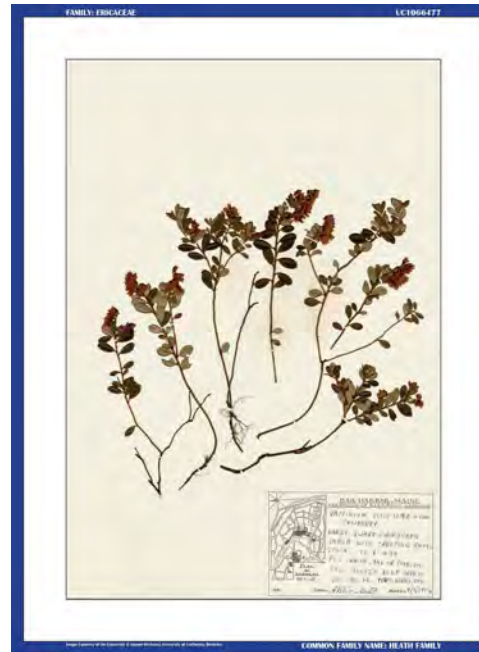


The Herbarium at Garland Farm

Renowned landscape architect Beatrix Farrand (1872-1959) created an herbarium of preserved plant specimens from the landscape at Reef Point, her long-time home in Bar Harbor, Maine. The 2000+ specimens were intended as a learning resource for students of landscape design. She donated the collection to the University & Jepson Herbaria, University of California, Berkeley. Now, through high-resolution digitization, a copy of the herbarium is being assembled at Garland Farm.



This herbarium is valuable because it documents what was actually planted at Reef Point. The herbarium continues to teach us about good plant selection. It also teaches us how Farrand combined plants within gardens, because the specimens display maps of where they were planted at Reef Point. Reef Point is gone, but some of these species are planted at Garland Farm, Farrand's last home.



The Beatrix Farrand Society's
2014 Summer Exhibition

Beatrix Farrand's Herbarium: Rhododendrons and Their Relatives



View Exhibition at Open Days:
Thursdays, July 10 - Sept 11, 1-5 pm
Sundays, July 27 - Aug 17, 1-5 pm

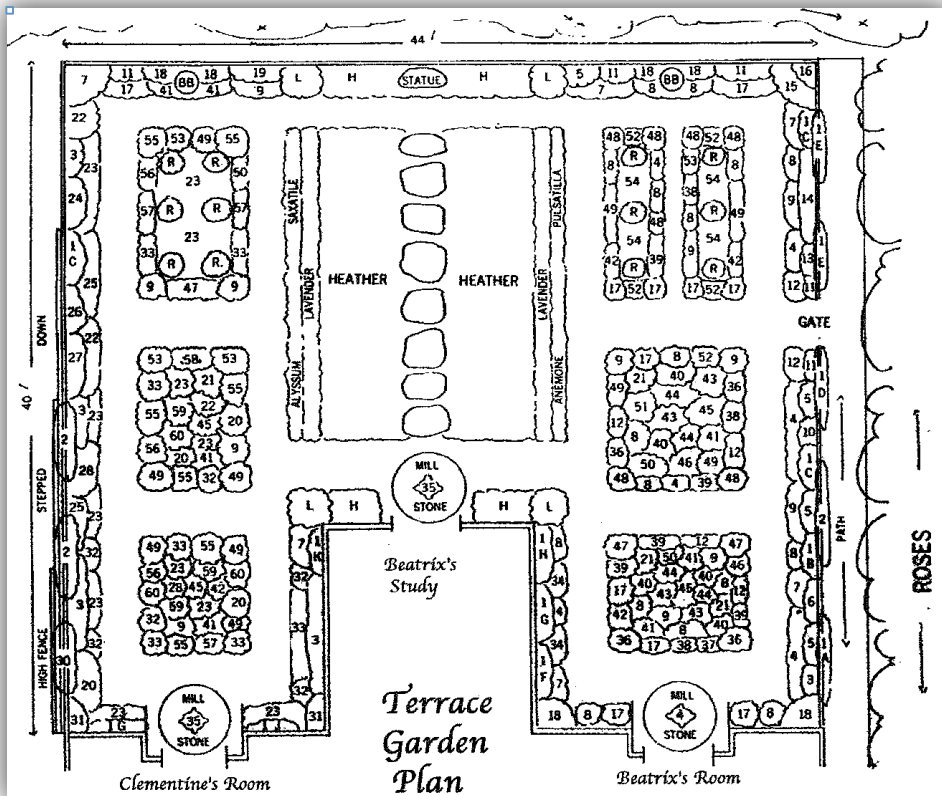
View Exhibition on Days of Programs:
Visit our website for dates and details:
www.beatrixfarrandsociety.org

Garland Farm
475 Bay View Drive, Bar Harbor ME

Visit the Terrace Garden

Heathers and heaths, some of Beatrix Farrand's favorite Ericaceous plants, are constant in their beauty, yet they provide changing seasonal interest with a long sequence of flowers and good fall foliage color. Farrand used them generously, which appeared in the plan below, taken from the 1962 *Flower Grower* article, "A Perfect Dooryard Garden" by Mary Alice Roche.

Roche noted that the heather at the center of the garden "added a feeling of substance and permanence." She added that "the crowning glory at the end of the summer was, of course, the heather ... a sea of dense flower spikes ranging from white and lavender-pink to bright pink and deep rose -- the florets sometimes oval bells and sometimes enchanting, double, Liliputian roses. Never before had we seen such a sight."



Terrace Garden Plan source: Roche, M.A. 1962. A perfect dooryard garden. *Flower Grower* (April 1962): 35-36, 61-62.

Ericaceae: The Heath Family

Most members of the Heath Family are woody plants with urn- or bowl-shaped flowers. Rhododendrons and azaleas are important landscape plants, while blueberry and cranberry are grown for their edible fruits. Nearly 50 of Ericaceae's 3000+ species are native to Maine's acid soils, and Farrand used many of them in her landscapes.

Several of the Ericaceous plants in the exhibition are planted at Garland Farm. In the garden's entryway, visitors pass under a pair of redvein enkianthus, whose flowers buzz with bumblebees in early June. Behind the house, heaths and heathers fill the central bed of the Terrace Garden with season-long color and texture.



(Images of native Ericaceous plants, left to right): Trailing arbutus, Black huckleberry, Shinleaf, Rose bay, Cranberry. Source: Britton, N. & A. Brown. An illustrated flora of the northern United States, Canada and the British possessions. 2nd ed. Scribner, 1913.

Why was the Herbarium Created?

The herbarium was part of Beatrix Farrand's vision of Reef Point as a place where students could study gardening and plant material. It was housed in the Max Farrand Library at Reef Point, and Farrand described it as "an essential part of the room, as the plants pressed and mounted in their files will give students definite information regarding the material grown in the six acre garden". (Reef Point Bulletin, Vol.1, No.5, July 1950)

It was a serious undertaking. Marion Ida Spaulding, who collected many of the specimens for the herbarium, noted in an article in Reef Point Bulletin (Vol.1, No.7, August 1951) that "Due to the kindly help of several distinguished institutions the specimens ... have been checked at the Arnold Arboretum for trees and shrubs, the Bailey Hortorium at Cornell for garden plants, the Royal Botanic Garden in Edinburgh for heathers and heaths, and the University of Maine for ferns and native plants."