

# The Museum of Modern Art

11 West 53 Street, New York, N. Y. 10019 Tel. 956 6100 Cable: Modernart

Museum of Modern Art Archives

June 21, 1976

The Underground Gardens  
Fresno,  
California

Gentlemen:

I am preparing a publication devoted to the architectural use of earth in shaping man's environment. As the first comprehensive survey, it will include contemporary as well as historical and vernacular examples drawn from all cultures and periods. The book will examine all known applications from semi-subterranean dwellings to large scale engineering projects, in order to explore the formal and practical potential of earth shaping.

For possible use in this publication I am most interested in obtaining illustrations of Baldasare Forestiere's underground house and gardens.

I would like to have photographs of reproduction quality (8 x 10" glossy prints) of both overall (aerial) views as well as close-ups of specific earth forms. If your photographic coverage is incomplete and if you know of other photographs more suitable for publication, please let me know the names and addresses of photographers and/or sources.

Equally important are plans and sections (again preferably in reduced prints) of the project and of the site in its original condition. Finally I would appreciate your completing the enclosed data sheet and adding whatever descriptive material you think would be of use or interest. I need not mention that full credit will be given for all materials reproduced in the book.

I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience and thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Dr. Ludwig Glaeser  
Curator

enc.