Sundial Parterre: Oatlands, Leesburg, Va.
The Boxwood Bulletin

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INDEX

Winter Damage On Box _____________________ 37
John E. Ford

Boxwood Exhibit At Metropolitan Horticultural Show ___________ 40

18th Annual Meeting _______________________ 41

Mailbox ___________________________________ 41

Little Leaf Linden Blandy's Plant Of The Month __________________________ 42
Tom Ewert

Professor's Tree Legacy ______________________ 43
Richmond Times Dispatch

Baldwin Memorial __________________________ 44
Old Dominion Gardener

Grace Period Up ____________________________ 44

The Gardens At Oatlands ____________________ 45
Miriam G. Rabb

Check Boxwood For Dead Leaves _____________ 46
Jerry Williams — Richmond Times-Dispatch

Boxwood Garden Tour _______________________ 47

New Plant For The Boxwood Memorial Garden _______________________ 47

New Members in 1977 ________________________ 48

Book Review _______________________________ 48

ILLUSTRATIONS

Sundial Parterre, Oatlands, Leesburg, Virginia _____________ Cover

ABS President, Al Beecher, at Tyson's Corner Exhibit _____________ 40

Tyson's Corner Exhibit Display Posters on ABS _____________ 40, 41
The winter of 1976-1977 was a real test of the hardiness of many plants including box (*Buxus*). Temperatures dropped to 20° F. (some reports to 24° F.) in mid January. Two weeks later there was a threeday blizzard with subzero temperatures and continuous winds of 25 to 35 miles per hour with gusts reaching 50 m.p.h. It was one of the most severe winters on record for the Wooster, Ohio area.

Cold weather in early fall 1976 froze some leaves on trees and shrubs before they had a chance to drop naturally. Unfavorable conditions for plants were aggravated by a seven-inch deficiency in normal rainfall. Plants went into the winter in a dry condition. Boxwood plantings were watered into mid October but with the ground being so dry it was difficult, if not impossible, to supply enough water to make up the deficiency on plantings of any size. With plants going into the winter in a dry condition and plant tissues being frozen for a month at a time high winds caused considerable desiccation of exposed evergreen leaves and twigs.

There are currently 33 different types of boxwood outplanted in the Secrest Arboretum totaling 205 individual plants. Only two box were completely killed. These were two Asheville Common Box (*Buxus sempervirens* 'Ashville') that had been outplanted in the summer of 1976. These plants were only sixteen inches in height and hadn't become re-established. They were also planted at the corners of a house in a foundation planting. Plantings at corners of buildings are exposed to more wind than those nearer the center of the building. No other boxwood were completely killed as a good snow cover during the coldest windiest weather undoubtedly protected the plants and prevented additional losses.

Until mid March little winter damage was apparent on boxwoods but as the warm spring weather came along damage on leaves and twigs became progressively more severe. After a warm period of three weeks in April temperatures dropped to 23° F. which caused additional damage to opening buds and new growth.

A good deal of damage appeared above the protection of snow cover especially on windy sites. Navicularis Common Box (*B. sempervirens* 'Navicul'laris') was the exception as this plant had leaves under the snow cover killed but remained green above the snow. In general, boxwoods exposed to winds and winter sun suffered more damage than those growing on more protected sites. Older established plantings fared better than new plantings. Larger plants were harder than small plants. Winds caused the greatest amount of damage.

Five plants of Asheville Common Box (*B. sempervirens* 'Asheville') planted in 1923 are the oldest boxwoods in the Arboretum. They are planted in a group and have grown in together. There was considerable winter kill on one plant in this group that was exposed to winds and winter sun. About 75 percent of the foliage and branches have been killed. The interior of the crown is still alive. This plant helped to protect the remaining plants in the group which by the end of July show little signs of winter injury. These plants all came through another winter when the temperatures dropped to -20° F. in 1963.

A hedge planting of Asheville Box made in 1950 had winter kill up to 30 percent where exposed to winter winds. Portions of the hedge in the shade of and protected by large Japanese Yews (*Taxus cuspidata*) suffered only minor damage. No plant was completely killed and all will recover.

