

## History of Garland Farm

Garland Farm was the ancestral home of Lewis Garland, Beatrix Farrand's longtime property manager at Reef Point, her former home in Bar Harbor. The original homestead included a 19th century farmhouse, dairy barn, and about 100 acres of fields and woods running down to the shore. Amy Garland, who married Lewis Garland while at Reef Point, was Beatrix Farrand's horticulturalist and friend. After dismantling Reef Point in 1955 due to her failure to find a gardener to replace Mrs. Garland, escalating expenses, and the changing character of Bar Harbor after the 1947 fire, Beatrix Farrand decided to join the Garlands in their move to Garland Farm.

Before moving to Garland Farm in October 1955, Farrand donated her library and landscape collections to the University of California at Berkeley. She salvaged the distinctive front door, the interior cabinetwork, and other architectural components from Reef Point to be incorporated into her new home as well as many of her favorite plants, including a large Sargent Cherry, a Dawn Redwood, a collection of heaths and heathers, and perennials that can be enjoyed at Garland Farm today. Thanks to the intervention of Charles Kenneth Savage, a local landscape designer, and John D. Rockefeller, Jr., a number of significant historic shrubs and trees from Reef Point found new homes at Asticou Azalea Garden and Thuya Lodge in Northeast Harbor.

Farrand engaged the local architect Robert W. Patterson to design a new addition between the old farmhouse and the barn where she planned to live with Clementine Walter, her companion and caregiver. Patterson deftly incorporated architectural elements from Reef Point, such as the French doors, floorboards, windows, moldings, railings, light fixtures and hardware in his one-floor plan, which consisted of two sitting rooms with bathrooms, a study, entrance hall, a kitchen, and storage rooms. The two suites and the study faced a new terrace garden, with French doors opening out into separate garden spaces for Beatrix and Clementine.

After Farrand's death in February 1959, the Garlands lived at Garland Farm until Amy Garland moved away. The property was sold to Jerome and Helena Goff in 1970 and in 1993 it was sold the Eveland family. At the time of Virginia Eveland's death in October 2002, the size of the original property had been reduced to 4.9 acres, including the farmhouse, addition, barn, garage, and a small greenhouse. In 2003 a number of individuals and groups joined forces to find a private or institutional owner who could honor Farrand's unique legacy at Garland Farm. The Beatrix Farrand Society was incorporated under the leadership of Jim and Emily Fuchs in order to purchase the property. After successful fundraising, Garland Farm was purchased from the Eveland estate in January 2004. Since that time the organization's mission is to restore Garland Farm to its Farrand-era design and condition and create a landscape and horticultural study center. The property is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Today Garland Farm is the headquarters of the Beatrix Farrand Society. It houses a significant reference library devoted to landscape design and horticulture in addition to exhibition spaces devoted to Farrand's life and work. The former dairy barn was converted into an educational center where programs and workshops are held during the summer months. The greenhouse was recently restored and the garage (formerly at Reef Point) serves as a storage facility. The restoration of the terrace garden was completed in 2011 to rave reviews and other areas of the historic landscape are projected in future.