

The **Boxwood** *Bulletin*

A quarterly devoted to Man's oldest garden ornamental



Oak Hill, in Leesburg, with portico designed by Thomas Jefferson, will be open April 23-24 for Virginia's Historic Garden Week. (Story on Page 92. Photo: Flournoy, Virginia, Chamber of Commerce)

IN THIS ISSUE

Balkan Boxwood is Rediscovered, <i>Mary A. Gamble</i>	59
New Cultivar Registration	59
A New Plant Growth Regulator and Boxwood, <i>Thomas J. Banko</i>	60
Herbals and Boxwood, <i>Mary A. Gamble</i>	62
Boxwood and Gardens Go Together, <i>Charlotte Taylor Massie</i>	66
1989 Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage, <i>Sarah S. Henderson</i>	68
The Boxwoods at Tudor Place, <i>Osborne Phinizy Mackie</i>	70
Notice	72
ABS 29th Annual Meeting	72
Workshop Scheduled	73
New Members Listed	73
<i>The Seasonal Gardener</i>	Inside Back Cover

The American Boxwood Society

The American Boxwood Society is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1961 and devoted to the appreciation, scientific understanding and propagation of the genus *Buxus* L. There are more than 700 members in the United States and nine foreign countries.

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Back issues of <i>The Boxwood Bulletin</i>	\$ 4
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<i>International Registration List of Cultivated Buxus L.</i>	\$ 3
<i>Index to The Boxwood Bulletin 1961-1986</i>	\$ 10

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Gifts to the Society are tax-deductible and may be undesignated or applied to:

Boxwood Memorial Garden Fund
Boxwood Handbook Fund
Boxwood Research Fund
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For address changes, memberships, dues, contributions, or to order back issues or publications, write:

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P.O. Box 85, Boyce, Va. 22620

For general information about the Society, advice concerning boxwood problems or cultivar selection, write to The American Boxwood Society at the same address. You are also welcome to write directly to the President:

Mrs. Robert L. Frackelton
1714 Greenway Drive
Fredericksburg, Va. 22401

Call for Papers:

Technical articles, news, history, lore, notes, and photographs concerning boxwood specimens, gardens or plantings are solicited for possible publication in *The Boxwood Bulletin*. Photographs should be suitable for reproduction and fully captioned. Suggestions regarding format and content are also welcome. Material should be submitted to:

Chairman, Bulletin Committee
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Fredericksburg, Va. 22401

Material to be returned to the sender must be submitted with a self-addressed envelope carrying suitable postage. Every effort will be made to protect submissions, but the Society cannot be responsible for loss or injury.

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New Cultivar Registration

Accepted for registration by Mr. Lynn R. Batdorf, International Registration Authority for *Buxus* L.:

Buxus sempervirens 'Flora Place'

Registered by Mary A. Gamble for The Boxwood Society of the Midwest.

Leaf color is deep green with yellow undertone. On the Royal Horticultural Society Colour Chart, upper epidermis matches Yellow-Green Group 147 A, lower epidermis matches Y-G Group 147 B. Leaf surface is glabrous. Leaf shapes range from lanceolate to elliptic. Leaf size is rather uniform 2.5 cm in length and from .7 to 1.1 cm in width. Internodal length ranges from 1.1 to 1.5 cm. Flowering appears to be sparse and scattered (which may be due to shaded site). Mature plant at least 35 years old, at the Missouri Botanical Garden measures about 2 m high and 1 to 1.5 m wide. (Again, this may be due to location and over-clipping.) Natural form is arborescent, with a rather rangy growth habit.

Herbarium sheets have been filed at the Missouri Botanical Garden Herbarium, St. Louis, Mo.

DUES REMINDER

Dues for individual, family, contributing, and sustaining members for the year May 1989 through April 1990 are now payable.

Prompt payment saves the Society time and expense. **Please use the enclosed envelope.**

Note also that a renewal envelope is included in this issue, even for Life Members, Patrons and pre-paid members. In addition to renewal, it may be used to make a tax-deductible contribution to one of the Society's special funds or to order a gift membership.

Balkan Boxwood is Rediscovered

Mary A. Gamble

Buxus sempervirens 'Flora Place' is one of Edgar Anderson's Balkan boxwoods which was almost lost to us. To appreciate its importance, it is helpful to review briefly why Dr. Anderson made his 1934 exploratory trip (sponsored by Arnold Arboretum) to the Balkans "in search of hardy strains of holly, yew and box."

A few years before his death in 1969 Edgar Anderson gave a talk to the Men's Garden Club of Florissant,

Missouri. His subject: "Our Soybean Climate and Why We Need to Understand It." The talk marked the first use of the term "soybean climate," which he said he had invented to give his listeners "something to tie onto."

A transcript of Dr. Anderson's talk was given to this writer in January 1988 by L. Dean McCoy, a retired engineer and horticulturist from Indiana's Purdue University, and an admirer of Edgar Anderson. The following excerpts define "soybean climate" and give the qualities a plant must possess to succeed in it.

"When I went back from St. Louis to serve on the staff of the Arnold Arboretum in the early 1930s, I studied with Harvard meteorologists...to learn in what parts of the world our difficult American climates could be most closely matched...As a homesick midwesterner I was proud to learn that St. Louis was the only place in the United States which had reliable daily observations for a century, thanks to Dr. George Engelmann, the botanical godfather of Henry Shaw's child, the Missouri Botanical Garden (MBG).

"The climate I discovered—the climate St. Louis belongs to—is much less common (than the Mediterranean climate); gardening in it is much more challenging."

At this point, Dr. Anderson introduced his invented term "soybean climate" and said of it, "As a climate it is difficult but not impossible. It is marked by hot summers, cold winters, severe droughts at any time of the year, early autumnal frosts every few decades, disastrous late spring frosts every few decades. To succeed in such a climate, plants must be cold-hardy, heat resistant, drought-hardy and able to withstand sudden drops in temperature."

The soybean climate, he said, can be found in "the southern edge of Manchuria, pieces of Korea and northern Japan, the eastern Balkans, the fringe of



Sprig of *Buxus sempervirens* 'Flora Place', shown at 85% actual size (Photo: Shaw Camera, St. Louis)

Mongolia near Peking [now Beijing], a few scattered parts of Turkey; nowhere else outside the United States.”

“The ‘soybean’ Balkans are not the pretty part near the coast. They are at the eastern edge, visited by tourists only for beaches along the Black Sea, Bulgaria, Serbia, Rumania, Yugoslavia.”

En route to the Balkans Dr. Anderson stopped off at England’s Kew Gardens for more detailed information and to pay a courtesy call on Sir Arthur Hill, the Director. Sir Arthur asked, “Why is an American arboretum interested in plants from the Balkans, of all places?” Dr. Anderson replied, “I’m going there on a hunch.”

His hunch paid off. As he said, “The boxwood from the Vardar Valley in Yugoslavia proved to be vigorous and variable.” Two examples which come immediately to mind are *B. sempervirens* ‘Vardar Valley’ and ‘Agram’. To these we think should be added *B. sempervirens* ‘Flora Place’, which had been lost sight of because of its almost hidden location at the Missouri Botanical Garden.

The location given in Dr. Anderson’s talk was “between the northwest corner of the museum building and the ‘stone garage.’” When this writer and her husband, Goodrich, went looking, we found a clump of boxwood set at the base of a short, rough slope, completely off the beaten path of the area. A close look at the clump showed that there were two boxwoods, almost completely grown together. A closer look showed

Sir Arthur asked, “Why is an American arboretum interested in plants from the Balkans, of all places?” Dr. Anderson replied, “I’m going there on a hunch.”

two plants with differing leaf forms, and at their bases, two labels. One read *Buxus sempervirens* ‘Flora Place’ and the other, *B. sempervirens* ‘Ipex’.

