

Interview with Mrs. Marguerite Hedden
Kissimmee, Fla.
Feb. 15, 1976

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Gilbert Hedden was born in New Jersey in 1897 and died in Florida Sept. 14/74 at the age of 77.

He worked the island from 1934 to 1938, then turned over the operation to Edwin Hamilton in 1938. In 1950 Hedden sold the island to John Whitney Lewis of New York for \$6,000. Later that year Lewis sold it to M.R. Chappell and Frederick Blair (who ~~owned~~ held the treasure trove license) later that same year. In 1951 Blair died and Mr. Chappell remains owner of most of the land on the island.

Mrs. Hedden visited the island once in 1935. "Gil believed it was either pirate treasure or Bacon's "Shakespearean" manuscripts. "I still believe there is something there; something of great value because of the care they had taken in putting it down."

"Gil tried to find the inscribed rock, but couldn't. He last heard it had been somewhere in Chester."

The Heddens ~~xx~~ moved to Florida from New Jersey in 1962. Hedden had heavy tax problems with the IRS.

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