

August 31, 1954

Mrs. Dwight D. Eisenhower
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Eisenhower:

My friend Dr. Richard A. Howard, Director of the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University, who paid us a visit last week, tells me that you would like to secure several plants of Boxwood about five or six feet tall. He added that, unfortunately, there are at present no plants of this size available at Arnold.

I find that among our surplus nursery stock we have about a dozen specimens of the size which you desire. We should be happy to present these to you if you are interested in having them.

I wish that I could offer to move these plants to the site which you have in mind, but in view of our limited trucking facilities can do no more than make them available if you care to make arrangements for transporting them.

Sincerely yours,

John M. Fogg, Jr.
Director

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Denver, Colo.
September 6, 1954

Dear Mr. Fogg,

Thank you for your letter concerning the boxwood plants.

You are generous indeed to offer to present us with about a dozen specimens of the size we desire and I am deeply grateful for your thought.

I shall discuss this matter with the President and write you further about it.

With thanks, and all good wishes,

Mamie Paul Eisen

Mr. John M. Fogg, Jr., Director
The Morris Arboretum
Chestnut Hill
Philadelphia, Pa.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Denver, Colorado.
September 8, 1954.

Dear Mr. Fogg:

I am most deeply appreciative of your offer of about a dozen boxwood trees from your surplus nursery stock. It is exceedingly kind of you.

If it does not inconvenience you, I would like to leave the whole matter in abeyance until I have a chance to talk to the man who is in charge of the landscaping of our Gettysburg home. That may be a matter of some five or six weeks. I would like to consult with him before taking any definite steps for the removal of the boxwood.

I assure you of my gratitude for the interest you have taken in the matter, and I shall be in touch with you at a later date.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dwight D. Eisenhower". The signature is written in dark ink and has a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

Mr. John M. Fogg, Jr.,
Director,
The Morris Arboretum,
Chestnut Hill,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

November 12, 1954

Dear Mr. President:

On September 7th you wrote to me from Denver accepting my offer of some boxwood plants for your Gettysburg home and telling me that you would have the man who is in charge of your landscaping get in touch with me at a later date.

Since I am about to leave for a short expedition to Mexico and Honduras, this letter is merely to say that my Administrative Assistant, Miss Janet L. Bowen, will be in charge of the Arboretum during my absence. She is informed concerning this matter and would be happy to take care of it while I am away.

I am sure you will not remember me, but I look back with pleasure to having met you several years ago when the University of Pennsylvania awarded you an honorary degree. I was Vice-Provost of the University at that time and marched ahead of you in the procession.

Sincerely yours,

John M. Fogg, Jr.
Director

President Dwight D. Eisenhower
The White House
Washington, D. C.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 1, 1954.

Dear Mr. Fogg:

I am sorry there has been this long delay in giving you a definitive answer to your kind offer to give me, for my Gettysburg place, a few of your surplus boxwood. I have checked the matter with the people who are in charge of the landscaping at the farm, and they tell me that they cannot see a place where the boxwood could be used effectively.

Nonetheless, I assure you that I am more than grateful to you for your courtesy.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Dwight D. Eisenhower". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name "Dwight D. Eisenhower".

Mr. John M. Fogg, Jr.,
Director,
The Morris Arboretum,
Chestnut Hill,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

December 23, 1954

President Dwight D. Eisenhower
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

This will acknowledge your letter of December 1st concerning boxwood.

I am extremely sorry that I was out of the country when your plantsman called us on the telephone concerning this material, for I think that had I talked to him myself I could have persuaded him that we probably have some plants here which would be suitable for your purposes.

When I first heard through Dr. Howard of the Arnold Arboretum that you were interested in boxwood I was told that what you wanted were plants approximately five or six feet tall, and my original offer to you was made on that basis. If, however, your space is limited and you would prefer smaller plants, we have here a considerable amount of material ranging over a wide variety of sizes, and I am reasonably sure that your plantsman would be able to find something which he could use.

Not only do our plants vary considerably in size, but we have a rather wide diversity of horticultural varieties and forms, including the traditional "English Box" as well as some of the newer highly attractive forms of the oriental species.

Instead, therefore, of considering this matter closed, I venture to suggest that it might be well for your man to pay us a visit some time when he is in this area in order to see for himself just what material is available. Although, as I told you earlier, much of this must be regarded as surplus material, we shall probably be moving nothing out of our nurseries until next spring, by which time, if you are still interested, I would hope it might be possible for you to arrange to have him visit the Arboretum and inspect the plants himself.

Sincerely yours,

John M. Fogg, Jr.
Director

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Augusta, Georgia
December 30, 1954

Dear Mr. Fogg:

Thank you very much for your renewed offer of boxwood for my Gettysburg place. I shall ask a representative of the Charles H. Tompkins Company to call to see you at his convenience.

Again, my deep appreciation of your thoughtfulness, and my best wishes for 1955.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dwight D. Eisenhower". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mr. John M. Fogg, Jr.
Director,
The Morris Arboretum,
Chestnut Hill,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.