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Mrs. Marjorie Candee Houck

September 26, 1961

Mrs. Marjorie Candee Houck

Hotel Piccadilly. We have our old house and garden house completely
New York, N. Y. no more features will be the opening of the Anderson House
open to the public.

Dear Marjorie:

and Jim Sumpter has just given me your letter to him, in which you are
asking about news here in Key West. He has answered the first part of
your letter, and turned the rest of the answers over to me.

As to your question about the restoration of the Mallory Docks, I am
happy to say that the work has progressed exceedingly well on the Commu-
nity Center, the Waterfront Playhouse and Hospitality House. At the pre-
sent time plans are for a formal dedication of the first civically restored
area in Key West on the opening day of Old Island Days, February 15, 1962.

We have by unanimous decision named the area "Old Mallory Square"
in honor of the family of the Clyde Mallory Steamship Lines. These are
the same Mallorys, incidentally, who have been responsible for the restora-
tion in Mystic, Connecticut.

The dock also will be completed by then, and even now the view that
has been opened up to the Ocean and the Gulf is rewarding. Needless to say,
when the dock and fishing pier are finished it will certainly be an attraction
to the tourists.

As to the cruise ship docking next winter, so far we have nothing con-
crete on that. I understand that first you have to provide proper docking
space, and the cruise ship will then follow.

As to your question about Old Island Restoration Foundation, we are
already in the process of getting up our schedule of events for Old Island
Days, beginning February 15th and continuing through March 15th, 1962.
The highlight of these events will be the dedication of the Old Mallory Square,
and the Flagler celebration, commemorating the first train, with Mr. Flag-
ler himself aboard, arriving in Key West fifty years ago. This will be a
joint event sponsored by the Foundation and the Chamber of Commerce. One
of the most interesting things planned for this celebration will be the Old-
Timers' Reunion reception, attended by all of the people who were there at
the time the first train came in.

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Of course, we have our old house and garden tours completely scheduled, and the main feature will be the opening of the Audubon House gardens to the public.

The Flower Show has also been scheduled for March 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th. We have also scheduled a play by the Key West Players (in their new Waterfront Playhouse), