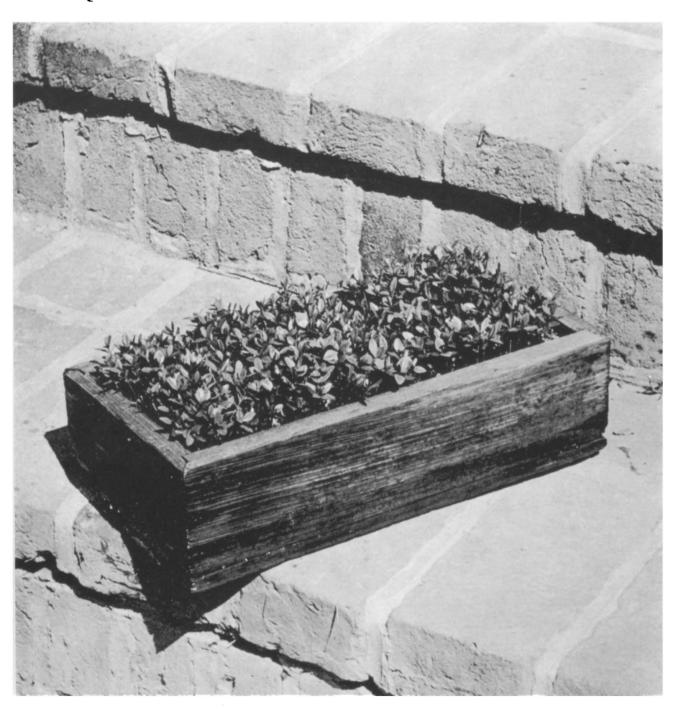
October 1964

# The **Boxwood Bulletin**

A QUARTERLY DEVOTED TO MAN'S OLDEST GARDEN ORNAMENTAL



70,000 Years of Dignity and Beauty in This Little Flat! (Page 26)

#### Edited Under The Direction Of THE AMERICAN BOXWOOD SOCIETY

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The Editors solicit and will welcome contributions of articles, news notes, photographs suitable for reproduction, of box-wood specimens, gardens, and plantings, and other items of probable interest to readers. It is requested that every item of such material carry the name and return address of the sender and be accompanied by an addressed envelope carrying the proper postage for return. While every effort always will be made for the protection of all material submitted for publication, the Editors cannot assume responsibility for loss or injury.

The Boxwood Bulletin is published four times a year by the American Boxwood Society in the quarters beginning with October, January, April, and July.

A subscription to the Boxwood Bulletin is included as one of the benefits of membership in the American Boxwood Society, with \$2.00 of the dues of each member being allotted for the Bulletin subscription.

The Bulletin is \$5.00 per annum to non-members in the United States and Canada; single numbers are \$1.50 each.

Reprints will be supplied to members and authors at cost but should be ordered at the time of an article's acceptance for publication.

Make cheques payable to the American Boxwood Society.

## STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION

- Date of Filing: October 31, 1964.
- Title of Publication: The Boxwood Bulletin.

 Frequency of Issue: Quarterly.
 Location of Known Office of Publication (Street, city, county, state, zip code): Blandy Experimental Farm, Boyce, Virginia.

Virginia.
5. Location of the Headquarters or General Business
Office of the Publishers (Not printers): Blandy Experimental
Farm, Boyce, Virginia.
6. Names and Address of Publisher, Editor, and Managing Editor: Publisher, The American Boxwood Society,
Boyce, Virginia; Editors, Mrs. Chester L. Riley, Mrs. Edgar M.
Whiting, Winchester, Virginia.
7. Owner: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1.

names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and address of the individual owners corporation, the names and address of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as that of each individual must be given.) Name, The American Boxwood Society, Boyce, Virginia (Non-Profit Organization).

8. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages or Other Securities (If there are none, so state): None.

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Editors Mrs. Edgar Mrs. Chest	M. Whiting er L. Riley
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First Arboretum Advisory

Committee \_\_\_\_\_ Inside Back Cover

### COMPLETE MEMBERSHIP LIST AMERICAN BOXWOOD SOCIETY

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Our efficient, cheerful Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Clay Carr, piled up many extra hours and days of the time and energy she so generously gives the Society, to accomplish this tremendous job. Mrs. Carr and the editors have checked and rechecked until the list was as complete and accurate as it could be made, from the information at hand.

A supplementary list will be published every year, with the names and addresses of members who have joined during the year. In this list we will correct any errors of which we have been advised, and will also publish changes of address, if notified.