Roundleaf Common Box (*B. sempervirens* 'Rotundifolia') planted in 1930 on a site exposed to winter sun and to winds from the east. Damage was scattered quite evenly throughout the entire crown. Leaves and twigs up to six inches in length were killed. By the end of July new leaves had been produced along the living portions of the stems. The plant will undoubtedly survive unless we have a second severe winter in 1977-1978. These plants had survived a previous winter with temperatures to -20° F. in 1963.
## WINTER DAMAGE TO BOXWOODS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>No. Plants</th>
<th>Out-planted</th>
<th>Site 1974</th>
<th>Wind</th>
<th>Winter-Son</th>
<th>Shade</th>
<th>% Plant Under Snow</th>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Growth</th>
<th>Winter Kill</th>
<th>New Growth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P.I. 178048</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1974</td>
<td>40&quot;</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>East</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>++</td>
<td>Top 50%</td>
<td>Scattered 40%</td>
<td>++</td>
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<tr>
<td>P.I. 178048</td>
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<td>1974</td>
<td>34&quot;</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>East</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>++</td>
<td>Tips</td>
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<td>None</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>++</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1971</td>
<td>20&quot;x30&quot;</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>East</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Top 40%</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>2&quot; tips</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. microphylla japonica</td>
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<td>1958</td>
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<td>P</td>
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<td>Complete</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>++</td>
<td>Li. Scattered</td>
<td>++</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1970</td>
<td>60&quot;</td>
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<td>P</td>
<td>Light</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>None</td>
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<td>P</td>
<td>Partial</td>
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<td>+</td>
<td>Slight</td>
<td></td>
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<td>P</td>
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<td>+</td>
<td>Slight</td>
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<td>++</td>
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<td>+</td>
<td>6&quot; top</td>
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<td>P</td>
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<td>+</td>
<td>5&quot; top</td>
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<td>+</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Ex</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>East</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>Slight</td>
<td></td>
<td>++</td>
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<td>++</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
<td>++</td>
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<td>P</td>
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<td>75</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>2&quot; tips</td>
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<td>++</td>
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<td>15&quot;</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>East</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>6&quot; tips</td>
<td></td>
<td>++</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1974</td>
<td>60&quot;</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>East</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>Top twigs</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>+</td>
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<td>1974</td>
<td>62&quot;</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>East</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>Top twigs</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>+</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>1967</td>
<td>60&quot;</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>Light</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>None</td>
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<td>+</td>
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<td>B. microphylla Largeleaf 'Asiatic Clone'</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1976</td>
<td>12&quot;x18&quot;</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>Pa</td>
<td>Light</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
<td>++</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>2&quot; tips</td>
<td></td>
<td>+</td>
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<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
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<td>75</td>
<td>+</td>
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<td>+</td>
</tr>
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<td>1974</td>
<td>58&quot;</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>East</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>60% top</td>
<td></td>
<td>+</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. sempervirens '72-663'</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1974</td>
<td>50&quot;</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>East</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>Scattered 40%</td>
<td></td>
<td>+</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. sempervirens 'Arborescens'</td>
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<td>1973</td>
<td>11&quot;</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>Partial</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>75</td>
<td>1950</td>
<td>48&quot;</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>Scattered 30%</td>
<td></td>
<td>+</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>1950</td>
<td>84&quot;</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>Partial</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>Slight</td>
<td></td>
<td>+</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>1976</td>
<td>16&quot;</td>
<td>SE</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>Partial</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Dead</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>1923</td>
<td>108&quot;</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>Light</td>
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<td>++</td>
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<td></td>
<td>+</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. sempervirens 'Asheville'</td>
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<td>1923</td>
<td>108&quot;</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>Light</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>++</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td></td>
<td>+</td>
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<td>20&quot;</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>Light</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>30% top</td>
<td></td>
<td>+</td>
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<td>1973</td>
<td>20&quot;</td>
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<td>Partial</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>40% top</td>
<td></td>
<td>+</td>
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<td>1973</td>
<td>20&quot;</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>Partial</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>Tips</td>
<td></td>
<td>++</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. sempervirens 'Colprit No. 4'</td>
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<td>1970</td>
<td>11&quot;</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>Partial</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>+</td>
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<td>+</td>
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<td>38&quot;</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>East</td>
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<td>+</td>
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<td>+</td>
<td>75%</td>
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<td>100</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>None</td>
<td></td>
<td>+</td>
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<td>B. sempervirens, Mulsted strain</td>
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<td>72&quot;</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>East</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>50%</td>
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<td>East</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>+</td>
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<td>60&quot;</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>Partial</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>Partial</td>
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<td>1974</td>
<td>18&quot;x24&quot;</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>East</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>+</td>
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<td>53&quot;</td>
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<td>Ex</td>
<td>East</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>40% base</td>
<td></td>
<td>+</td>
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<td>59&quot;</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>East</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>++</td>
<td>Scattered 40%</td>
<td></td>
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38
WINTER DAMAGE TO BOXWOODS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>No. Plants</th>
<th>Out-planted</th>
<th>Site 1754</th>
<th>Wind</th>
<th>Winter Sun</th>
<th>Shade</th>
<th>% Plant Under Snow</th>
<th>% Snow Under Snow</th>
<th>Winter Kill</th>
<th>New Growth</th>
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<td>B. sempervirens ‘Rotundifolia’</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1930</td>
<td>94”</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>Partial</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>Scattered 75% +</td>
<td>+</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. sempervirens ‘Salicifolia’</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1974</td>
<td>19”</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>East</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Top 15”</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. sempervirens ‘Schmidt’</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1974</td>
<td>57”</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>East</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>Twigs 60% +</td>
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<td>1974</td>
<td>44”</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>East</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>Twigs 30% +</td>
<td>+</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. sempervirens ‘Suffruticosa’</td>
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<td>1930</td>
<td>105”</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>Partial</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>None + +</td>
<td>+ +</td>
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<td>1930</td>
<td>120”</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>Partial</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>20% + +</td>
<td>+ +</td>
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<td>B. sempervirens ‘Vardar Valley’</td>
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<td>1974</td>
<td>38”</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>East</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>Scattered 70% +</td>
<td>+ +</td>
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<td>12”</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>Partial</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>None +</td>
<td>+</td>
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<td>B. sempervirens ‘Vardar Valley’</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1970</td>
<td>12”</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>Partial</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>Scattered 10% +</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. sempervirens ‘Varifolia’</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1974</td>
<td>55”</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>East</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>90% -</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1970</td>
<td>33”</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>Partial</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>None + +</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. sempervirens ‘Wooster No. 1’</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1974</td>
<td>50”</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>East</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>60% top +</td>
<td>+</td>
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<tr>
<td>B. sempervirens ‘Wooster No. 1’</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1974</td>
<td>30”</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>Ex</td>
<td>East</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>60% top +</td>
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</table>

