

With Patterson

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MRS. FRANCIS B. CROWNSHIELD
BOCA GRANDE, FLORIDA

Dear Mr. and Mrs.

In December I had a
nice visit from Mr.
Patterson telling me
you would like to try
+ have the Bee Point
Gardens - I have worked
hard for I admire them
greatly + think it is a
wonderful spot of high
beauty. Now to be made
into a development -

So far nothing has been
accomplished - The
President of the CAT Derby
P.C. - is a fine let's mont-
-entity - I would en-
courage you to speak to
the Directors of the P.C.
of all who were interested
but could get no local
support - so I think
I must fade from the
picture - But Harbor has
no claim on me what-
-soever - I have not
been there since
before the fore -

MRS. FRANCIS B. CROWNSHIELD
BOCA GRANDE, FLORIDA

I truly do not see
why you put the
baby on my doorstep.
I outlined a place for
Mr. Patterson, but of
course he can't do it
alone —

Boca Grande is lovely
this winter — Edith
miles of snowing &
very happy to be a
chattel —

My best wishes to you
Gott -

Yvonne?

Devil's Cousinhood

Sorry this never was
more successful -

Harry + Betty send their
love -



THE GARDEN CLUB OF AMERICA
15 EAST 58TH STREET, NEW YORK 22, N. Y.
TELEPHONE PLAZA 3-8289

PRESIDENT

MRS. FERGUS REID, JR.

February 1, 1956.

Dear Louise :

It was such fun for us all to see you here last month. I am enclosing a letter I sent to Mrs. Homer Reed, the President of the Mt. Desert Garden Club, about the Reef Point Gardens, and also her reply, which is most discouraging. I think I will write myself to Mrs. Thatcher's daughter, Mrs. Edward Browning, Jr., as Betty Corning tells me she is young and active, and lives all the year round at Bar Harbor, and, therefore, might be able to do more for the Reef Point Gardens, and might be more interested. If I hear anything encouraging from her, I will tell you.

This has been a sad week for The Garden Club of America. I have just been to Anna Kinney's funeral. She died of her third heart attack on Monday, and I suppose you read in the paper about Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Edgerton crashing in a plane in Venezuela, and all ten people in the plane were found dead. We cannot believe it, as Mrs. Edgerton has been so active on our Board and on the Executive Committee, as the Director who served on that Committee/ We are all distressed about both Anna Kinney and Edna Edgerton. It will be a sad Directors' Meeting on Wednesday, when I must announce both deaths.

Fergie and I took our two boys for a week of golf in Hobe Sound, before young Fergie goes into the Army this month. I hope you are having warm weather and that you are feeling well. Do take care of yourself.

Always affectionately,

Edna.

Mrs. Francis B. Crowninshield,
Boca Grande, Florida.



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PRESIDENT
MRS. FERGUS REID, JR.

February 9, 1956.

Dear Louise :

I have just had a long talk with Mrs. Lincoln Cromwell, an old lady, whose opinions I respect. She is a member of the Garden Club of Mt. Desert, and she came in to tell me just what the situation is at Reef Point Garden.

As an old friend of Mrs. Farrand, she feels very strongly that everything that could be done at Reef Point has been done, and it proved to be unsuccessful. Mrs. Farrand put all her money, her professional experiences, her time and thought into this project, and the fact remains that no students came to the gardens, no one looked at the books in the library, and no one enjoyed the gardens, except a few tourists who went through the gardens quickly. Now, the books are in a library where many students can find them, and will certainly use them if they are interested in horticulture.

Mrs. Cromwell feels very strongly that it would break Mrs. Farrand's heart even more if any one tried to resurrect the gardens, as she was unable to make it a success, how could any one else do it? Everything was done to make it a worthwhile spot, but people are not able to spend time studying her books or plants while they are on a vacation in Maine. It is too remote for any students, with no places for them to stay, etc.

It was all very sad. Mrs. Cromwell said Mrs. Farrand had spent her life on this project, and to see it die before her eyes was heart breaking. Mrs. Cromwell feels that if it could not work as an educational garden, with all the money and thought that Mrs. Farrand put into it, why should any one think it could work now?

I know you were interested in the gardens, as they were lovely and worthwhile, but it seems impossible to keep them open, as there are not enough people interested or with the time to go and enjoy them. I did write to Mrs. Browning, but I have not had time to hear from her, and Mrs. Cromwell tells me that Mrs. Browning's husband died about a year ago and she may not even be living at Bar Harbor. I will let you know if I hear from her.

Mrs. Cromwell's parting words were to beg me not to stir up anything, as it would hurt Mrs. Farrand terribly to have some one think they could make a success of Reef Point Gardens, when she had done so poorly. This all seems very complicated, and not easy to solve, but I will keep you posted if I hear anything more.

Hope you are having lovely weather, it is cold and raining here.

Always affectionately,

Edee Reid