#### **CHRISTMAS**

The new membership list gives you an opportunity to find out which of your friends are not yet members of the American Boxwood Society. If any are not, what more pleasant gift than a membership in ABS, which includes a subscription to the Boxwood Bulletin? Details are given on the back cover, with a replica of our gift card adorned with a green branch of box.

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Boyce, Virginia
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Printed in U. S. A. by Carr Publishing Co., Inc., Boyce, Va.

## Blandy News

DR. SINGLETON IN THAILAND

Dr. W. Ralph Singleton, director of the Blandy Experimental Farm and member ex-officio of the executive board of the Boxwood Society, is in Bangkok, Thailand, on leave for one year from the University of Virginia. He was sent by the International Atomic Energy Agency (sponsored by the United Nations), under an appointment as adviser to the government on the agricultural applacations of atomic energy. He is stationed at Kasetsart University, founded in recent years for the teaching of agriculture.

Dr. Singleton works with the staff of the various departments in planning research, with the director of the nuclear reactor, and with the Ministry of Agriculture. Dr. and Mrs. Singleton flew by way of Paris and Vienna for briefing and they will return in August, 1965. In his absence, Alan Caspar, research assistant at the Blandy Farm, has been named acting director. Mr. Caspar is a graduate of Cornell University and the University of Connecticut.

As Miller Professor of Biology and Director of Blandy Farm since 1955, Dr. Singleton helped install at Blandy the first Cobalt 60 source for continuous radiation of growing plants to induce mutations. He has been chairman of the Northeastern Corn Improvement Congress, consultant on atomic energy in the South for the Regional Education Board, adviser to the United States delegation at the Geneva Conference on Peacetime Uses of Atomic Energy in 1955, consultant to the Philippine Atomic Energy Commission under the University of Virginia's contract with A.I.D. in 1963, in addition to serving on regional and national committees on many projects from plant breeding to bio-astronautics.

Mrs. Singleton writes:

"We were fortunate in finding a little house in a big compound where the owner's wife has made a specialty of gardening. We live virtually in a tropical botanical garden of palms, acacia, banana, and fruit trees new to us, planted with pink and the many other varieties of hibiscus you see here, other flowering trees, and orchids festooned here and there. One of Bangkok's many klongs, or canals, flows around three sides of our house.

You may have read of upcountry flash floods resulting from the heavy rains of the last few days. Water covers some of our friends' lawns in the city, but ours rises above.

We do miss our friends and the fine October days. It is like August here, but there's much to enjoy besides weather."

Their address is c/o Atomic Energy Laboratory, Kasetsart University, Bangkhen, Bangkok, Thailand.

Their address is c/o Atomic Energy Laboratory, Kasetart University, Bangkhen, Bangkok, Thailand.



The north side of the great double hedge at Gunston Hall, looking toward the house.

## Restoration of Gunston Hall Garden

By Mrs. Frank J. GILLIAM

Gunston Hall, the eighteenth century home of George Mason, the author of the Bill of Rights, was willed to the State of Virginia in 1949 by the late Louis Hertle, the estate to remain as a perpetual memorial to George Mason and his great contribution to the nation. Mr. Hertle directed in his will that the Colonial Dames of America should be the custodians of Gunston Hall, and this organization has beautifully restored the house itself. The Garden Club of Virginia assumed as one of its restoration projects the task of re-creating the garden that George Mason had planted. Over three years the major proceeds from Historic Garden Week in Virginia, were devoted to this restoration — a total of some \$36,000.00.

George Mason built his home between 1753 and 1758, and in the years that followed laid out his garden and planted the now majestic boxwoods that are the chief feature of the garden stretching toward the Potomac. Here, at Gunston Hall, George Washington and Thomas Jefferson collaborated with Mason on the Bill of Rights, and here Mason himself lived during the years that he served as author of the Constitution of Virginia and as one of the framers of the Constitution of the United States.

The development of the garden was under the direct charge of the Restoration Committee of The Garden Club of Virginia, with Alden Hopkins, resident landscape architect for Colonial Williamsburg, serving as the landscape architect for the Gunston Hall garden.

The great feature of the garden at Gunston Hall is its boxwood. One of the most magnificent hedges of English dwarf boxwood in America is planted in the shape of a giant letter T, the top of the T run-

ning parallel across the length of the house and the long leg of the T stretching some several hundred feet in a double row down through the garden. In the course of the years the top of the T has suffered heavy damage, the greater part of the eastern arm having been lost and a small part of the western arm. To replace this boxwood with specimens equal in size and beauty — and consequently in age — thus became the challenging task of The Garden Club of Virginia, no easy undertaking in the finding, purchasing and moving the living antiques sought for this purpose.