Ex - Exposed
P - Protected
Pa - Partial
- - In poor growing condition
+ - In average growing condition
++ - In excellent growing condition

Truedwarf Common Box (B. sempervirens ‘Suffruticosa’) planted in 1930 on a well protected site on all sides except south where there is slight exposure to the winds. By the end of July no winter damage was apparent except on exposed south side where there are dead branches to one foot long. The boxwood will undoubtedly outgrow all signs of damage within a couple of years. The plant had also survived ‘20° F. in 1963.

Korean Littleleaf Box (B. microphylla koreana) was originally set in 1931. It was transplanted to a new location in 1970. It has never completely recovered from transplanting. Heavy soil and somewhat poor drainage undoubtedly are factors for the general poor growth of this plant. However, there was no sign of winter damage. The site is protected from direct winds.

Japanese Littleleaf Box (B. microphylla japonica) was planted in 1958 on a completely protected site. By the end of July there is very little evidence of winter damage and both plants are in excellent condition.

Wintergreen Littleleaf Box (B. microphylla koreana ‘Wintergreen’). Eighteen plants set in 1971 on a protected site came through the winter with no sign of damage but they were covered by snow during the winter. Other Wintergreen Box set on more exposed sites had slight tip burn. By the end of July all plants were in excellent growing condition with no evidence of winter injury.

Largeleaf Asiatic Clone of Littleleaf Box (B. microphylla). On protected sites this plant came through the winter in good condition. On sites exposed to the wind there was considerable damage.

B. sempervirens ‘Varifolia’ suffered bark splitting. Roots are alive and resprouting. This box would have undoubtedly been completely killed if it hadn’t been protected by snow cover.

Willowleaf Common Box (B. sempervirens ‘Salicifolia’) was killed back to the ground. The roots are alive and resprouting is occurring at base of original plant. This box would have undoubtedly been killed if it hadn’t been protected by snow cover.

To grow the hardier strains of boxwood around Wooster, Ohio (Plant Hardiness Zone 5) they should be set at favorable sites well protected from the winds.
BOXWOOD EXHIBIT
AT
METROPOLITAN HORTICULTURAL SHOW

At the Annual Metropolitan Horticultural Show held at Tyson's Corner Shopping Center at McLean, Virginia on August 4, 5, 6, the American Boxwood Society had an exhibit to help people in Northern Virginia to become better acquainted with the Society. The exhibit featured the Boxwood Journal, a collection of different varieties of named boxwood as well as examples of common boxwood problems such as leaf miners, psyllids and mites.