The late Mr. Paul H. Kohl (who was floriculturist for 40 years at the MBG, who “botanized” with Dr. Anderson, and who was a fellow resident in Flora Place, a private street adjacent to the Garden) told us there was a period in the late 1940s and early 1950s when there were only two “kinds” of boxwood on the garden grounds: Dr. Anderson’s “Balkans” and “Korean,” the latter propagated from the plant which the late Dr. Ernest Wilson had found near Seoul, Korea, and given to the Garden in 1926. The Anderson Balkans on the Garden grounds all belonged to the K series. They were all propagated from seed which the Forestry Service of Yugoslavia had gathered in the wild and sent to Dr. Anderson in 1935 or 1936.

Dr. Anderson said of these seedlings, “Most were of the normal wild type of the species, known in Virginia as ‘tree boxwood.’” He added that “one plant, the most vigorous and hardy of the group, was named ‘Flora Place’.” This was the ‘Flora Place’ we found. It had been the parent of a clone propa-

gated in the Garden greenhouses. A number were planted at the entrance to Flora Place. They did well, but were later removed when residents generally began to fear that shrubbery offered undue shelter to intruders.

The original ‘Flora Place’ has done remarkably well considering its crowded, shady and hidden location, and neglect in recent years. It has had no opportunity to develop its potential size. Its leaf form is lovely. When we showed a sizeable sprig to Dr. George Rogers, horticultural taxonomist at the Garden, his first comment was, “It has a wild look.” It is an interesting and demonstrably tough boxwood. The Boxwood Society of the Midwest (BSMW), would like to see it added to the International Registration List of Cultivated *Buxus* L. with Dr. Anderson as its originator. He named it and admired it.

In anticipation that official registration can be accomplished, the BSMW Horticulture Committee is propagating a modest clone.

To double chances of success, cuttings were also sent to Cdr. P. D. Larson of The American Boxwood Society. He reports that several cuttings have rooted. Our hope is that in a few years ‘Flora Place’ will be available to many gardeners.

Mrs. Gamble is the Editor of the Bulletin of the Boxwood Society of the Midwest and a former Vice-President of the ABS.

A New Plant Growth Regulator and Boxwood

Thomas J. Banko

Japanese boxwood (*Buxus microphylla* var. *japonica*) makes a good hedge plant, especially for foundation plantings, edgings, and formal gardens. However, it grows at a moderately rapid rate with a rather loose, open form, and needs frequent clipping or shearing to retain compactness. Common boxwood

(*B. sempervirens*) is an excellent plant for hedges, formal gardens, and topiary work, but may require frequent pruning or shearing to maintain specific shapes or size.

Pruning of extensive landscape plantings can be very time consuming and costly. Growth regulators offer a

possibility for reducing the pruning required to maintain these plants. A growth regulator is a chemical substance that, in very small amounts, alters the growth and/or development of plants. Some very recent developments have been made with these substances in the area of growth suppression.

Growth suppressants or retardants have been used for several years in the production of greenhouse crops such as poinsettias and chrysanthemums to keep the plants from becoming too leggy by encouraging compact growth. Acceptance for use in the landscape, however, has been slower, probably because some of the older chemicals produce phytotoxic effects (such as yellowing or leaf distortion) at effective rates on trees and shrubs.

A newer group of chemicals includes a class of compounds called the gibberellin biosynthesis inhibitors. These compounds act by inhibiting the synthesis and/or action of gibberellin in the plant. Gibberellin is a natural growth hormone present in all green plants that promotes cell elongation in the region of the stem just below the apical meristem (stem tip). By inhibiting the production of this growth hormone, stem length is greatly reduced. Recently developed representatives of this class of regulators include paclobutrazol (Clipper and Bonzi), flurprimidol (Cutless), and uniconazole (Prunit and Sumagic). These materials are extremely active, requiring a small amount of active ingredient for growth control, without producing noticeable injury symptoms. Their effect is relatively persistent, and they are highly specific to the stem elongation process; other processes such as root growth,

stem diameter, stem enlargement, and flower and fruit development continue normally.

At the Hampton Roads Agricultural Experiment Station we recently evaluated the effectiveness of one of these, Cutless (Elanco Products Co., a division of Eli Lilly and Co., Indianapolis, Ind.), on Japanese boxwood and Common boxwood. Two different formulations of the same material were compared: Cutless 50W, a wettable powder applied as a spray, and Cutless 1G, a 1% granular form applied to the soil over the root zone. Each formulation was tried at three different rates or concentrations, and compared with a no-treatment control, a distilled water spray control, and an older growth regulator, Atrinal (dikegulac). We used 1-year old boxwood plants growing in 6 qt. containers in a medium of 4 parts pine bark, 2 parts composted sewage sludge, 1 part sand. The day before the treatments were applied, all the plants were cut back to a height of 20 cm (8 inches). There were seven Common boxwood per treatment, and nine Japanese boxwood per treatment. A completely randomized experimental design was used.

On June 13, 1988, the treatments were applied individually to each plant in carefully measured amounts. The Cutless 50W was applied as a spray at 0, 100, 200, or 400 ppm (parts per

million). The Cutless 1G was applied as 0, 100, 200, or 400 mg per container. These amounts supplied 0, 1, 2, or 4 mg of active ingredient per plant, regardless of whether it was a spray or a granular application. The Atrinal spray was applied at the recommended rate of 4000 ppm. On September 15, the plant heights and widths were measured. The growth of the new shoots beyond the point of shearing was also measured. The plants were then cut off at the soil line, dried, and weighed. With the Japanese boxwoods, the roots were also cleaned, dried, and weighed to determine whether the treatments were affecting root growth.

Both the Cutless spray and the Cutless granular significantly retarded growth of Japanese boxwood in terms of the overall plant heights and the individual shoot lengths (table below). Plant widths appeared to be slightly reduced by the Cutless treatments, but the differences were not statistically significant. The sprays tended to be slightly more effective than the equivalent granular treatments, but the differences were significant in only a limited number of cases. There were no significant differences in root weights.

The growth of Common or "American" boxwood was also significantly retarded by Cutless. As with the Japanese boxwood, the spray treatments appeared to be slightly more effective

Treatment	Concentration or amount	Japanese Boxwood					Common Boxwood			
		Plant height (cm)	Plant width (cm)	New shoot (cm)	Top weight (g)	Root weight (g)	Plant height (cm)	Plant width (cm)	New shoot (cm)	Top weight (g)
Water spray control		31.3ab	28.3a	8.1a	42.6ab	12.9a	34.1ab	19.4ab	9.9a	33.7ab
Cutless 50W (spray)	100ppm	24.8d	24.9a	3.9cd	42.8ab	13.0a	27.1cd	17.9ab	4.2cd	28.2b
Cutless 50W (spray)	200ppm	25.0d	25.8a	3.4de	45.3ab	15.4a	30.6cd	18.4ab	3.3cd	32.0b
Cutless 50 W(spray)	400ppm	24.2d	25.6a	2.3e	47.6ab	14.8a	26.7d	18.4ab	2.2d	29.5b
No treatment (control)		31.9a	28.0a	7.8a	51.8a	14.8a	34.3ab	18.3ab	9.0ab	32.5ab
Cutless 1G (granular)	100mg/pot	28.1c	27.1a	5.4bc	42.4ab	14.4a	36.9a	18.9ab	6.9b	34.1ab
Cutless 1G (granular)	200mg/pot	26.7cd	25.2a	4.7cd	39.56	12.2a	29.1bcd	19.1ab	4.7c	35.0ab
Cutless 1G (granular)	400mg/pot	24.7d	26.1a	4.1cd	43.9ab	13.8a	27.0cd	17.2b	3.5cd	28.2b
Atrinal (spray)	4000 ppm	28.8bc	28.6a	6.2b	49.3ab	14.2a	33.9abc	20.9a	7.3b	38.8a

Numbers in any column followed by the same letters are not significantly different according to Duncan's multiple range test at the 5% level.

than the equivalent granular treatments, especially in terms of individual shoot length. This may be because some of the granular applied Cutless was absorbed by the pine bark in the medium. This has been shown to occur with other growth regulators of this type. There were no significant differences in plant width or top weight. All Cutless treatments were more effective than the Atrinal spray for both types of boxwood even though the Atrinal was applied at a much greater concentration.

These results show that Cutless (flurprimidol) at relatively low rates effectively suppresses the growth of Japanese and Common boxwood both as a spray treatment and as a granular broadcast over the root zone. This growth suppression occurs with no apparent phytotoxic effects or reduction in root growth. This offers the potential for reducing the labor and concurrent expense involved with maintaining plantings of boxwood that may require frequent pruning or shearing. It should be noted, however, that these results are

experimental only. Cutless is not registered for use on boxwood at this time. Before using any of the products mentioned in this article, be certain of their registration by appropriate state, and/or federal authorities.

Note: This research was supported by a grant from The American Boxwood Society.

Dr. Banko is a horticulturist at the Hampton Roads Agricultural Experiment Station, VPI&SU.

Herbals and Boxwood

Mary A. Gamble

An herbal, by definition, is a "treatise on herbs and other plants." The first herbals in the Mediterranean culture, from which our Western civilization grew, were written by hand on papyrus, a parchment made from the pith of *Cyprus Papyrus*, a tall aquatic plant which grew in Egypt. (The bulrushes in Chapter 2 of Exodus, the biblical story of the infant Moses and Pharaoh's daughter, were *Papyrus*.) The ancient Egyptians, Greeks and Romans used sheets of papyrus to record their observations of plants and sometimes sheets were pasted end to end to make scrolls. Inasmuch as plants were then the only source of medicine, emphasis was on their medicinal properties. It was vital that the early physicians know their plants.

But there were early naturalists, too, who wrote about plant properties other than medicinal. For example, there was the Greek, Theophrastus, who lived in the third century B.C., who wrote treatises on the *History of Plants and Theoretical Botany*. Theophrastus lived in Athens where he was a disciple of Aristotle, whom he succeeded as head of the Peripatetic school. He had a small garden in which he grew the plants he described. He also studied plants brought to him from various parts of the ancient world. He is known

as the "Father of Botany". In *The Story of Boxwood*, Clara S. McCarty quotes the Scottish horticulturist J. S. Loudon (1783-1843): "The Box tree appears to have first been mentioned by Theophrastus who ranks the wood with that of ebony, on account of the closeness of its grain."

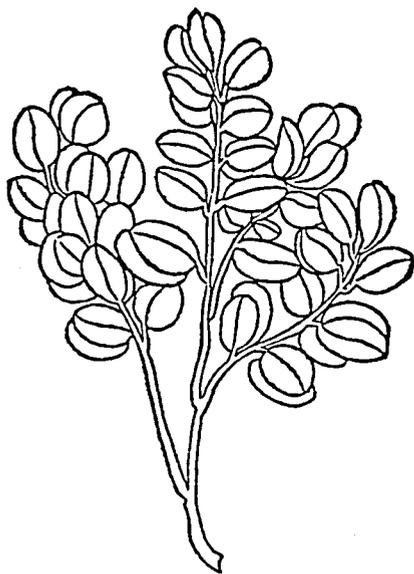
Relatively early in the first century A. D. two significant herbals were written, one by a physician, one by a naturalist. The physician was Dioscorides, a Greek born in Cilisia, a Roman province in what is now Turkey. He is believed to have held Roman citizenship and to have served in Nero's army. He wrote *De Materia Medica* in which he described the medicinal properties of some 600 plants, all native to the Mediterranean area. His herbal, unlike many written in ancient times, was copied (each copy made painstakingly by hand) and a number reached Rome. When the barbarians took and sacked that city in 476 several copies of *De Materia Medica* survived. The work's approval by the Church gave it enormous influence and it remained the last word on medicine in southern and central Europe for about 1500 years. Dioscorides did not include boxwood in the 600 plants he described, but his herbal should be noted nonetheless. It held much information, but also

contained many superstitions and strange ideas then current. One example: The ancients believed that Mandrake (*Mandragora officinarum*) whose root was the first anaesthetic, could not be harvested safely by humans. The "simplers," as the ignorant root diggers and herb gatherers were called, solved the problem by tying a rope, first to the plant, then to the neck of a dog. The dog then was frightened until it fled and the Mandrake root was pulled shrieking from the earth. In old herbal illustrations the Mandrake was always drawn as having human form, sometimes male, sometimes female.

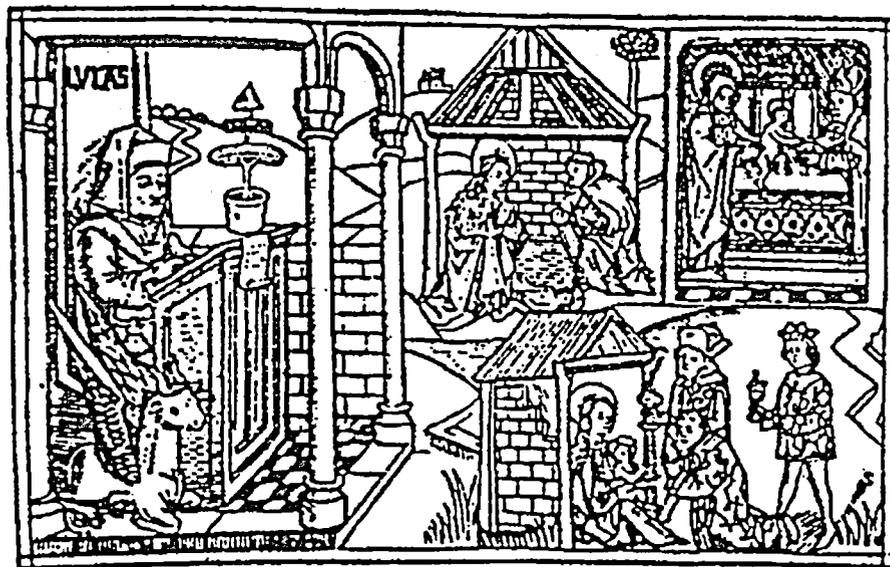
The naturalist was Gaius Plinius Secundus, called Pliny, who was born in Como, Italy, in 23 A.D. Pliny went to Rome as a youth and became one of the noted scholars of his time. He died in 70 A.D. while observing the eruption of Vesuvius which destroyed Pompeii. His great work was *Naturalis Historialis*. Frank J. Anderson, in his illustrated history of herbals, writes: "Few works have been the subject of as much praise and damnation as Pliny's *Naturalis Historialis*. Pliny gave a multitude of facts, but also included myths, superstitions and tall tales. In this, he reflected the interests and attitudes of his time."

Pliny wrote about boxwood, noting that exposure to sea water was not beneficial; and like Theophrastus, he mentioned the hardness of boxwood. Pliny's nephew, known as "Pliny the Younger," who lived from 62 until 113, described his country home in the Apennines where he built an elaborate garden which required the work of 500 slaves for maintenance. He wrote: "The banqueting hall gives onto a terrace of geometrical figures edged with box. On the slope below, two rows of box bushes trimmed like animals lead down to a level lawn of soft—I might say liquid—acanthus, walled in by dense, clipped evergreens."

It is not hard to pinpoint the date at which the period known in Western European history as the Middle Ages began. It was the collapse of the Western Roman Empire in 476. It is much harder to name the time when the Middle Ages drew to a close. Some historians say the Middle Ages ended with the beginning of the Renaissance in Italy in the twelfth century; some say it ended with the discovery of the New World by Christopher Columbus in 1492. Still others name 1450, the year that Johann Gutenberg, a printer who lived in Mainz, Germany, invented



Woodcut of *Buxus sempervirens* sprig in herbal printed in 1485



Woodcut from 15th-century bible printed in Cologne

movable metal type which revolutionized printing. If we accept this date, it could also be called the beginning of the "Golden Age" of herbals.