On a farm in Rockbridge County, in Virginia, was found a planting of English dwarf boxwood forty-five feet in length, from seven to nine feet in height, and varying from fourteen to eighteen feet in width.

The problem of moving this enormous plantation of boxwood was no small one. A number of nurserymen were unwilling to face the task, but Mr. John O. Williams, of the Williams Nursery, in Richmond, agreed to undertake the moving. In a letter to the Restoration Committee Mr. Williams described his reaction as follows: "Had it not been such a challenge we would probably have followed our first impulse after seeing the box, to throw up our hands and back off, admitting our defeat. But, after consideration, we decided that although the widespreading branches on one side were so large and so rigid that it would be impossible to tie them up to get near the center, the other side was comparatively straight up where it apparently had grown against a fence. We could dig on that side and, with utmost care, slowly tunnel under the branches and work the dirt out through parted spaces in the foliage."

The moving of the boxwood was a task lasting ten days, with a large crew of men, a bulldozer, tackles, winches, and two underslung trucks required for the work. The Virginia State Department of Highways cooperated in testing bridges and measuring underpasses to choose the best possible route. The hedge was formed of six pieces and they were numbered and replanted in the ground at Gunston as they had grown originally. The smallest ball moved weighed an estimated five tons.

The building of the two summer houses located at the river end of the garden on the original mounds that George Mason built completed the re-creating of this mid-eighteenth century garden. Gunston Hall stands as the worthy representation of a great spirit in American history, George Mason.

Mrs. Gilliam, of Lexington, Virginia, is a past President of the Garden Club of Virginia, and was Chairman of the Restoration Committee in 1954, when the restored garden of Gunston Hall was presented to the State of Virginia, with the Colonial Dames of America as custodians.

Article reprinted from the booklet of the Presentation Program, by permission of Mrs. Gilliam and the Garden Club of Virginia.



Large English boxwood being moved into place at Gunston Hall during the garden restoration.

From a color slide taken by the late Alden Hopkins. Used by permission of Mr. Hopkins' associate and executor, Donald H. Parker.

## The Gunston Hall Garden

#### By ALDEN HOPKINS

Landscape Architect for Gunston Hall Restoration

From the booklet "Presentation of the Restored Garden at Gunston Hall, April 21, 1954." Reprinted by permission of the Garden Club of Virginia and Mr. Donald H. Parker, associate and executor of the late Mr. Hopkins.

George Mason shared the greatness of the Virginia contemporaries. George Washington and Thomas Jefferson. He also shared in their aspiration and achievement in building a home worthy of a brilliant period and of a great citizen of that era. Choosing a site overlooking the river and surrounded by rolling land, rich at that time, he developed Gunston Hall into one of the real domestic architectural monuments of the second half of the eighteenth century. Calling on the architect William Buckland for the design of his house he enriched it with furniture and decorations from the best London shops, later unloaded at his own Potomac wharf. We are justified in the assurance that the insistence on authenticity of design, the studied attention to detail, the recognition of the Chinese influence then popular, the restrained richness of materials and workmanship — all would naturally have been reflected in the garden landscape that George Mason wanted.

We are faced with the fact that little documentary evidence remains as to the exact landscape details. We do have a few descriptive nineteenth century notes from a descendant, General Mason, concerning out-buildings, location of the orchard, the planting of white mulberries and English walnuts, and the great cherry approach avenue, splayed for its surprise perpective and a source of particular pride with Mr. Mason. In plotting the reconstruction of the garden the greatest assistance was found in the existing English box hedges, of so great antiquity; and in the topography that gave a good idea of the form of the garden. The probable length and breadth of the garden was indicated in the central axial walk of boxwood now tremendous in size; and the opening in this box, half way of its length, gave the clue for the location of crosswalks that placed and determined the

size of the four "parterres," so much a part of an eighteenth century garden. The original topography exists in the two mounds at the outer corners, probably much as George Mason knew them, and in the center mound, removed early in this century and now restored. There is likewise the original lower terrace with its projecting mounds and banks.

