

OLMSTED BROTHERS  
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS, BROOKLINE, MASS

JOHN CHARLES OLMSTED      FREDERICK LAW OLMSTED  
ASSOCIATE MEMBERS  
JAMES FREDERICK DAWSON      PERCIVAL GALLAGHER

OLMSTED BROTHERS.	
REC'D MAY 1 1911	BY 111410
ACK'D MAY 3 1911	BY 111410
ANS'D MAY 15 1911	BY 111410
READ BY J. H. B.	

26th April, 1911.

Mr. H. H. Blossom,  
Timkin Building, San Diego, California.

Dear Blossom:-

Your letter of the 19th has been received together with a set of photographs from Mr. Gill's houses for which I thank you. I appreciate his loaning these to me and shall treat them as personal property and respect his wish in regard to other architects using his ideas.

I will speak to Mr. Harper about Gill and will ask you to give Gill a letter to Mr. Harper, and when he arrives in New York will he let Mr. Harper know where he is stopping, in the hope that Mr. Harper may have an opportunity to call upon him. Or in case he stops in Philadelphia be sure to have Gill look up Harper because I think they would be glad to know each other whether any business is done or not. Your letter to Mr. Harper

you might make a personal introduction without mentioning business, and I will explain the matter to Harper when I see him. I am sorry not to get the set of postal cards before I leave. If you have not already ordered your extra sets from Los Angeles please order a set for me as my father is anxious to have a set of cards showing the missions.

Eucalyptus.

My idea is that any of the eucalyptus that we cannot purchase in flats we would sow ourselves and plant next year. I have forgotten just how much of this was done but you can make a list of the varieties you want and get Walters to procure the seed for you.

Ericas.

I will order 1000 from abroad and 1000 from this country and then ask you to send requisitions to nurserymen direct.

Seaforthia elegans.

Your action in this matter O.K. After a year or so, however, you should try to harden them up. In fact I think it would be well even now to leave some outside of the lath house for the purpose of experiment and to secure more hardy plants. All the nurserymen I

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talked with seemed to think that a plant grown outside of the lath house is much stronger than one grown under a lath house, although most of them, with the exception of Santa Barbara, grow other things under lath houses.

Calla lilies.

My idea was to use these lilies in large quantities only where they would serve as an undergrowth for something else. For instance I saw them in Santa Barbara as a solid ground cover among orange trees and there they looked very well, and under such circumstances it seems to me they would be attractive to the eastern visitor and even to the visitors from northern California. I had in mind planting these and propagating them under the pepper trees across from your nursery.

Donald.

I appreciate Donald's ability keenly and I also realize the extent of work you can put on him, and am exceedingly gratified to learn that he has done so well in the nursery and in the greenhouse. I know that he will make every effort to utilize his skill to the best advantage. I hesitate decidedly to give him anything more than the nursery work because just at present that

is the most important work and it is also his specialty. At Davenport's where he had work under his personal attention and was able to do a portion of it with his own hands he did exceedingly well. When it got to the point of putting on more than one crew of men, however, Donald was apt to neglect the crews that were not working on the particular piece of work in which he was specially interested. <sup>Davenport</sup> Donald also complained from time to time that Donald was no business man in making arrangements for the purchase of soil, etc.

Pots.

Before I left I talked with one or two agents for the Neponset paper pot made by Bird & Company and as I remember it I gave them an order for several thousand. I have just called these people up to find out if they were sent or not and think I shall have a few thousand sent and we will try them out this summer. At Seattle they came in handy but lasted only three or four months. It may be we can get longer use out of them in San Diego. I do not know the collapsible wooden square pot about which you write, but wish you would get samples and consider them.

Yours very truly,

James Dawson.