In the almost 1,000 years between the fall of Rome and the invention of movable metal type, herbals had been produced one at a time, a laborious hand-process which meant that only the richest of the rich could afford to commission a copy. Suddenly, multiple copies could be printed. Editions of as many as 200 became commonplace. The Holy Bible remained number one on the best-seller list, but herbals ran it a close second.

The herbals of the "Golden Age" were printed on paper. Paper (invented by the Chinese in the second century, brought to Spain by the Moors in the eighth, and manufactured in France by the twelfth) was integral to the speeded-up, mechanized process of book publishing that, by making books accessible, encouraged the spread of literacy and learning.

During the Middle Ages the monks, in their cloistered monasteries (the first of which was built by the Benedictines in 529 at Monte Cassino near Naples, Italy), kept alive—and even extended—the existing knowledge of plants, their uses and horticulture. This knowledge was preserved in the ancient herbals

which were copied, and re-copied. Any new treatises written were primarily an extension of the old.

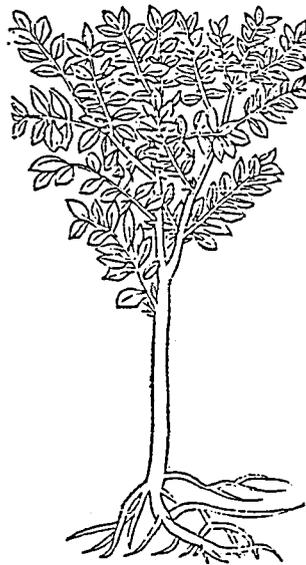
In the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries we find three illustrated references to boxwood. The earliest in an herbal has become familiar to the readers of *The Boxwood Bulletin*. It is the woodcut of a sprig of boxwood (believed to be the first such illustration of *Buxus* in print), which *Bulletin* Editor John McCarthy chose as an appropriate adornment for the ABS logo. It is *Buxus sempervirens* L., the boxwood native to Europe. This herbal was printed in Mainz in 1485 by Peter Schöffer, Gutenberg's son-in-law.

The second is a woodcut from a bible printed in Cologne in 1478. A look at the left panel of the triptych shows St. Luke writing at his desk near a wall on which stands a potted boxwood pruned in geometric topiary form.

The third is from the *Kreuter Buch* by Hieronymus Bock published in 1546. In it the author describes the plants that grew in Germany, among them boxwood. A woodcut illustration shows a box tree. At its base the devil is being put to flight by the combined powers of the cock and the toad. In Northern Europe the evergreen box often took the place of other plants not yet in leaf



Left, woodcut from Hieronymous Bock's *Kreuter Buch* published in Strassburg in 1546. Right, similar woodcut, sans cock, toad and devil, from French edition of Robert Dodoens' *Histoire des Plantes* published in Antwerp in 1557



Buxus.
The Box tree.



¶ *The Description.*

THe great Box is a faire tree, bearing a great body or trunk: the wood or timber is yellow and very hard, and fit for sundry workes, hauing many boughes and hard branches, beset with sundry small hard green leaues, both winter and Sommer like the Bay tree: the floures are very little, growing among the leaues, of a greene colour: which being vaded there succeed small blacke shining berries, of the bignes of the seeds of Corianders, which are inclosed in round greenish huskes, hauing three feet or legs like a brasse or boiling pot: the root is likewise yellow, and harder than the timber, but of greater beauty, and more fit for dagger haftes, boxes, and such like vses, whereto the trunk or body serueth, than to make medicines; though foolish empericks and women leaches, do minister it against the Apoplexie and such diseases: Turners and Cutlers, if I mistake not the matter, do call this wood Dudgeon, wherewith they make Dudgeon hafted daggers.

There is also a certaine other kinde hereof, growing low, and not aboue halfe a yard high, but it spreadeth all abroad: the branches hereof are many and very slender: the leaues bee round, and of a light greene.

¶ *The Place.*

Buxus, or the Box tree groweth vpon sundry waite and barren hills in England, and in diuers gardens.

¶ *The Time.*

The Box tree groweth greene winter and Sommer: it floureth in Februarie and March, and the seed is ripe in September.

¶ *The Names.*

The Grecians call it *κρυθα*, in Latine, *Buxus*: in high Dutch, *Buchszbaum*: in low Dutch, *Buxboom*: in Italian, *Bosso*: in English, Box tree.

The lesser may be called *κρυθα* and in Latine, *Humi Buxus*, or *Humilis Buxus*: in English, dwarf Box, or ground Box, and it is commonly called Dutch Box.

by Palm Sunday, when the cock's crow signals Christ's entry into Jerusalem.

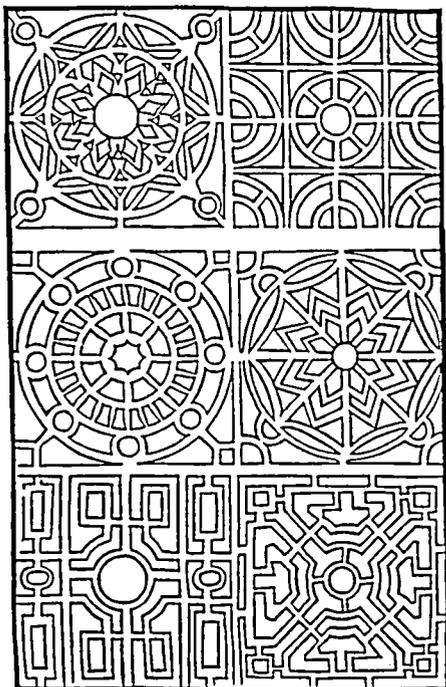
The two woodcuts to the left illustrate the then common practice of "borrowing" from one herbal for use in another. There was no protective copyright law; both texts and woodcuts were copied freely.

Bock (1489?-1554) was a German botanist and physician who studied the plants of the Netherlands. He is regarded as one of the founders of the science of botany. Dodoens (1517-1585) was born in Flanders. After graduating (at 18) in medicine at Louvain he took the "grand tour" of Italy, France and Germany. When the Spaniards burned his Netherlands home, he left that country for Italy. Later he moved to Cologne. In 1582 he was named to the chair of botany at Leyden.

William Caxton (1422?-1491) was the first Englishman to set up a printing press. He had learned the craft in Germany. The first printed publications in English (neither of them herbals) came off the Caxton press in 1474 or 1475. In the next two centuries the English herbals were to peak. Three names stand out: William Turner (1510-1568), John Gerard (1545-1612), and John Parkinson (1567-1650).

William Turner, often called the father of English botany, wrote the first herbal in English. His work was entitled: "A New Herball, wherein are conteyned the names of Herbes in Greek, Latin, English, Dutch, Frenche, and in the Potecaries and Herbaries Latin, with the properties, degrees and natural places of the same, gathered and made by William Turner, physician unto the Duke of Somersettes Grace." It was printed in London in 1551.

Turner's book was highly regarded, but John Gerard's herbal, *Of the Historie of Plants*, published in 1597, was more popular. Gerard, a botanist and barber-surgeon, became superintendent of Lord Burghley's gardens. He also had his own garden in London and he wrote about the plants growing there.



"The Ordering of the Garden of Pleasure" from Parkinson's *Paradisi in Sole*

Frank Anderson writes: "Gerard's Herball, if not one of the monuments of the English language, is certainly one of its great delights." A portion, entitled "Of the Box Tree," is reproduced on the opposite page.

John Parkinson was, in the words of the late Edgar Anderson, "the first great Natural Historian and Horticulturist in England." His *Paridisi In Sole* (a play on his last name, Park-In-Sun), in the words of modern herbalist Rosetta E. Clarkson, "...to this day...the loveliest of all garden books".

In the July 1970 *Boxwood Bulletin* (Vol. 10, No.1) Dr. Anderson has reproduced Parkinson's designs for knot gardens.

We think the illustration above is worth showing again, together with a partial text of his opinion of "Boxe" in "The Ordering of The Garden of Pleasure." Parkinson wrote: "Slips of Juniper and Yew are also received of forme & planted, because they are alwayes green, and that the Juniper especially hath not that ill fent that

12. *Buxus*. The Boxe tree.

The Boxe tree in some places is a reasonable tall tree, yet growing slowly; the trunke or body whereof is of the bignesse of a mans thigh, which is the biggest that euer I saw: but sometimes, and in other places it groweth much lower, vsually not aboue a yard, or a yard and a halfe high, on the backe sides of many Houses, and in the Orchards likewise: the leaues are small, thicke and hard, and still the greater or lesser the tree is, the greater or lesser are the leaues, round pointed, and of a fresh shining greene colour: the flowers are small and greenish, which turne into heads or berries, with foure hornes, whitish on the outside, and with reddish seede within them.

Buxus aureus. There is another kinde hereof but lately come to our knowledge, which differeth not in any thing from the former, but onely that all the leaues haue a yellow list or gard about the edge of them on the vpper side, and none on the lower, which maketh it seeme very beautifull; and is therefore called gilded Boxe.

Buxus humilis. We haue yet another kinde of Boxe, growing small and lowe, not aboue halfe a foote, or a foote high at the most, vnlesse it be neglected, which then doth grow a little more shrubby, bearing the like leaues, but smaller, according to the growth, and of a deeper greene colour: I could neuer know that this kinde euer bore flower or seede, but is propagated by slipping the roote, which encreaseth very much.

The Vse of Boxe.

The wood of the Boxe tree is vsed in many kindes of finall works among Turners, because it is hard, close, and firme, and as some haue said, the roots much more, in regard of the diuers waues and crooked veines running through it. It hath no Physicall vse among the most and best Physitians, although some haue reported it to stay fluxes, and to be as good as the wood of *Guaiaicum*, or *Lignum vitæ* for the French diseafe. The leaues and branches serue both Summer and Winter to decke vp houfes; and are many times giuen to horses for the bots.

The lowe or dwarfe Boxe is of excellent vse to border vp a knot, or the long

Boxe hath, which I will presently commend vnto you, yet both Juniper and Yew will soon grow too great and flubbed, and force you to take vp your knot sooner, then if it were planted with Boxe, ... Which lastly, and aboue all other herbs commend vnto you, and being a small, lowe or dwarfe kinds, is called French or Dutch Boxe, and ferueth very well to fet out any knot, or border out any beds; for besides that it is euer greene, it being reasonable thicke but will easily be cut and formed into any fashon one will, according to the nature thereof, which is to grow very flowly, and will not in a long time rife to be of any height, but shooting forth many small branches from the roote, will grow very thicke and yet not require fo great tending, nor so much perih as any one of the former, and is only receiued into the gardens of those that are curious."

Because the charm of Parkinson's words is somewhat lost in today's type, reproduced above is a half-page of *Paridisi in Sole* (1629) which includes

"*Buxus*, The Boxtree" and an incomplete paragraph, "The Vse of Boxe."

Space does not permit touching upon other herbals of these and later times. But as dependance upon plants in medicine, housekeeping and beauty rituals declined, so did interest in the herbals. Today's herbals, generally, are more factual, more scientific. But many touch upon the lore and legend which gave the herbals of antiquity through their golden age the mystique which continues to draw readers who remain curious.

Boxwood has its place in the modern herbals, just as it had in those that are now history.

Note: All illustrations courtesy of the Library of the Missouri Botanical Garden. This paper could not have been compiled without the generous and patient assistance of the staff members at the Library, who made their extensive collection of herbals available to me. Mary A. Gamble

Boxwood and Gardens Go Together

Virginia's 1989 Historic Garden Week April 22-30

Charlotte Taylor Massie

There are 95 or more species of boxwood and hundreds of cultivars of of this grand green shrub. The Virginia climate is agreeable for the growth of this sought after evergreen which loves shade but also does well in full sun.

Gardeners have found countless uses for boxwood on both large landscapes and small, intimate gardens. It edges borders and beds, forms stately hedges, outlines walks and terraces, is trimmed for topiary art, and adds dignity to foundations. It is not uncommon to find glorified or informal boxwood allées in Virginia gardens.

Visitors to Historic Garden Week in Virginia, April 22 through April 30, will have an opportunity to observe the many different ways boxwood enhance a garden.

On the Friendly Gardens Tour in Albemarle County at 275 Terrell Road West on Monday, April 24, and Tuesday, April 25, English boxwood border the terrace garden.

On the Country Homes and Garden Tour in Albemarle County Wednesday, April 26, and Thursday, April 27, old boxwood highlight the ancient spring house and well at Oaklawn.

The original boxwood garden at Eyre Hall, open on the Eastern Shore Tour Friday, April 28, and Saturday, April 29, is one of the oldest and loveliest in the country. It is enclosed by a charming wall constructed of brick brought back from England as ballast in sailing ships.

Ingleside on the Eastern Shore was built around 1786. Double doors at the end of the hall lead to a small garden planted with peonies, spring blooming bulbs and boxwood. Boxwood also enhance the foundation of this brick house laid in Flemish bond.

Westview also on the Eastern Shore was built in 1780 and it is thought that the boxwood forming the mammoth

hedge was planted when the original house was built.

Oak Hill in Leesburg was built by James Hoban, who is credited with building the White House. Hoban was influenced by Thomas Jefferson, who designed the portico for his friend, James Monroe, fifth President of the United States. The lovely terraced garden is planted with a variety of trees, boxwood, shrubs and flowers. Oak Hill will be open on the Leesburg Tour Sun-

day, April 23, and Monday, April 24.

Rockland Farm, open on the Leesburg Tour, was part of the original land grant from King Charles II to Lord Culpeper around 1650. General George Rust created a new house in front of the original small frame structure in 1822. Rockland has been continuously farmed for 200 years. Boxwood is an important shrub in the gardens and on the lawn which are noted for their beauty and simplicity.



Boxwood garden at Eyre Hall on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. (Photo: Flornoy, Virginia, Chamber of Commerce)



Ingleside, on the Eastern Shore of Virginia, was built in 1786, with additions in 1957 and 1960.



Rockland Farm, where boxwood is important in the gardens and on the lawn. (Photo: Flournoy Chamber of Commerce)

The house and garden at 599 Blount Point Road is open on the Hampton News Tour Wednesday, April 26. Its lawn slopes down to the river and boxwood is effectively planted with azaleas, forsythia and spring bulbs.

English boxwood emphasizes the charm of the grounds at Belle Air Plantation in Charles City County. One of the oldest frame dwellings in the country, it will be open Tuesday, April 23, through Saturday, April 29.

A circle of old boxwood surrounds Shrubbery Hill open on the Hanover County Tour Saturday, April 22. This picturesque house was selected as the home of Jack Lemmon, who played the part of the Governor of Georgia in the NBC series, "The Murder of Mary Fagan."

During Mr. Harry Goodridge's lifetime, the garden at 19 Holly Lane was the showplace of Norfolk. Open Wednesday, April 26, this garden has a large collection of boxwood of various kinds and shades of green, some more than 100 years old.

The mainstays of the garden at 1224 Rothesay Road, open Tuesday, April 25, in Richmond, are its brick walks, brick walls and lush boxwood.

On the handsomely landscaped lawn at 6601 River Road in Richmond, open Thursday, April 27, are beautiful old "American" and "English" boxwood.

The tour in Warrenton County,

Wednesday, April 26, and Thursday, April 27, will include homes with lush plantings of boxwood. At Balcarres the terraced garden off the library is surrounded by boxwood and planted with beds of tulips.

The main house at Eastwood Farm is surrounded by 12-foot boxwood.

The driveway to The Meadows is lined with black board fencing, boxwood and tall trees.

The Garden Club of Virginia publishes a 184-page guidebook giving detailed information about all the

homes and gardens open for this springtime event. It will be available, free of charge, from the Historic Garden Week Headquarters, 12 East Franklin Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219. If requested by mail, the headquarters would appreciate a remittance of \$1 toward the cost of the postage.