To develop the details of the design founded upon the axial walk and typographical features remaining, we can turn to publications of the day and to contemporary gardens that have come down to us with design largely intact. Popular in that day were D'Argenville's The Theory and Practice of Gardening, 1712, and Bradley's A General Treatise of Husbandry and Gardening, 1724. The "Gazette" office in Williamsburg sold these publications at the time, and George Mason certainly had access to them. The beauty and utility that George Washington created at Mount Vernon in his flower and vegetable garden have come down to us with remarkable verisimilitude. Washington has left us written record of the constant interchange of plant material among neighbors. Can we not assume a similar exchange of ideas of design, much as Thomas Jefferson shared with his friends his architectural gifts?

The restoration of the gardens presented a problem in the transformation of a twentieth century garden back through the years into one of eighteenth century character that we think might have been familiar to George Mason. There was first the task of removing much of the veneer that later years had left: the elimination of figures, fountains, pools, and much garden material that George Mason could not have known, as tea roses of this day, abelia, buddleia, Japanese flowering cherries, among others. Except for a few canals, water gardens were not known in colonial Virginia, and those later established must be replaced by such features as topiary work. Beds were replanted with authentic eighteenth century material.

In the development, enclosure and outline accents for this garden have been provided by the tall cedars so abundant and beautiful in this section of Virginia. Along the sides in front of these

cedars the rows of Early Richmond or Kentish cherries, popular varieties then as now, will give the spring color and later foliage outline for garden enframement. The walk at the garden end will become an especial feature: a double row of splender cedars, dwarf boxwood, flowering quince, and sweet briar roses, overlooking the lower parterre and on to the Potomac, and forming a delightful place from which to view the countryside. On the mansion side the tulip poplars, so familiar at southern places, will soon shade the building

and give a fitting frame to views into the garden.

The garden houses capping each mound are designed in the spirit of the mansion architecture, yet light and playful with a touch of the Chinese feeling. They are of sufficient character to be recalled as belonging only to Gunston much as does the exquisite porch on the garden facade of the mansion. From these two houses the view into the garden and out over the fields and woods to the river and its cooling breeze will be inviting.

North East Parterre: In this simple circularcentered parterre the dwarf box topiary is being developed as the main feature. The inner beds are planted in periwinkle evergreen ground cover, and small bulbs will give spring color. Low accents of tree peonies for an inner circle. The outer bed in tulips and summer annuals are accented with chaste-trees. At the four inner corners pink crape myrtles add their summer bloom and blend with the light blue of the chaste-trees.

#### Important Plant Materials

Lagerstroemia indica	_Crape Myrtle
Paeonia moutan	Tree Peony "Byou de Chusan"
Vitex macrophylla	. Ohaste-tree
Buxus sempervirens	.Dwarf box topiary
—Truedwarf	
Vinca minor	
	Anemone de Caen
	Anemone St. Brigid
Bulbs	Scilla campanulata
	Muscari botryoides
	Narcissus campernelli odorus
	Jonquilla simplex

North West Parterre: The eighteenth century character of this parterre design is quite evident. The tree box cylindrical topiary pieces accent the beds and the center circle, and the four hollies the outer corners. The center tree box topiary is being formed into a geometric figure. Again ground cover of periwinkle with a few old red peonies for accents fill the box-bordered beds. This is a simple evergreen parterre of interest because of its design pattern and formal evergreen accents and offring a delightfully restful section of the garden in winter or heat of summer. The old cedar is no doubt one of Mr. Mason's original trees.

#### Important Plant Materials

Buxus sempervirens —True tree	Tree box topiary
Ilex opaca	_American Holly
Paeonia moutan	Tree Peony "Reine Elizabeth"
Paeonia officinalis	Common Peony
Vinca minor	Periwinkle ground cover
	Anemone de Caen
	Anemone The Bride
Bulbs	_ Scilla campanulata alba maxima
	Muscari botryoides
	Narcissus campernelli odorus
	Jonquilla simplex

South East Parterre: This garden parterre, quite different in character from that of the two nearer the mansion, consists of a series of rectangular beds which outline a bowling green. Accents of white fringe-trees in the outer beds provide some enclosure and late spring bloom. Summer interest and a great display of color by the use of iris and long flowering phlox combine for the main theme. Further away from the house its evergreen character for winter effect is not as important as summer color.

