



22 55 A

Hadden

Somerset Hills National Bank

of Bernardsville

Bernardsville, N.J.

Basking Ridge, N.J.
October 12, 1958Mr. Reginald V. Harris, Q.C.
Freemasons' Hall
Halifax, Canada

Dear Mr. Harris:

I was greatly interested to receive a flyer on your book from the publisher and then, very shortly afterward, a note from you saying that a copy, autographed, was on its way to me, and now that it has arrived I hasten to thank you for the book and for the very complete and accurate way you treated on my participation in the mystery. I have not read the entire book as completely as I would like to, for it contains a lot of information new to me, but I can see already that you have done a very painstaking job of research and patient writing. It is a tough story to cover.

One item I feel I must call to your attention, which, while not of great importance, is inaccurate. I refer to the photograph of Smith's Cove facing page 19 - "Smith's Cove, looking eastward, showing Oaks about 1897". I think a little more checking on your part will show you that the photograph used in the illustration was taken in 1930 or 1931. The lumber on the beach was for the Chappell operation of that year, and the excavation at the bottom center was their endeavor to locate the shaft near the shore, since excavated by Hamilton. I have some very excellent photographs of the same area taken in 1897 (obtained from Dauphinee) and there are many more Oaks in that picture - possibly fifty or sixty and almost no fir. The picture used is almost identical with some taken by myself in 1935. I shall send you a copy of the

Dodge photo ? →



22558
MGI Vol. 383

Somerset Hills National Bank

of Bernardsville

Bernardsville, N.J.

1897 picture as soon as I can have one made. If you do not have it, it should be a part of your file. The one facing page 117 is correct and I have an original of that too. The one I have of Smith's Cove is by the same photographer. Sorry to tell you now, but I never knew what pictures you were going to use.

I am very busy right now as the bank is undergoing one of the periodic examinations but I shall find time to write you further soon.

I am very interested to see the air-photo of the island facing page 18. It is about ten years since I last visited the site and I am amazed to see that the fields in front of my cabin are now completely overgrown with fir - or at least were when that picture was taken. It makes me very homesick for the place where I spent many happy and interesting days.

I have heard many rumors and have seen a few news releases but I am quite ignorant as to what has transpired in the last few years. I wonder if you would be good enough to take the time to very briefly tell me the high spots and if anything is planned for the immediate future. I understood that the main attack is to be by drilling and I am very interested in the results as I was thoroughly convinced in my experience that nothing could be determined from the surface.

Congratulations on a splendid book and thank you very much for my copy, which I shall read carefully and will cherish.

Sincerely

Gilbert D. Hedden
Gilbert D. Hedden