Mrs. Massie is Guide Book Editor and Director of Publicity for Historic Garden Week, which is sponsored by the Garden Club of Virginia



Belle Air Plantation dates from the 1700s. (Photo: Garden Club of Virginia)

1989 Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage

April 22-May 7

Sarah S. Henderson

The 1989 Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage scheduled on three weekends from Saturday, April 22 through Sunday, May 7, affords the boxwood buff a wonderful opportunity to see boxwood as it enhances a wide variety of houses.

This year, in addition to the traditional large historically significant manor houses of the State, the Pilgrimage has scheduled tours of houses within five wonderful small towns, each representing a unique place in Maryland history.

The versatility and landscaping value of boxwood is demonstrated as it is used successfully with small town houses as well as the large ones on this tour.

Annapolis and environs abound in boxwood. The garden behind the beautiful Georgian Hammond-Harwood House, should not be missed. Boxwood is a key element in the design.

The Paca Gardens, described in 1769 as the most elegant in Annapolis, have been restored and include a parterre of "American" and "English" boxwood.

South of the city of Annapolis is Evergreen, which dates from 1720 and contains boxwood gardens and broad terraces of colonial design.

Larkin's Hills, which served as a temporary capitol in 1863, features a boxwood in its landscape design, as do Portland Place, which dates from the late 17th century, and Lothian, a beautiful brick house built in 1804.

On the Cecil County tour there are two houses where boxwood can be seen. Mount Harmon Plantation, a brick, three-story, five-bay Georgian manor house built in 1730 has formal boxwood and wisteria gardens which have been replanted to reflect the mid-18th and early 19th century period. These gardens also include a pair of

magnificent 200-year old English yew trees, which may be the oldest of their kind in the United States. At nearby Woodlawn, dating from 1789, a lovely terraced boxwood garden, which includes nearly 2000 huge specimens of "English" and "American" boxwood, can be seen.

Kent County has a long tradition of landscaping with boxwood. The Reward, built circa 1740 on land overlooking Langford Creek, is exceptional for its unusual architectural features and its gardens of fine boxwood, trees and shrubs.

The town of Chestertown, with its

magnificent Georgian houses, contains some of the loveliest walled gardens in the state. Many of these show the extensive use of "English" boxwood. Do not miss Wickes House, 100 N. Water Street, 109 N. Water Street, River House, Widehall, and the Hynson-Ringgold House.

Another Eastern Shore, Tidewater town where boxwood flourishes in small gardens is Oxford. On the outskirts of the town is Jena, believed to have been built before 1700 of English-made brick and now beautifully planted with "English" boxwood. The walking tour of the town proper



Larkin's Hills in Anne Arundel County, with a circle of boxwoods. (Photo: Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage)

offers many views of small gardens. Of special note are the gardens of 213 and 214 S. Morris Street, 205 and 208 N. Morris Street.

Today, through careful regulation, the flavor and appeal of the early country town of New Market in Frederick County still exist. Founded in 1703, the town was a logical stopping place on the road from Baltimore to Frederick. All along West Main Street are faithfully restored buildings with small gardens behind where the tour participants can see boxwood.

Dickeyville, within the bounds of Baltimore City, will open its houses for this Pilgrimage tour for the first time in 30 years. Here is a very special small town, formerly a mill town where many of the houses on this tour were built during the 19th century to house mill workers. Since the 1930s, restoration has been going on and wonderful small gardens, many containing both "English" and "American" boxwood, have been an important part of this successful project.

Throughout Maryland boxwood is a prominent garden feature. Its charm and durability have made it a favorite of Maryland gardeners for more than 300 years. The offerings of the 1989 Pilgrimage Tour, including gardens with a few boxwood to gardens with hundreds, will delight and inspire the boxwood fancier.

Participating counties receive a portion of the Pilgrimage proceeds for their restoration projects, and the remainder is used toward the maintenance of the Hammond-Harwood House in Annapolis.

Tour books with full information are available. For a pre-tour copy, send your name and address to Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage, 1105-A Providence Road, Towson, Md. 21204. (Send \$2.00 if First Class delivery is desired.)

Mrs. Henderson is serving as Magazine Publicity Chairman for the Maryland House and Garden Pilgrimage.



Walk at Jena, in Oxford, Md., is flanked with boxwoods. (Photo: Roxanne Doster)



The Johnston home is among those in Dickeyville which will be open for the Pilgrimage Tour for the first time in 30 years.

The Boxwoods at Tudor Place

Osborne Phinizy Mackie

In the preface to his monumental book on Tudor Place, his historic home in the center of Georgetown, Armistead Peter III, the last of his line to live there, wrote that continuity was the most important aspect of a family estate. No matter how far a family member wandered, he would return "to see how the trees that he had planted had grown to feel the peace of soul that comes from the familiar sights and sounds and smells of a well-known house and garden, and from the human associations that surround them."

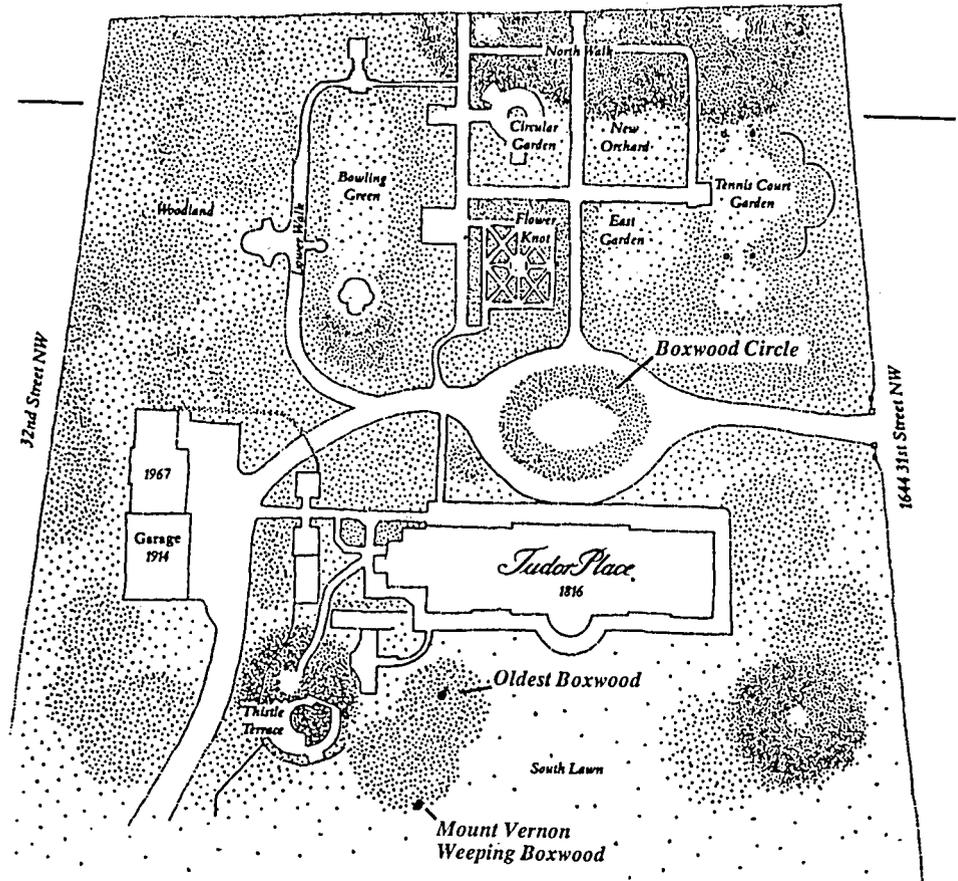
The first thing that greets the visitor to this 5 1/2-acre property is the pleasantly sharp scent of the boxwood, first planted by the Custis-Peter family 180 years ago.

In 1805 one city block, on the crest of Georgetown Heights, was purchased by Thomas and Martha Custis Peter with funds inherited from Martha's step-grandfather, George Washington. Thomas came from a large landowning family in what was to become the District of Columbia. His father was a successful Scottish merchant and the first mayor of Georgetown.