Important Plant Materials

important rant materials	
Chionanthus virginicus	Fringe-tree
Ilex opaca	American Holly
Juniperus virginiana	Eastern Red Cedar
	German Iris
	Phlox
Perennials	Daylily
<u>-</u>	Balloon Flower

Speedwell Oriental Poppy

South West Parterre: The design of this parterre, transformed from its twentieth century character, shows a simplified area much like the opposite parterre yet of different planting nature. Outline accents of single white althea and corner white lilac specimens enclose the area and reflect against the dark box hedge. The outer rectangular beds are planted in annuals and old roses that the enghteenth century knew. The inner planting beds are developed as low parterres with hyacinths, sweet william, Chinese pinks and Stoke's aster for summer flower.

#### Important Plant Materials

Hibiscus syriacus	Althea
Syringa vulgaris	Lilac
Rosa var	Roses:

des Peintres, centifolia damas officinalis, damask kazalik mousscaux ancien, moss pink moss York and Lancaster Felicite Bonain, moss Old Blush, China Marie Tudor, gallica Gypsy Boy, bourbon Red Provence dumortier, gallica



The garden at Gunston Hall, looking from the house toward the Potomac River. The great T of boxwood is to the left.

## Winter Care of Box

### B. Koreana Survives Chicago Winters

by Mr. William A. P. Pullman

Many discouraged gardeners in the Chicago area believe that their severe winters forbid the use of this classic ornamental. However, Mr. W. A. P. Pullman, President of the Chicago Horticultural Society, reports a considerable degree of success with box in his garden at Lake Forest, north of Chicago.

I have been growing Buxus mycrophylla Koreana for at least twenty years without a loss. To be sure, they are in a perfect location protected from the sweep of winter winds both by the house and by the rather heavy planting of yews and shrubs. Drainage is excellent, and the roots can get down (below frost line) through a well-prepared soil mixture. The trouble with Koreana is that it bronzes on the sunny side in winter, and it is a back-breaking job all summer long to keep it trimmed.

Ten or twelve years ago I started experimenting with Buxus sempervirens. This came to me both in the narrow-leaved and round-leaved varieties. The round-leaved ones — those that could be said to lean toward the suffruticosa — are all winter killed. Some of the narrow-leaved plants have been damaged in varying degrees but are recovering slowly. Three of these came through the winter before last without so much as a brown leaf. Perhaps this is pure luck, or possibly they are slightly sturdier than the others. Anyhow we made 340 cuttings from those three plants, all of which are rooted and coming along nicely in cold frames. Next Spring they will be lined out in the most protected spot of our vegetable garden and then we shall see how they survive.

Four small specimens of B. sempervirens "Vardar Valley" burned badly even though they had the protection of a cold frame.

This Spring I received from Henry Hohman three handsome plants of B. mycrophylla compacta. If these turn out to be as hardy here as the Koreana it will be the answer to the Boxwood problem in the Chicago area. I should add that our climate within a mile of Lake Michigan is quite different from that further west. I do not believe in using any plant material that requires special winter protection — other than good location — beyond the first year or two. We give our box no more than a light mulch of oak leaves.

I would be delighted to have you send me names of hardy varieties at any time that you hear of them, with the names and addresses of nurseries where they can be purchased. Possibly some experimenter would like to send me two or three plants for trial.

### Do's and Don'ts From Experience

By Admiral Neill Phillips Heronwood Nursery, Upperville, Va.

Try not to let snow remain on your boxwood. The weight may break down the branches and the snow crystals act as a burning-glass through which the sun can give a severe scorch. After a snowfall, give your plant a good shake and then brush off the remaining snow clots with a broom.

Put up a plywood windbreak in the direction of the prevailing winter winds for boxwood in very exposed situations. For low growing boxwood use pine boughs as protection. Cut boughs about 4' long with ends sharpened so they will stick into the ground, and then place so that the boughs arch over the tops of the boxwood. This is excellent protection from snowburn.

Standardized boxwood, with exposed upright trunks, benefit by having the trunks wrapped in tar paper in late fall, and removed in the spring.

Do not prune or clip in autumn or winter, as the wounds are susceptible to damage from cold. If tendencies to a bad outline develop, wait until early spring to correct with the shears. Tying, of course, should be done any time of the year when needed. Also, at any time of the year they appear, dead parts should be cut off, and undesirable shoots appearing on the trunk or around the roots should be pinched off.

We find that tubbed boxwood does very well left in the open the year round in the Washington, D. C. area. We find that it helps to keep down evaporation in winter, with consequently less strain on the root system, if tubbed boxwood is sprayed with "Stop-Wilt" on a warm day (temp. at least 70 degrees) about mid-November. This may may be done again in January if a warm (70 degrees) day comes.

In the Washington area, boxwood may usually be safely transplanted up to the end of October. After the 1st of November there is a risk that an early prolonged freeze may set in before roots have had time to get established.

