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1966, January 24 - Beth G. Crabtree

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Mrs. O. Max Gardner  
403 South Washington Street  
Shelby, North Carolina

Dear Mrs. Gardner:

From conversations with Mrs. Moore and Miss Mary Cornick, of the State Department of Archives and History, I have been advised of your willingness to help in recalling some of the events and many of the changes occurring in the mansion during your residence there. As Mary explained to you, when she saw you at the meetings of the State Literary and Historical Association in December, I have been temporarily transferred from the Department of Archives to do research looking toward publication of a history of the mansion. I feel that the administrations of Governors McLean and Gardner were as important to the preservation of the mansion as was that of Governor Jarvis in pushing its construction and Governor Fowle in preventing its abandonment. As you know, there are many records in the Archives - some I have checked and others I will want to check - but there are many questions that arise for which you may already have the answers or can give me some clue to finding them.

Apropos of all this introduction, I would like to make an appointment with you for a visit to discuss these questions. My time is more or less completely open and can be arranged to suit your convenience. I am, however, naturally anxious to get on with the research. If you do not mind talking with me, will you please let me know when we can arrange a meeting?

Sincerely,

Beth Crabtree