The exhibit was planned and set up by Mr. and Mrs. Tom Ewert. Tom is a Director Ex Officio of the American Boxwood Society, and the Director of the Blandy Experimental Farm where the official headquarters of the Society are located at Boyce, Virginia. Kay Ewert is the Treasurer of the Society.

During the hours the exhibit was open to the public, various members of the American Boxwood Society were on hand to answer questions on boxwood and to give information about the American Boxwood Society. Membership brochures were passed out to interested visitors. Members of the American Boxwood Society that served in the booth were:

Mrs. John J. Haggerty
Route 1, Box 132A
Berryville, VA

Mr. A. A. Greenwood
6442 Overlook Dr.
Alexandria, VA

Mr. Scot Butter
7525 Old Dominion Dr.
McLean, VA

Mrs. D. P. Rabun
214 W. Cork St.
Winchester, VA

Prof. Albert S. Beecher
Dept. of Hort., VPI & SU Blacksburg, VA

From the Blandy Experimental Farm:
Bob Arnold, Tom Ewert, and Kay Ewert

The Metropolitan Horticultural Show was sponsored by the Extension Service offices of the District of Columbia, Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax, Montgomery, Prince George and Prince William Counties, the D. C. Branch of the Professional Grounds Management Society, and the Green Scene of the National Capital Parks.
Other exhibits by plant societies included:
Old Dominion African Violet Society
Chrysanthemum Society
National Capital Dahlia Society
Potomac Rose Society/Arlington Rose Foundation
Potomac Lily Society
Bonsai Society

The show also included commercial exhibits as well as educational exhibits by VPI & SU, University of Maryland, The D. C. Cooperative Extension Service, U. S. Botanical Garden, U. S. National Arboretum, Green Scene, National Capital Area Federation of Garden Clubs, The Northern Virginia Beekeepers Association, and Brookside Gardens.

Another popular feature of the show was the Plant Clinic where the visitors had an opportunity to ask the experts questions on house plants, turf management, plant identification, care of ornamentals and the growing of fruits and vegetables.

18th Annual Meeting of The American Boxwood Society May 10, 1978 at Blandy Experimental Farm Boyce, Virginia
Mark this date now in your date book.

MAILBOX
Boxwood Workshop Participants write:

November 10, 1977
Dear Mr. and Mrs. Ewert,
We really had a most enjoyable time at Blandy Farm. We have propagated, transplanted and trimmed boxwood for years and found Tuesday that we had just scratched the surface. The whole day, including the lunch was planned so well. Thank you so much.

Sincerely,
Eleanor and Joe Cochran Rt. 2, Box 252 Staunton, Va. 24401
Little-Leaf Linden Blandy’s
‘Plant of the Month’

By Thomas E. Ewert
Director, Blandy Experimental Farm

There is a lime tree in the Winchester area which will tolerate even more cold than we had last winter. The Basswood growing down by the river doesn’t live in the water, although it would rather grown in moist soil than in a very dry area.

Lime and Basswood are both common names for the same group of trees. They are also commonly called Whitewood and Linden. All refer to members of the genus, Tilia, which belongs to the Linden or Basswood family, Tiliaceae.

The “Plant-of-the-Month” at Blandy for the month of July is the Little-leaf Linden, Tilia cordata, but there are several other interesting plants in the genus which must be mentioned to appreciate the variations of size and texture you can have by planting Lindens.

Tilia cordata is commonly referred to as the Little Leaf Linden or sometimes as the small-leaved European Linden. It grows throughout Europe, often attaining a mature height of over 100 feet. In forests, it grows tall and thin with a good straight trunk. When growing in the open it has a densely pyramidal form. The Little Leaf Linden is hardy at -35 degrees F. and is tolerant of most soil conditions. It does not like very dry soil conditions.

The Little Leaf Linden is generally slow growing but its rich, green color and fine texture make it an excellent shade tree. It is very tolerant of city conditions. The leaves are small, from 1 to 2 inches long, and heart shaped.

THE LINDENS FLOWER in early to mid summer and while the flowers are not particularly showy, they are very fragrant. Lindens are an excellent source of nectar for bees although two species, Tilia tomentosa and Tilia petiolaris, are poisonous to bees. Tilia cordata blooms in June. The flowers are borne several together in stalked clusters. The clusters are attached to a thin leaf-like bract.