### Winter Protection In Maryland

By Dr. J. B. Wilson Department of Botany, University of Maryland

For those of our membership who do not have the earlier numbers of the Bulletin, or who have not kept or recently re-read these back numbers, the following excerpts from Dr. J. B. Wilson's article in the January 1962 issue, contain many worthwhile suggestions.

Valuable boxwood plants must be protected from winter damage. There are various methods by which protection can be provided. Wind screens or antitranspirants may be used to protect exposed plants from drying winds. Such screens may be constructed of any material that will remain in place and will not disintegrate. Cornstalks that are held together with wire and fastened to a fence or stakes make a good screen. Straw mats, which can be constructed or purchased, make very good screens. An advantage of this type of screen is that it may be rolled up and stored when not in use. Burlap tacked to a frame makes a good screen when anchored with stakes. Sheet plastic or bamboo may also be used.

Frames should be constructed around valuable plants whenever snow damage is likely to occur. Lath or other materials may be used for framing. A single layer of burlap makes a good covering for such a frame. The top as well as the sides must be covered. The frame should be constructed large enough to provide several inches of air space between the burlap and the branches.

Upright varieties or compact plants are less likely to be forced open by snow than are the spreading types. Chicken wire pulled snugly around plants which have a tendency to spread open will prevent them from opening up and exposure of their center branches.

Wilt-Pruf, an anti-transpirant, has been used with success at "The Mill" in Harford County to prevent wind burning, but was unsuccessful in preventing snow damage in 1961.\*

Where it is impossible to protect plants with frames, snow accumulation and its resulting damage may be prevented or reduced by sweeping the snow from the plants with a broom. Care must be used, however, so as not to injure the foliage. If the snow is not too heavy, it may be removed from the plants by placing the broom under the branches and shaking them gently.

Of course, the best remedy for this problem is to select or develop boxwood varieties which are winter hardy and which have the structure to withstand snow injury, but with our established plantings we must use other methods, such as those mentioned above, to prevent winter injury.

In addition to these protective measures, winter injury can be reduced by keeping the boxwood in a vigorous growing condition. Plants should be allowed to "harden-off" before cold weather arrives, that is, they should not be fertilized after midsummer and there should be a gradual reduction in watering as the end of the growing season approaches.

## Train Sturdy Main Leaders

By HELEN R. ALLEN
The Boxwood Farm, Urbanna, Va.

American box trained in growing will develop main stems, which will withstand sleet and snow better than those with long thin stems or branches.

Box with good color, fullness of branches and good leaves denote good planting conditions and feeding — are in good color in Spring. We use liquid fertilizer in Fall to help maintain this condition, and again in the Spring to "darken" the leaves if they have changed color.

\*Dr. Alden Eaton, of Colonial Williamsburg, also recommended *Wilt-Pruf* in the same issue of the Bulletin, as a protection against winter burn. At Williamsburg, one application is made in November and another in February.

## The Question Box

We have some large boxwood, eight feet tall with commeasurate trunks, some of which have been broken off in hurricanes and have rotted stumps. Should these rotted places be cleaned of the rot, and filled with plastic cement as one would do for trees? We find the leaves discoloring on some of the branches where there is damage at the crotch connecting the branch to the trunk, the rot extending into the branch making a deep hollow. Should this be cleaned out and filled?

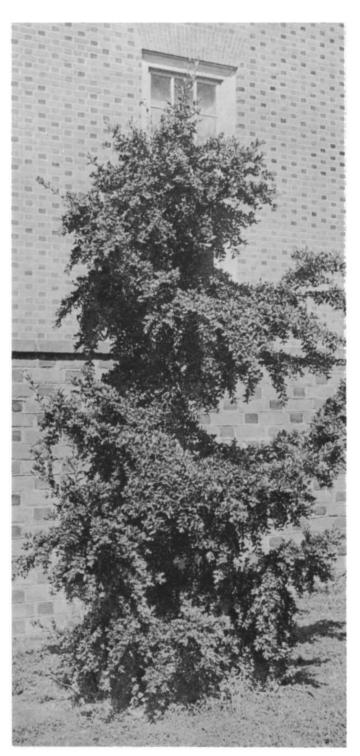
Mrs. Norman Taylor Princess Anne, Md.

