238 Putnam Avenue Cambridge, MA 02139 March 16, 1995

Stuart P. Feld President Hirschl & Adler Galleries, Inc. 21 East 70th Street New York, N.Y. 10021

Dear Stuart:

A belated reply to your letter of December 9, 1994, regarding your little picture by Eastman Johnson, titled <u>The Sleigh Ride</u>. I did, however, speak with your secretary.

I saw this oil sketch a few years back with it was on exhibition at a Sotheby's auction. (I believe it was Sotheby's. I cannot now lay my hands on my notes.)

Although the subject is unlike what we see in other Johnson paintings (oxen, a sleigh, the empty background), I have no problem assigning it to Johnson's hand. And I will include it in my catalogue raisonné.

I will be in and out of New York in the next few weeks. I am on leave from Boston University this semester and I'm researching a book on Jacob Lawrence. (I wrote the essay on his art in the <u>Migration</u> catalogue of the show now at MOMA).

I will call you next week and perhaps we can make a definite date for lunch. I would love to see Sue.

Sincerely,

Patricia Hills