A cultivar “Tilia cordata”, known as “Greenspire” (plant patent #2086), has been selected for its fine shape. A seedling lot of Tilia cordata will exhibit a great deal of variation in size and shape. By purchasing a named cultivar, such as Greenspire, you can be assured of a uniform planting. This is especially valuable when a number of plants are used in a formal setting. Greenspire was selected from seeds collected from a cross between the finest Little Leaf Linden in the Boston Park System and a good plant found growing in Germany. Tilia cordata ‘Greenspire’ tends to grow faster than the species.

It is always a good idea to buy named cultivar of plants when they are available. Cultivars have been selected for certain characteristics and generally will perform more reliably in the garden. If you are not able to obtain certain plants from your local nurseryman, ask if he could order them for you. As the nursery consumer learns of improved plant cultivars and begins to ask for them by name, the local nurseryman will begin to stock them.

LINDENS OFTEN appeared in 18th century landscape designs where they are meticulously pruned to form formal clipped allees. They respond well to the high maintenance, specialty forms of pruning known as pleaching and pollarding.

Some of the other noteworthy Lindens include “Tilia americana” (American Linden). This large growing tree, often well over 100 feet, has a coarser texture, with 4 to 8 inch long leaves. A tough, hardy plant, it was used for making inexpensive furniture.

Tilia xeuropaea is a hybrid of Tilia cordata and Tilia platyphyllos, with 4 inch long leaves and a good green color. This tall growing tree forms a beautiful specimen. It is of fairly erect habit with weeping branchlets.

The weeping white Linden, “Tilia petiolaris,” only grows to about 75 feet. Its branches are pendant and the under sides of the leaves are sort of silvery green, making the tree particularly beautiful in a light breeze.

Three other good Lindens which are sometimes seen in gardens are Tilia platyphyllos, the Large-leaved Linden, with leaves to 5 inches and a height up to 100 feet; Tilia tomentosa, the Silver Linden, (look for the cultivar ‘Princeton’, which is a more uniform tree), and Tilia xeuclhosa, the Crimean Linden, which is more tolerant of heat and dry soil.

THE LINDENS ARE a relatively neglected group of trees. They provide excellent shade and can be grown very easily and have many characteristics which recommend them for the home garden. With concern about pollution in many of our cities, this may well become one of the more popular shade tree plantings in the near future.
WILLIAMSBURG — It had the shape of a perfect Christmas tree — symmetrical branches and a nice cone shape.

No one will ever notice this pine is missing, several students thought, and on a chilly December evening, they cut down an evergreen tree on the campus of the College of William and Mary.

The revelers were ignorant of the fact that the tree, which they later decorated in a dorm, was one of three specimens of Atlas Mountain cedar that had been planted on campus. But they soon discovered how Christmas spirit can be set aside in certain circumstances.

Dr. J. T. Baldwin, Jr., the biology professor who had planted and nurtured the tree, tracked them down and fined them $100.

The incident occurred more than 10 years ago, and other minor tragedies — runaway lawnmowers, careless branch-swingers and abnormally harsh winters — have continued to take their toll on campus greenery.

Baldwin died in 1974, but his legacy of a worldwide variety of trees and shrubs decorating the campus continues to be expanded.

Williamsburg is located at a latitude that provides an ideal climate for hundreds of plant species. Most trees native to warm climates can grow here while trees that thrive in cold temperatures are equally adaptable.

College botanists have yet to identify all the species Baldwin planted through the years. They claim, with qualification, that the campus harbors one of the greatest varities of trees and shrubs at any one place in the nation.

Was Alumnus

Baldwin, an alumnus who taught biology from 1946 until his death, specialized in cytogenetics, the study of plant chromosomes. Botany was his avocation as well as his vocation, and the William and Mary campus proved to be an ideal laboratory for raising specimens from European cypresses to Himalayan pines.

It is a place where the roots of a California redwood grow, contentedly entwined with those of a windmill palm from Hawaii.

One of the most spectacular specimens is the metasequoia, or dawn redwood. Until 1946, it was known to exist only in fossil remains. However, that year a group of agricultural explorers located a grove of 1,000 trees in Szechwan Province, China. The local peasants were using the trees for the interior furnishings for their homes.

Tallest in America

The Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University distributed seeds from the redwood forest to determine where the trees would survive. Baldwin obtained some of the seeds while traveling in Belgium. He had them shipped home and planted on campus. His dawn redwoods at William and Mary are now the tallest in America, towering more than 100 feet.

