

3 Sept. 1989

Dear Sam -

Accompanying this letter are the archives which have apparently become so important to the Museum of late. ~~They have just the documents~~ ^{being} These documents have always been kept in a kind of general order, but they are far from properly collected. Regardless of ~~that~~ ^{across} I planned to do that myself over the years as the papers ceased to be needed in my business and my writings. I do hope that the Museum will allow me to use them and to make ~~necessary~~ copies, xeroxing etc. when necessary as they are still a very important part of my ongoing project and I will be handicapped by not having them with me.

Interestingly enough they contain a ^{copy of a} letter I wrote to you in November 1984 just after the Board of Directors voted to acquire ^{the} ~~the~~ collection. ^{resting Bird Painting} In that letter ~~I~~ ^I ~~was~~ ^{volunteered} to donate all the ~~the~~ preliminary studies for the paintings as well as pertinent archives. The Museum never thought to ask me for them or to make them a Contract ~~Almond~~ ^{over} until after I suggested that they might be important ~~to the~~ and helpful to future researchers interested in how an book was

has let us know that it created. & does seem ironic now that Museum will do nothing special to speed its purchase efforts along until ~~they~~ ^{it} has ~~their~~ ^{its} own archives in its possession and all the paintings properly framed as stated in the Contract.

Because forming moldings are often discontinued without notice, both you and I agreed in our ^{early} discussions that all the putters should be formed at one time when the Museum had completed its purchase of the entire collection. I guess we should have included this understanding in the Contract, but since the Museum took an incredible ^{eleven} ~~large~~ months to get the Contract written for signing, a Contract whose terms were not altered in any way from the ^{understanding} ~~Contract~~ we had all reached the previous year, who knows how long it would have taken to include everything in ~~it~~ ^{such} to compose an agreement had we wished to include everything in it. I thought that ~~that~~ was what "good faith" was all about. Our Contract does not specifically give the Museum the power to form the works ^{or} ~~at~~ it chooses. It only requires that the forms be identical and that ^{all} aspects of forming be of museum quality and be done at the expense of the Gentling Co. of

Cause I will be happy to work with the
Museum to ~~achieve~~ achieve mutual satisfaction
if possible in the choice of framing styles. I
want the collection to be as attractive as it
can be and to have durable enough frames
to withstand time and years of display.
^{no new} I still think it would be wise to
^{final} forego framing until the entire collection
has been acquired by the museum. ~~The paintings~~
~~in their present frames~~ It only owns 19 of
the pictures outright at the present time,
although all but 10 are ~~in~~ in one way or
another committed to the museum.

If the museum acts ^{on my recent offer} with some measure
of enthusiasm and decides to work with the
Comp. Boree National Bank to finance its purchase
of the ^{entire} collection, I have no doubt that ~~within~~
everything can be done quickly to complete this
project to the satisfaction of us both. Although
your contract was signed in October 1975 and
agreement really goes back to almost a year earlier,
to November 1974. I ~~have~~ ^{considered project and am to have} ~~been~~ ^{been} been obligated
in good faith since that time. If you examine
the ^{Don's} ~~your~~ own financial printouts, you will see
see that the museum has made almost no
progress since 1976 when Cornelia Blane retired
from the project. Embarrassingly even the
Board has done very little to purchase

Shadwin

the three paintings it offered to ^{acquire} ~~purchase~~
in 1975 and 1976 - namely the Buffalo heads
and Scaled Quail in honor of the
McCaddens and an ^{avist} anachron painting
in honor of Dorothy Jonhards. Molly
Jonhards now tells me that there are Board
members who know nothing about this
project and some who have never even
seen the paintings. This seems very strange
and frankly disconcerting considering the
magnitude of the museum's promised
commitment. Perhaps you should display
a few of the paintings at your next
general Board meeting.

Although in my offer to reduce the
price of the remaining ^{unpurchased} ~~former~~ collection
by \$3,500, I ~~had~~ ^{hope} ~~made~~ it clear
that my offer was not an indefinite
one, that the museum would have to
act with some dispatch or the offer
would be withdrawn. I did not put
a specific day as a deadline but I really
believe that if I ~~have~~ ^{have} not heard
any thing positive ^{the offer} by the end of October
I see no reason to be in effect beyond
~~October~~ ^{in a reasonable} the end of that month.