

Mrs. Jim Craig
521 Spring Valley Road, N. W.
Atlanta, Ga.

May 26, 1962

Dear Henry, Eva & Ora:

It is almost summer again and we discover lovely new things in bloom each day - we even have nine white dogwood trees which are more than our share, on an 85-ft. frontage lot. During the rains, of which we usually have plenty, our tiny creek swells to river proportions. The little bridge seems adequate, though.

The small house is three-fourths of the way up a wooded slope, covered with ivy, vinca, bulbs, and bushes. There are flagstone steps meandering up the hill to the house. In back of the house there is an alley that crosses over 20 feet of our property. The house is small: one bedroom, and a den which is Bruce's room (with piano, hi fi, wall of books, etc.); one bath (old fashioned); a small kitchen; a little dining room with a huge picture window; and a large front room with a beautiful view. I am trying to work on a small enclosed porch which has plenty of light, but also has thin leaky walls and is colder than a well digger in January (Jim's expression).

The house has been terribly neglected and we have really got ourselves involved fixing it up: first, the entire inside and now the outside. We found the entire front, as well as other sections, were rotted out mostly from badly-designed gutters and neglect in maintenance. We have just finished up painting and are now digging out from the debris left by carpenters, gutter men and painters. After we modernize the bathroom, the remaining big item is the addition of an at least a 20 x 30 Studio-den-work shop-frame-room, for me to work in now, and possibly later on. Both of us will use also for workshops and classes. I have to sell a lot of paintings before we can build.

It sounds crazy to have to do so much work on an old house (20-yrs); but once we get it up to our needs, it is an investment for Jim's retirement, and a place of peace and beauty to live and work in a beautiful, convenient and well-located part of town. (There are no lots left in this section). It is a size we will be able (once the mortgages are paid off) to support and be free to relax, travel, and provide room to do work we like.

Sorry to talk so much about us; but, you asked about the new house.

Bruce is in Berlin now. He sounds happier. His address is:

SP/4 Bruce Craig
RA 14719053
78th USASA SOU
APO 742
New York, N. Y.

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We just came back from seeing Kim, Bob, Randy, Carey AND Sonne' (Weimeraner), the trailer, the Bayou Teche, along side of which they live in Louisiana.

It is a lovely little family. Kim got a nice boy as a husband. They both work with and care for the babies. They hope the next job can be nearer to a Town where Kim can work part time; but she is enjoying a quiet time with the kids for now.

We think of you all often.

Love,