oaks as a whole, that you will not think that I am trying to penalize the Gardens in order to further other activities. Unfortunately, this is a case where my heart cannot be my guide.

I was deeply touched by your generous suggestion that you would like to make a gift of \$200.00 to Dumbarton Oaks. This is more than kind of you. Do make it whenever it is most convenient for you, and for any purpose which you would like, such as the acquisition of garden books, or in assisting Bryce to visit Reef Point.

Again, let me tell you what a pleasure your visit was to me and how satisfactory it is to be able to talk with such frankness about matters which concern us both so deeply.

With kind regards to Mr. Farrand,

Yours sincerely,