A tree that attracts the admiration of visitors — Christmas tree seekers or not, is the cryptomeria, a stately evergreen originally from Japan, which was first planted at William and Mary in 1947. The evergreen thrives in the Virginia climate so well, in fact, that Baldwin liked to refer to the Williamsburg area as the cryptomeria capital of the world.

Baldwin's work is being continued. Dr. Bernice M. Speese, who retired from the biology department in 1976, still works at supervising the care of the trees and shrubs and organizing Baldwin's records. She collaborated with Baldwin on much of his horticultural research.

She hopes to have an area of the campus set aside in which to grow duplicates of all the trees Baldwin discovered or hybridized.

“Books are for pleasure and teaching, and so is a collection of plants,” Baldwin once said. He believed that an arboretum was as important to a university or college as a library and he planted trees at W&M for their instructive value as much as for their beauty.
The dedication of a small park in honor of the late Dr. John Thomas Baldwin by the Williamsburg Area Council of Garden Clubs fulfilled a long held hope of many residents.

A graduate of the College of William and Mary, Dr. Baldwin taught there for many years, serving as chairman of the Biology Department. He was an internationally recognized authority on botany, plant taxonomy and economic botany.

In the years before his death in 1974, he spent much time enlarging the college collection of plants. In 1971 he received the Williamsburg Council of Garden Clubs Award for his interest and promotion of beautification throughout the Williamsburg area.

The memorial garden was planted by the council on land contributed for use by the college, with structural assistance from the city and it reflects some of Dr. Baldwin's particular interests. The plants chosen are nursery-grown cultivars of specimens given by him for propagation.

A spokesman for the Council said “The memorial represents the deep and enduring appreciation of Dr. Baldwin's patient teaching of our members and of his lively interest and help in Council activities.”

Mrs. Thomas Banford Jones
Chr. Publicity & Public Relations
Tidewater District

GRACE PERIOD UP

For sometime the publishing of the Boxwood Journal has been behind schedule. We are back on schedule, and it will now be necessary to check our membership mailing list and delete any names that are delinquent in reference to their annual dues. During the period we were behind schedule no names were removed for non payment of dues because we wanted to make sure that each member received the four bulletins that a member is entitled to each year.

Why not act fast and renew your membership so your name will not have to be removed from the mailing list. Send your $5.00 membership fee to the Treasurer, Mrs. Thomas Ewert.
THE GARDEN AT OATLANDS

A National Trust Property near Leesburg
in Loudoun County, Virginia

Miriam G. Rabb

The terraced formal garden at Oatlands was originally designed and planted by George Carter, who built Oatlands House in the early 1800's and lived here until his death in 1846. The garden is considered one of the finest examples of early Virginia landscape design, and is noted for its magnificent boxwood (both Buxus Arborescens or "Tree Box", and Buxus Suffruiticosa, often called English or dwarf box). When Oatlands was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. William Corcoran Eustis in 1903, remaining original features of the garden included brick and stone walls, the original terraces and massive staircases, and an English Oak and European Larch and some of the boxwood established by Mr. Carter. Also standing were the brick dependencies at the northwest corner. One of these was a smokehouse which the Eustis family converted to a studio by adding windows and a fireplace. The larger building served as laundry, tool rooms and servants' quarters during the Eustis ownership; its original usage is not known. Both buildings are of brick molded and fired on the property, and research indicates that they date to the 1830's.

To restore the garden, Mr. and Mrs. Eustis extended the terraces to the south, planted English box in formal patterns, and established the sundial garden with magnolia grandiflora at its corners. The sundial is supported by a pink marble and granite pedestal which was the work of a New York sculptor. The legend on the bronze sundial reads "Time passes, memories remain."

In 1923 Mrs. Eustis wrote of the Oatlands Garden:

"When the present owners bought it...the Oatlands garden was falling into ruins; bricks were crumbling, weeds crowding the flowers and yet the very moss-grown paths seemed to say, 'we are still what we were.' It was a thankful task to restore the old beauty, although the thoughts and conceptions were new, they fitted it, and every stone vase or bench, every box-hedge planted, seemed to fall into its rightful place and become a part of the whole. Certain improvements were made - improvements the old designer and builder would have approved; fruit trees, hiding huge box and yew, were cut down, and a rosary laid out as a counterpart to the box-grove. It was not always easy to get the right effect.