Ans. I suggest that the rotted stumps of your broken boxwood plants be sawed off as near to the main trunk as possible. They should be cut on an angle (not directly across). The rotten wood in the hollow places should then be cleaned out to the solid wood. These hollow places then could be filled with plastic cement and allowed to harden. The completed cut should then be painted with pruning paint or with a good oil base paint. We have used the latter with satisfactory results.

C.C.C.

## Buxus Sempervirens Pendula

By J. T. BALDWIN, JR.



Buxus sempervirens pendula, beside Ewell Hall, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia, April 10, 1964.

In the fall of 1952 the College of William and Mary bought three small plants of *Buxus sempervirens pendula* from Kingsville Nurseries. One of these specimens constitutes Figure 1, as photographed in the spring of 1964.

Truly this weeping box is an aristocrat among plants. I concur with the estimate of W. Dallimore, who described this variety: "This is without doubt one of the very best evergreens we possess." The plant forms a distinct trunk with a main leader and has secondary branches that are pendulous. The graceful outline of the tree becomes even better as time passes.

Some years these plants fruit heavily. I harvested about seven hundred seed from our three specimens in June-July of 1963. They were planted in vermiculite in August. Germination was excellent. The seedlings are shown in Figure 2, the following April. If each seedling lives a century — as well it might — then there are 70,000 years of longevity and beauty in that little flat!

Seedlings of Buxus sempervirens pendula, from 1963 seed: photographed, April 10, 1964.



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## "Happy Slaves" of A Garden

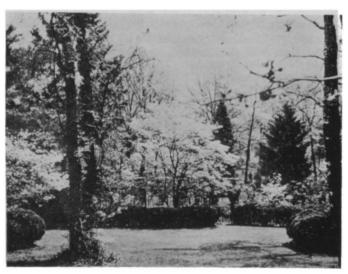
By MRS. PIERRE L. ROUGNY

In 1941 my husband and I decided to look for an old farm as we felt the city was moving too close. We were living in Plandome near Manhasset at the time. After many trips to Connecticut and New Jersey, short of time one weekend we drove down to Huntington, just a few miles from our house in Plandome. We were told of a real estate man named Sammis, the kind of man that seems to have vanished from our scene but was a joy to know. After we described what we wanted, he took us to one place only, and then and there we bought a garden.

I say garden although there was a house, a cottage, a tool shop and a corn crib. We scarcely gave them a second look, all buildings were in such a bad state of repair. It was February, but the Boxwood garden, 23 years younger than in the picture, was lovely with the hill planted in oaks, cedars and spruces for a background. Later we found that the garden had been designed and planted by Hicks about 1922. The box, sempervirens suffruticosa, are now over 50 years old, and a few are over 100.

It took us a few years to bring the house back to its old charm and to add the necessary comforts. The garden, the hill and the box made happy slaves of us. My husband, a civil engineer and chemist, took over the care of the old box. It was his pride and joy over the years, particularly after he retired in 1956.

Of course, we had many heartaches when the Long Island winters played havoc with our pre-



Mrs. Rougny's Long Island Garden in the Spring

cious box. Ice would break the big branches or split the bark. Now we have learned to tie the box with heavy ropes each winter and thus are able to enjoy its beauty throughout the year. This has proven quite successful so far. We also mulch it with compost or manure every other year. I do not know of any other shrub that can transform a simple house into a manor.

In 1944 I began to experiment with cuttings, starting with a few taken from the old hedge. I tried most methods with more or less success until a few years ago when my old gardener and I — he does not know how to read or write but can make anything grow — decided to plant about two thousand cuttings under some old apple trees where we used to keep chickens. We did this in March without cover of any kind and with just shade and water. To our surprise, every cutting grew. We believe we have better success in March than in July. But this varies from year to year. and we have now come to the conclusion that success depends upon the growth of the parent plant the year before and upon the weather conditions. Our cuttings seem quite hardy.

I am still an amateur in search of knowledge and am grateful to the Bulletin for its help.

Mrs. Rougny has recently become a Life Member of the American Boxwood Society, as a memorial to her late husband, one of its Charter Members.

## Box in the City Garden

By PHILIP TRUEX

"The common Box or Boxwood (Buxus sempervirens) also finds conditions in a sheltered yard to its liking, as it prefers light shade and seems very tolerant of smoke and dust. Perhaps the most valuable varieties are handsworthii, a good hedge plant, and suffruticosa, the Dwarf Edging Box. Other good evergreen hedge plants for shade are Japanese Holly and Mountain Laurel."

From The City Garden, published by Alfred A. Knopf, New York.



