



Smithsonian Institution

Archives of American Gardens

Gertrude Farrington's Diaries, 1983-1987

Extracted on Apr-23-2024 12:07:04

The Smithsonian Institution thanks all digital volunteers that transcribed and reviewed this material. Your work enriches Smithsonian collections, making them available to anyone with an interest in using them.

The Smithsonian Institution (the "Smithsonian") provides the content on this website (transcription.si.edu), other Smithsonian websites, and third-party sites on which it maintains a presence ("SI Websites") in support of its mission for the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." The Smithsonian invites visitors to use its online content for personal, educational and other non-commercial purposes. By using this website, you accept and agree to abide by the [following terms](#).

- If sharing the material in personal and educational contexts, please cite the Archives of American Gardens as source of the content and the project title as provided at the top of the document. Include the accession number or collection name; when possible, link to the Archives of American Gardens website.
- If you wish to use this material in a for-profit publication, exhibition, or online project, please contact Archives of American Gardens or transcribe@si.edu

For more information on this project and related material, contact the Archives of American Gardens. [See this project](#) and other collections in the Smithsonian Transcription Center.

June 26

1983 - Sunday - G at Tarrytown with Eileen

Went to 7:30 Mass - walked Boo - drove to Flower Time - Eileen bought hedge trimmer - used it - Had lunch - I left at 2:15 for Presbyterian - Wes a little better - getting up to urinate - not all going thru catheter - bladder spasms much better - had bad night Saturday. I left for Ridgefield after six - everything very dry up here - did a little watering - house very cool - hot day.

1984 - Tuesday, 56° at 6AM - Fair - beautiful cool day. Worked hard getting ready for luncheon before Garden Club meeting - Helen - Mary Luke - Punkie Scott - Anne Tracy - Jeanne Timpanelli - here 11:45. Wes helped by cleaning den & kitchen etc. He took the men to luncheon at Le Chateau. I was given GCA Horticulture Award at the meeting at Vera Neligan's. Home at 4:30 to walk around - clean up the dishes

1985 - Wednesday - 51° at 6:30 - Cloudy - cleared but cold - needed sweater - rain after dinner.

To Carpets, Etc. to pick up bound rug for shop only to find man not there and book keeper couldn't locate it - on to Ridgefield Liquor Store and Stop & Shop - picked up Rosemary from Anne Tracy - a gift - home for lunch - Jane Lally came to see our garden - gave her Oenothera Mexicala Rosea and Corydalis lutea - Wes edged shade garden - shrub border rear of shade garden - I weeded Wall Garden

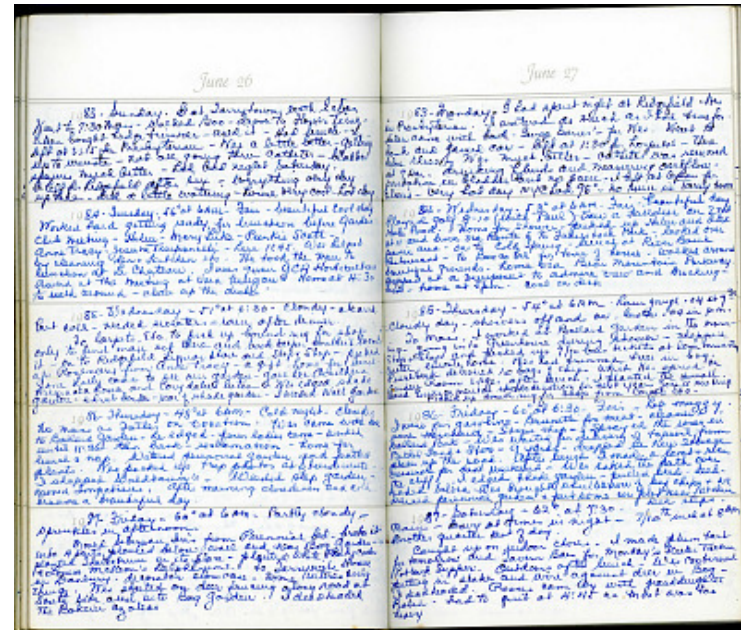
1986 - Thursday - 48° at 6AM - Cold night - cloudy. No Mass as Father on vacation. Wes came with me to Ballard Garden - he edged - four ladies came - worked until 11:30 then bank - reclamation - home for lunch & nap. Watered perennial garden and potted plants. Wes picked up trip photos at Sturdevants. I shopped Waldbaum's. Weeded step garden - moved Impatiens. After morning cloudiness and cold became a beautiful day.

