

July 21, 1965.

Mr. Paul Vanderbilt,
Wisconsin State Historical Society,
Madison,
Wisconsin.

Dear Paul Vanderbilt:

The fifty prints of your photographs arrived here on Monday and you will receive a receipt from the museum registrar soon. It is a great pleasure to see the prints again and my admiration increases each time I go through them. This is going to be one of our most interesting and revealing shows and I am anxious to know the public's reaction to it.

I enjoyed your visit very much and look forward to another. I have found an excellent Mexican restaurant to which I want to take you. Surely we will see you again before the exhibition. I am very grateful to you for all you have done already and I hope we please you with the hanging. Before I forget, I want to tell you that the photographs arrived in fine shape and just as soon as we have installed Sergio Larrain we will get busy with your work. I don't believe it will be necessary to crop anything, not even mats.

All good wishes to you and we look forward to the rest of the prints when they are ready.

Sincerely,

Hugh Edwards, Curator of Photography.

Wisconsin
(Wanderbilt)

September 13, 1965.

Mr. Paul Vanderbilt,
The State Historical Society of Wisconsin,
816 State Street,
Madison,
Wisconsin.

Dear Paul:

I am glad to find your letter here this morning after my usual day off on Monday. I have thought many times of writing you but decided to wait until the entire consignment of prints had arrived. Everything is here now and it is indeed a handsome assembly of photographs. It will be difficult to make a selection because eliminating any one of these prints will mean depriving myself of a pleasure. I feel we made such a good choice that each subject we included is imperative for the balance of the group.

As you noted, there are some prints which have defects. What I have decided to do is make the selection for the show and if any of these photographs require new prints, let you know as soon as possible. There are many people who seem never to notice anything in an exhibition except minor abrasions or cracks (the joy of small minds) and after the carping review of Inge Morath and others we showed last year which appeared the last issue of Contemporary Photographer, it is impossible to allow these petty highbrows their pleasure. As you suggest, all this may disappear as soon as the pictures are put under glass.

We will assume any printing costs, as I told you while you were here. It might be preferable for you to send the invoice. Please address it as follows:

Department of Prints and Drawings,
The Art Institute of Chicago,
Michigan Avenue and Adams Street,
Chicago, Illinois. 60603

Attention: Hugh Edwards, Curator of Photography.

I hope we do obtain a number of prints for the collection and am happy to learn you are agreeable to this. If there are others than those from 78A through 86 which we desire, would it be possible to have prints of them?

I hope you are well and look forward to seeing you. I have found an excellent restaurant to which I want to take you. Best regards.

Sincerely,

Hugh Edwards.

November 23, 1965.

Mr. Paul Vanderbilt,
State Historical Society of Wisconsin,
816 State Street,
Madison,
Wisconsin.

Dear Paul:

The invoice arrived this morning and I have sent it to the business office for payment. When the exhibition has been taken down, I will send you a list of the subjects we wish to keep and the rest will be returned to you. I am happy indeed we are to have you represented in the collection and can assure you these prints will be seen by many visitors. There were large crowds in the gallery over the week end and several people came to the print room to tell us how much they had enjoyed the show. One of the visitors was Aaron Siskind who was enthusiastic and I had a pleasant visit with him.

I hope you are in Chicago again before long and that you will be sure to get in touch with me. Your visits are always stimulating and good effects are left in their wake.

All good wishes to you.

Sincerely,

Hugh Edwards, Curator of Photography.