The large neoclassical house, designed by Dr. William Thornton, the first architect of the United States Capitol, was completed in 1816, and stands roughly in the center of the property. To the south, an expansive lawn, bound by centuries-old trees, slopes towards the old Port of Georgetown.

In striking contrast to the informal nature of the South Lawn, the North Garden is more formally planned, with terraces and rectangular plots on either side of an axial center path.

Immediately to the north of the house, stands the imposing Boxwood Circle, actually an ellipse, conceived by the first Peters as a low square-clipped hedge to emphasize the graceful curve of the carriage drive. Over time, however, this healthy *Buxus sempervirens* 'Suffruticosa' was



Plan of the North Garden at Tudor Place

allowed to expand into billowing green masses, long ago enveloping the locust stump, which served as the hitching post in the 19th century.

The gnarled clumps of "English" boxwood punctuating the East Garden are remnants of the boxwood parterre, or "Flower Knot," as the family called it, planted by Martha Peter. Each season brought a profusion of old fashioned flowers, such as Florentine tulips, Canterbury Bells, larkspur and Autumn Damask roses, contrasting with the dark boxwood border. Trespassers during the Civil War plundered this parterre for Christmas wreaths, and Martha Peter's daughter, Britannia Wellington Kennon, moved many of the remaining bushes to the Lower Walk. The plan of the "Flower Knot"

was thought to have been lost. However, Jane Peter Beverley had copied the design at her estate, Avenel, c. 1820. In 1923, the design was reproduced in *Historic Gardens of Virginia*, which enabled Armistead Peter, Jr., and his son to undertake the reconstruction of the original garden in a new location, in the corresponding rectangular plot to the west. Most of the low, severely pruned bushes forming the geometric compartments of the new "Flower Knot", c. 1930, had to be replaced following the hard winter two years ago, which, however, left the larger bushes relatively unscathed.

Throughout the North Garden, boxwood, both "English" and "American," lines the paths and, in some cases, forms major focal points. A large



Boxwood circle, with "Flower Knot" and East Garden beyond. (Photos: Mackie)



New "Flower Knot," c. 1930



Center walk and north facade.



East Garden with remnants of the original "English" boxwood of the Federal period "Flower Knot"

standard *Buxus sempervirens* marking the intersection of the Center Walk and the Cross Walk, was lost recently and replaced by a suitable specimen, kindly donated by Mr. Alfredo Siani, Horticulturist at Oatlands. Family records show that the owners of Oatlands were similarly generous to the Peters during a large box planting episode fifty years ago. Elsewhere on the property are other venerable specimens with family associations, such as the first boxwood planted by Martha Peter and the "Weeping Boxwood" long since

brought from Mount Vernon.

The Peter family remained at Tudor Place until the death of Armistead Peter III in 1983. He left the property to Tudor Place Foundation, charged with preserving the extensive collections, of which the horticultural specimens are an important component. Armistead Peter III left lengthy instructions about the care of the garden. Most detailed are those concerning the preservation of his treasured family boxwood.

Tudor Place will be on the 61st Annual Garden Tour, April 22, for the

benefit of the Georgetown Children's House, along with the garden of Evermay, which has magnificent views over Rock Creek Park and a garden consisting of descending terraces, each with a special character. Two of these are bounded by high hedges of very old "English" boxwood. In the 1920s these bushes were brought by the Belin family up the Potomac River from a plantation near Quantico, Virginia.

Osborne Phinizy Mackie is the Director, Tudor Place

NOTICE

Symposium

A symposium has been announced for Saturday May 20, 1989 at Green Spring Farm Park, Annandale, Va. Entitled "Horticultural Perspectives: Past and Present - an Historic Landscapes Symposium," speakers are John Pearce, Assistant Director, Center for Historic Preservation, Mary Washington College, Fredericksburg, Va.; Nicholas M. Lucchetti, Archaeologist, James River Institute for Archaeology; J. Dean Norton, Horticulturist, Mount Vernon; Dr. Richard W. Lighty, Mount Cuba Center, Greenville, Delaware; and J. Timothy Keller, ASLA, Charlottesville, Va.

Lunch and reception are included in the \$35.00 fee. Make checks payable to the Fairfax County Park Authority, 3701 Pender Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030, attn. Historic Preservation. For more information call Museum Programs (703) 759-5241.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Blue Crab Press has sent out a news release about a book on damage to landscape plants from herbicides: *A Pictorial Guide to Symptom Diagnosis*, by Drs. Jeffery Derr and Bonnie Appleton, extension specialists with Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. It was written for use by nurserymen, landscapers, grounds maintenance personnel, extension agents, researchers and others dealing with chemicals for weed control. This reference book may be ordered for \$24.95 plus \$2.00 shipping and handling (in Virginia add 4.5 percent sales tax) from Blue Crab Press, P.O. Box 5055, Virginia Beach, Va. 23455-5055.

IN MEMORIAM

Mr. Oscar Sutermeister

NEWS OF THE SOCIETY

American Boxwood Society 29th Annual Meeting May 16-17, 1989

PROGRAM

Blandy Experimental Farm of the University of Virginia
Tuesday, May 16, and Wednesday, May 17, 1989.

Tuesday, May 16

8:00 PM "Boxwood in Upper North Carolina" - Davyd Foard Hood, Blandy Farm Library, followed by a champagne reception

Wednesday, May 17

9:00 AM Registration. If you pre-register, please pick up your name tag at the Registration Table

9:30 AM Guided Tour of the Memorial Garden

10:00 AM Coffee, Dining Room

11:00 AM Annual Business Meeting, Library

12:00 N Lunch (by reservation or bring your own)

1:00 PM Educational Program:

"Care of George Washington's Boxwood - Trials, Tribulation, Triumph" - Dean Norton

Topiary Pruning Demonstration - Richard D. Mahone

2:00 PM Fourth Annual Auction of named *Buxus* cultivars - John W. Boyd, Jr., and Dale T. Taylor

REGISTRATION AND LUNCH

A \$5.00 registration fee will be charged to help defray the cost of refreshments and other meeting expenses. You may reserve lunch (\$5.00) in advance or bring your own. Those wishing to reserve lunch, please send your check payable to The American Boxwood Society, in the amount of \$10.00 (lunch and registration) to Mrs. Robert L. Frackelton, 1714 Greenway Drive, Fredericksburg, Va. 22401.

Please use the enclosed Annual Meeting Pre-Registration Form or a facsimile. All lunch reservations MUST be received by Friday, May 5, 1989.

DIRECTIONS TO BLANDY FARM

Blandy Farm is on Route 50 near Boyce, Va. Driving west on Route 50, the entrance is on your left about four miles beyond the Shenandoah River bridge. Driving east from Winchester and I-81, the entrance is on the right about 1.5 miles beyond the junction with Route 340. The entrance is marked from both directions by a highway sign: VIRGINIA STATE ARBORETUM.

MEETING PROGRAM NOTES

Historic and contemporary photographs of boxwoods in upper North

Carolina reflects the experiences of Mr. Hood, researching gardens and architecture while working in the North Carolina State Preservation Office. Mr. Hood is now Executive Director of Historic Fredericksburg (Va.) Foundation, Inc.

Mr. Norton has been Horticulturist at Mt. Vernon for ten years and is well versed in all phases of boxwood care.

Mr. Mahone, a former President of the ABS, is retired from Colonial Williamsburg's Department of Landscape and Maintenance where he was in charge of many projects over the years. He will demonstrate one area of his talents.