Dr. Singleton appears at the extreme right in this group picture of the organizational meeting of the first Advisory Committee for the Blandy Experimental Farm and the Orland E. White Arboretum, with officials of the University of Virginia at Blandy on April 2, 1957.

Back row, 1 to r:

- \*Dr. Henry Skinner, Director, The National Arboretum, Washington, D. C.
- \*Mr. E. M. Quillen, President, Waynesboro Nurseries, Waynesboro, Va.
- \*Mr. Monroe Bush, Executive Vice President, Old Dominion Foundation, Washington, D. C.
- The Hon. Colgate Darden, President (now President-Emeritus), The University of Virginia
- Dr. Walter S. Flory, Professor of Experimental Horticulture, U. of Va.; and Advisory Committee organizer. Curator of the Orland E. White Research Arboretum. Now Babock Professor of Botany, Wake Forest College, N. C. and Secretary, The Advisory Committee.

Front row, 1 to r:

- Mr. Vincent Shea, Comptroller, University of Va.
- \*Dr. Edgar Anderson, Director, The Missouri Botanic Garden, St. Louis, Mo. Now Curator of Useful Plants and Geneticist at the same institution.

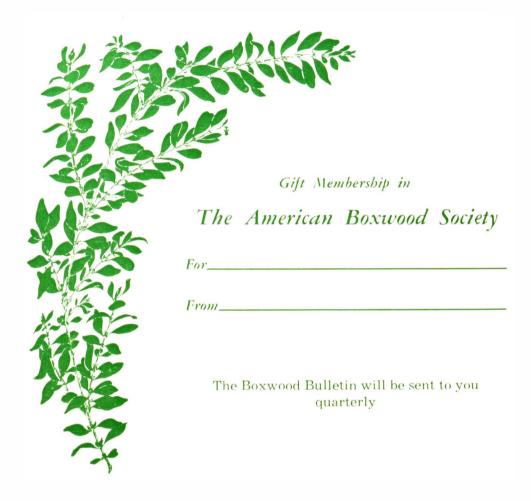
- \*Mr. Churchill Newcomb (deceased), Dunvegan, Purcellville, Va. (At time of death, Chairman of this Committee, and President, American Boxwood Society)
- \*Mr. G. H. Lewis, President, American Rose Society, Salem, Va.
- \*The Hon. Harry F. Byrd, Jr., Virginia State Senator; Editor and Publisher of Winchester and Harrisonburg papers, apple grower.

  (First chairman of Advisory Committee).
- Dr. W. Ralph Singleton, Miller Professor of Biology, University of Virginia and Director, The Blandy Experimental Farm, Boyce, Va.
- \* Member of The Advisory Committee
- Other Committee members: Mrs. J. Gordon Smith, Rose Hill, Greenwood, Va. (present but not in picture), and Dr. Henry Allen Moe, President, Guggenheim Foundation, New York, N. Y.

#### ARBORETUM ADVISORY COMMITTEE, 1964

The present committee, with Dr. Flory, Dr. Singleton and Dr. Edgar F. Shannon, Jr., President of the University of Virginia, consists of:

- Mr. Frank Armstrong, Jr., Pres. National Fruit Company, Winchester, Va.
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- Mrs. Stanley N. Brown, "Rockland", Leesburg, Va. Mrs. George W. Burton, Berryville, Va.
- Mr. George A. Clark, 110 S. Stewart St., Winchester, Va.
- Dr. George M. Darrow (Chmn.) Olele Farm, Glendale, Md.
- Dr. Francis de Vos, National Arboretum, Washington, D. C.
- Mr. E. M. Quillen, Waynesboro Nurseries, Waynesboro, Va.
- Mrs. William C. Seipp, "Brook Hill Farm", Middleburg, Va.



## GIFT MEMBERSHIP IN THE AMERICAN BOXWOOD SOCIETY

Above you see a reproduction of our gift card just as it would go to one of your friends announcing your gift membership to them for one year. The Society year runs from May 1 to April 30, or from one annual meeting date to the time of the next annual meeting.

Regular membership dues at \$3.00 per year, of which \$2.00 are for a subscription to The Boxwood Bulletin. Other classes of membership available are: Contributing, \$10; Sustaining, \$25; Life, \$100; and Patron, \$500. The higher classes of membership provide income which permits the publication of more plates or of additional pages in the Boxwood Bulletin, as well as the expansion of other society activities. Names of those holding Contributing, Sustaining, Life, and Patron memberships will be published each year in the January issue of The Bulletin.