1987 - Friday - 60° at 6 AM - Partly cloudy - sprinkles in afternoon. Moved Siberian Iris from Perennial bed - broke it into 4 parts, planted below wall and near Bog Garden - planted Thalictrum in its place - planted White Platycodon & Louise McKeon's Delphiniums. To Tarrywick House in Danbury - decorator showcase - some interesting things. Wes started on deer fencing along road at South Side and into Bog Garden. I deadheaded the Bakerii Azaleas.

June 27

1983 - Monday - G had spent night at Ridgefield - Wes in Presbyterian. I watered as much as I had time for. Helen came with book - George Burns - for Wes. Went to bank and gassed car - left at 1:30 for hospital - there before three - Wes much better - catheter was removed at 7 AM - drinking fluids and measuring outflow - irritation in bladder but no pain - I left at 6 pm for Eileen's - very hot day NYC had 95° - no rain in Tarrytown.

1984 - Wednesday - 53° at 6 AM - Fair, beautiful day. Played golf 8-10 (with Paul). Saw a Killdeer on 2nd Hole Pond. Home for shower - picked up Helen and Alex at 11 and drove Route 6 to



Fahnstock Park - looked over picnic area - on to Cold Spring - lunch at River Bank Restaurant - to Boscobel for tour of house - walked around beautiful grounds - home via Bear Mountain Parkway. Stopped at a viewpoint to admire view and Mockingbird - home at 5 pm. Cool on deck

1985 - Thursday - 54° at 6 AM. Rain gauge .04 at 7:30. Cloudy day - showers off and on. Another .04 in p.m.
To Mass. I worked at Ballard Garden in the morning - going into Greenhouse during shower - shopped Stop & Shop and picked up 7/10 bus tickets at Community Center, enroute home. Wes had trimmed trees in bog. Pinchbeck delivered 10 bags of chips which Wes spread on Garden Room edges after lunch. I planted the small-leaved Environmental rhododendron for next years Zone II meeting. Picked up small rug for shop from Carpets Etc.

1986 - Friday - 60° at 6:30 - Fair - hot & muggy. I went for gasoline - Brunetti for meat - cleaner - wine merchant - Stop & Shop - Sprayed the roses in Ballard Park - Wes waited for delivery of topsoil from Bethel Pond & Stone - 9 yards - dropped in new storage place up the road. After lunch I made a lamb & rice casserole for next weekend - Wes raked the path over the cliff. I edged shade garden - pulled weeds - deadheaded Salvia - Wes brought wheelbarrow of leaf chips & we dressed perennial garden & put some in plot near Kitchen deck steps.

1987 - Saturday - 62° at 7:30. Rain - heavy at times in night - 7/10th inch at 8 AM. Another quarter rest of day.
Caught up on indoor chores. I made plum tart for tomorrow and Tavern Bars for Monday's Keeler Tavern Potluck Supper. Outdoors after lunch - Wes continued putting in stakes and wire against deer in Bog - I deadheaded. Rosses came by with granddaughter Robin - had to quit at 4:45 as mist was heavy.

Gertrude Farrington's Diaries, 1983-1987
Transcribed and Reviewed by Digital Volunteers
Approved by Smithsonian Staff
Extracted Apr-23-2024 12:07:04



Smithsonian Institution

Archives of American Gardens

The mission of the Smithsonian is the increase and diffusion of knowledge - shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world. Founded in 1846, the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, and nine research facilities. Become an active part of our mission through the Transcription Center. Together, we are discovering secrets hidden deep inside our collections that illuminate our history and our world.

Join us!

The Transcription Center: <https://transcription.si.edu>

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SmithsonianTranscriptionCenter>

On Twitter: [@TranscribeSI](https://twitter.com/TranscribeSI)

Connect with the Smithsonian

Smithsonian Institution: www.si.edu

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Smithsonian>

On Twitter: [@smithsonian](https://twitter.com/smithsonian)