Again we are fortunate to have our team of Auctioneer Boyd and Tabulator Taylor for our auction. Of interest to the collector, these plants have been promised to Mr. Taylor for the sale:

- B. harlandii*
- B. microphylla* 'Compacta'
- B. microphylla* 'Creepy',
- B. microphylla* 'Green Pillow',
- B. microphylla* 'John Baldwin'
- B. microphylla* 'Justin Brouwer'
- B. microphylla* 'Kingsville'
- B. microphylla* 'Sunnyside'
- B. sempervirens* 'Belleville'
- B. sempervirens* 'Denmark'
- B. sempervirens* 'Edgar Anderson'
- B. sempervirens* 'Elegantissima'
- B. sempervirens* 'Henry Shaw'
- B. sempervirens* 'Inglis'
- B. sempervirens* 'Joy'
- B. sempervirens* 'Krossa-Livonia'
- B. sempervirens* 'Liberty'
- B. sempervirens* 'Memorial'
- B. sempervirens* 'Myosotidifolia'
- B. sempervirens* 'Myrtifolia'
- B. sempervirens* 'Pullman'
- B. sempervirens* 'Suffruticosa'
- B. sempervirens* 'Vardar Valley'
- B. sinica* var. *insularis* 'Tide Hill'
- B. sinica* var. *insularis* 'Winter Beauty'
- B. sinica* var. *insularis* 'Winter Gem'
- Buxus* X 'Green Gem',
- Buxus* X 'Green Velvet'

Workshop Scheduled for May 16, 1989

"Boxwood for the Nursery and Landscape Trade: Production, Renovation, Care and Design"

Blandy Experimental Farm. Sponsored by The Orland E. White Arboretum, The American Boxwood Society, and The Friends of the State Arboretum of Virginia

PROGRAM

Tuesday, May 16, 1989

8:30-8:45 AM	Welcome and Opening Remarks - Dr. Edward F. Connor
8:45-9:45 AM	"Boxwood Varieties: Which Ones to Adopt in the Nursery and Landscape Trade" - Cdr. P. D. Larson
9:45-10:45 AM	Nursery Production of Boxwood - Mr. Paul Saunders
10:45-11:00 AM	Coffee
11:00-12:00 N	"Caring for Boxwood: Over the Long Haul" - Prof. James A. Faiszt
12:00-1:00 PM	Lunch
1:00-2:00 PM	"Renovating Existing and Neglected Boxwood" - Mr. Larry Steward
2:00-3:00 PM	"Designing Boxwood into Landscapes" - TBA
3:00-3:15 PM	Coffee
3:15-4:30 PM	Panel Discussion: Q&A - The Speakers

WORKSHOP REGISTRATION

Registration fee: \$25 (includes lunch and coffee)

Registration deadline: May 1, 1989. Make checks payable to Friends of the State Arboretum. Registration will be limited to 80. (Any residual proceeds will be allotted to the ABS Memorial Garden.)

For further information or to register, write: Dr. Chris Sacchi, Curator, Orland E. White Arboretum, P.O. Box 175, Boyce, Va. 22620.

Note: While the Workshop is in conjunction with the ABS Annual Meeting, each must be registered separately. You may register for either or both, but be sure checks and addresses are correct.

New Members Listed

Annual listing of new members for the membership year May 1, 1988 through April 30, 1989:

- Denise W. Adams, Lithopolis OH
- Cary W. Ahl, Lancaster PA
- Mrs. Gerald Atterbury, Annapolis MD
- Mr. R.J. Bailey, Danville VA
- Mr. Garry Banta, Ramsey NJ
- Bruce A. Bates, Woodstock GA
- Mr. Robert W. Bazemore, Warner Robins GA
- Mrs. George Tillman Bell, Washington DC
- Judith Bestler, Martinsville VA
- M/M Snowden Boyle, Jr., Memphis TN
- Samuel R. Brent, Richmond VA

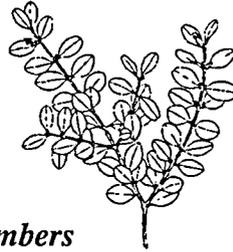
Mr. Frank W. Brummett,
Brightwood VA
M/M Harold O. Bullock, Jr.
Purcellville VA
Ernest H. Burns, III, St. Michaels MD
Dr. Thomas E. Christie, Fairfield CT
Allen R. Christopher, Earleville MD
Mr. Russell B. Clark, Boston MA
Mrs. Carol Cleminden, Waterford VA
Cobb Co. Extension Services,
Marietta GA
Robert A. Cochran, Jr., M.D.,
Spartenburg SC
Mrs. Harriett Condon, Middleburg VA
Mr. Francis Cox, Brookfield WI
Pete D'Arcy, Doylestown PA
G. DeGennaro & B. Ware,
Highland MD
Dr. Francis deVos, Southern Pines NC
M/M William M. Dickson
Ronceverte WV
Mr. Byrd Eastham, Charlottesville VA
M/M Claud Eley, Richmond VA
George C. Ellis, Jr., Rockville MD
Mr. Paul Q. Ericksen,
Newport News VA
Mr. C. R. Faucette, Spartanburg SC
Gerald T. Fisher, Nashville TN
Mrs. William M. Flippen, Jr.
Richmond VA
David Frisby, Tallahassee FL
Mrs. William Fuqua, Columbia TN
Patrica K. Ganier, Nashville TN
Alice P. Garrison, Sanford NC
Dr. & Mrs. Hunter M. Gaunt
Winchester VA
E. B. Gee, Jr., Blytheville AR
Duong Gina Georgescu,
Silver Spring MD
Mr. Douglas Ghee, Anniston AL
Tommy Gillebeau, Thomaston GA
Mr. Robert B. Goodson,
Black Mountain NC
J. Grady Gower, Atlanta GA
M/M Thomas A. Grandstaff,
Lancaster OH
Miss Cary L. Gray, Stevensville MI
Marion Louis Greenberg
Sutherland VA
Barbara Griffith, Middleburg VA
Mr. Robert L. Guilford, Lansing MI
Mrs. Cecil Gwaltney, Smithfield VA
Mrs. R. F. Hairston, Pulaski TN
Mrs. Gladys Harris,
Charlottesville VA
Mrs. Richard D. Harwood,
Memphis TN

Mr. Tom Hawkins, Dallas GA
Mr. John R. Hebden, Easton MD
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The Seasonal Gardener

Practical tips for boxwood enthusiasts from Society members



Mites:

Home and Garden Bulletin No. 120, U.S. Department of Agriculture, an early document now out of print, states that the boxwood mite is found in most boxwood plantings. The adults are described as yellowish green to reddish brown and about 1/64 inch long. Many generations may be hatched during a season. Eggs remain dormant over winter and hatch mid-April.

To quote: "Leaves at first show tiny scratchlike markings, later they become bronzed and withered, and sometimes drop to the ground. Dicofol (Kelthane) and dimethoate (Cygon), applied as recommended, will control most mite infestations."

In the January 1989 *Bulletin* of The Boxwood Society of the Midwest, "Bernie" Keence suggests the simplest mite deterrent is "overhead irrigation" which he describes as "a fancy way to say hose off the foliage with a strong spray. Repeat in a few days. This reduces the mite population. An insecticidal spray (such as Safer's) may be applied. If the summer is hot and dry (as in 1988), it may be necessary to spray every few days. Kelthane, if available, is fine."

Insects That Feed on Trees and Shrubs, by Warren

T. Johnson & Howard H. Lyon with collaboration of C. S. Kohler, N. E. Johnson & J. A. Weidhaas (1976), lists three mites: the spruce mite, *Oligonychus ununguis* Jacobi, the southern red mite, *Oligonychus ilicis* McGregor and the boxwood mite, *Eurytetranychus buxi* Garman.

The latter two attack boxwoods.

They report the boxwood mite attacks *Buxus sempervirens*, but rarely *Buxus microphylla*. This mite occurs mainly in May and June.

Contrary to popular belief, this source says these mites are most prolific in cooler weather, but that the greatest effects of damage show up with hot spells. All three kinds overwinter in the egg stage so they suggest control measures during early maturity of the mite.

Reported from material in *Sunset's New Western Garden Book*, three methods: 1. Physical control--keeping plants washed with a hose, unless there is a heavy infestation; 2. live control--lacewing larvae, mite-eating mites; 3. packaged control--dusting sulfur, Orthene, Kelthane or other (for plants regularly infested) before mites reach maturity. Repeat in 10 days.

Decca G. Frackelton