"More than one-half of the garden can be seen from several vantage points; from the upper balustrade, looking down, from the Oak Grove, looking up, and from each separate terrace. The things to be striven for - mystery, variety, and the unexpected - were difficult of attainment; but in certain places they have been attained. The tall north wall, with brick coping and its small beds above descending stone walls - just the same as in Carter days; a shady almost neglected spot, where the grass grows too tall sometimes, is a thing apart from the rest. Then the rose garden with its background of tall box and pine, in an enclosure of dark-green fencing, cedar posts and chains overhung with Dorothy Perkins roses, cannot be seen until you turn a corner and are on it unawares. And the bowling green, a long stretch of greensward, bordered by euonymus, flowering shrubs and Oriental Biota, is nearly always shaded, giving that sense of stillness and remoteness which a hidden mass of green so often suggests. At one end of it, the tall north wall shields it from blustering winds; at the other a sunny, white-pillared tea-house overlooks a grove of great oaks which, more than house or garden, is the living glory of Oatlands. The rest of the garden - the staircase, box-hedges and brick pilasters to one side, with a great ivy-clad wall to the other, a larch tree crowning the whole; and looking down and southward, and old pink Venetian well head, protecting a deep, cool well. Then the terraces, bearing some vases, a sundial, many low box-hedges, and innumerable flowers - they finish the tale. But the brick walls and, in one place, a slender white fence, shut it all in and give it that sense of separateness, of a certain aloofness almost, be-
fitting the guardian of treasures, the storehouse of old secrets."

After the above was written in 1923, Mrs. Eustis built the reflecting pool at the north end of the "bowling green" which she converted into a boxwood allee with plants she grew from clippings of old boxwood. The euonymus hedge was killed by severe winter weather in the 1930's, but the Oriental Biota (arborevitae) - - now gnarled with age - - has been carefully preserved. Prior to the Eustis ownership of Oatlands, a kitchen garden flourished where the bowling green-allee now is.

In the box-grove east of the reflecting pool Mrs. Eustis placed a statue, "la Vierge d'Autun" - - a copy of a 15th Century French Madonna - - as a memorial to her daughter, Edith, who died in 1936 at the age of 24. Below this box-grove and facing east toward the Oatlands farm lands is the Carter family vault. George Carter is interred here, as is his widow, who died in 1885. The vault is sealed and has not been opened for many years.

Across the brick wall below the eastern side of the garden is a cutting garden supplying most of the materials for the fresh flower arrangements which are now, as they were during Mrs. Eustis' lifetime, a specialty in Oatlands House. The brick building adjoining the cutting garden is called the "Carter Barn." It was formerly a granary, and was probably built in 1816, the year George Carter built his grist mill on Goose Creek.

Garden ornaments brought to Oatlands by Mr. and Mrs. Eustis include an iron dog formerly on the grounds of their first Washington residence, Corcoran House on Lafayette Square.

The Oatlands Garden is primarily a green garden with plantings, architecture and ornaments interesting at any season. Flowers provided accents of color from spring through fall. Among them are tulips, peonies, daffodils, hyacinths, lilies, chrysanthemums, and spring and autumn crocus, iris, blue salvia, phlox and ageratum. At any season, the garden abounds in many different kinds of birds, and in such small animals as rabbits, squirrels and chipmunks.

"The garden," wrote Mrs. Eustis, "recalls the English formal garden which derived some of its inspiration from Italian models - yet its atmosphere is typically Virginian."

**BIRDS**

Over 35 different species of song and game birds have been identified at Oatlands. Those you are most likely to see are cardinals, bluebirds, chickadees, nuthatches, bluejays, barn swallows, house wrens, robins, catbirds, brown thrushes, chipping sparrows, mourning doves, titmice, and various wren species. At least one pair of pileated woodpeckers makes its home in the woodlands of the property, and there are often migratory flights of evening grosbeaks and cedar waxwings. Bobwhite quail frequent the fields, and occasionally a wild turkey is seen.

**TREES**

Some 40 different kinds of evergreens and hardwoods - native and exotic - are found on Oatlands' 260 acres. Among those which are identified and marked on the grounds are white oak, red oak, wild cherry, blue atlas cedar, Norwegian spruce, dogwood, red cedar, yellow poplar, ginko, paulownia, (empress tree), sugar maple, Virginia pine, European larch, English Oak, beech, white ash, Osage orange, hedgeapple, and Magnolia Grandiflora. The ginko, European larch and English Oak are the largest of their species in Virginia, while there is an unusually fine stand of American hornbeam near the picnic area and along the walk between the parking area and Oatlands House.

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**CHECK BOXWOOD FOR DEAD LEAVES**

Jerry Williams
Times-Dispatch Garden Columnist

From the American Boxwood Society comes this timely suggestion on care of your prize plants.

Boxwood plants need to be checked periodically to see if they have become so compact that very little light and air can reach the center of the crown. When plants are tightly grown the interior shoots may die and the overall plant is weakened.

Pruning some of the inner branches will help to open up the plant to admit light to the interior, and this will encourage a green center where there will be green leaves all the way up the stem.

While you are checking, see if there is a collection of dead leaves and other debris inside your plants. At least once each year leaves, twigs and other miscellaneous flotsam that have accumulated in the center of the plants, should be removed.

Without this annual cleaning, fungus growth on leaves and twigs is promoted, the development of interior shoots is suppressed and sometimes aerial root development along the branches is encouraged. Failure to thin boxwood plants and to keep the debris cleaned out may be a major factor in contributing to boxwood decline.
BOXWOOD GARDEN TOUR
OF
5 GARDENS IN THE
PHILADELPHIA AREA

We are pleased to announce a new event which we know will greatly interest you.

The American Boxwood Society will sponsor a garden tour of Philadelphia area boxwood gardens.

One of the loveliest gardens you’ll ever have the opportunity to visit is “Deerfield,” home of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hallowell.

Please mark May 14 and 15th, 1978, on your calendar. Plan to join us in Philadelphia and share its elegant culture and gardening excellence. The complete program will be announced in April 1978 issue of the Boxwood Bulletin, along with photographs and descriptions of the four gardens that we plan to visit.

The houses included in this private tour are seldom opened to the public.

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NEW PLANTS FOR THE BOXWOOD MEMORIAL GARDEN

Recently through the cooperation of Mr. Lynn Batdorf, Curator of the Boxwood Collection at the National Arboretum, Washington, DC, the American Boxwood Society was the recipient of cuttings from approximately fifty different varieties of boxwood. These cuttings will be grown by Tom Ewert in the greenhouses at the Blandy Experimental Farm, Boyce, Virginia and when they reach a suitable size will be planted in the Memorial Boxwood Garden.

Cuttings arrived 11/16/77 and were stuck in the mist bench at Blandy that day.

The list of cuttings received are as follows:

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47
BOOK REVIEW
THE GREEN THUMB DIRECTORY
Marion Schroeder

Marion Schroeder has written a valuable guide for over 1000 sources for seeds, plants, supplies, plant societies, and garden magazines.

There is a wealth of information with addresses on where to find seeds, vegetables, trees, flowers, ground covers, garden aids and supplies, indoor and outdoor equipment, and much, much more.

Between two covers is a most convenient, handy guide for all gardeners to find purchasing sources at their fingertips, as well as pertinent information on many plant sizes and habitat.

Doubleday & Company Dolphin Books
Garden City, New York

New Members added to the membership roll up to 1978:

SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Mr. and Mrs. John H. Ariail, Jr.
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Mrs. Kenneth Moore
Rt. 3, Box 147
Orange, Va. 22960

Mrs. Joseph M. Petitt
292 Tenth Street, N.W.
Atlanta, Georgia 30318
DUES AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

Regular membership dues of The American Boxwood Society are now $5.00. This includes a subscription to The Boxwood Bulletin.

Non-member subscriptions are for groups and institutions such as botanic gardens, libraries, etc. These are $6.00 a year, and run by the calendar year.

The Boxwood Society year runs from one Annual Meeting to the next; from May of one year to May of the next year. Those joining the Society at other times are sent all the Boxwood Bulletin issues for the current Society year, beginning with the July number. Their dues are then again due and payable in the following May. This was voted by the Society in order to lighten as far as possible the heavy work load of our busy Treasurer.

At the present time any or all Bulletins are available, back to Vol. 1, No. 1 (Vol. 1 consists of three issues only, there was no Vol. 1, No. 4.) Price per single copy is $1.50.

Besides regular membership dues at $5.00 per year, there are other classes of membership available: Contributing, $10.00; Sustaining, $25.00; Life, $100.00; and Patron, $500.00.

Gift memberships are announced to the recipients by boxwood-decorated cards which carry the information that The Boxwood Bulletin will come as your gift four times a year.

Members of The American Boxwood Society are reminded of the 1968 IRS decision that contributions to and for the use of the Society, are deductible by donors as provided in Section 170 of the Code.
Membership in
The American Boxwood Society

For _______________________

From _____________________

The Boxwood Bulletin will be sent to you quarterly.

MEMBERSHIP IN
THE AMERICAN BOXWOOD SOCIETY

Regular membership dues at $5.00 per year, and includes 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.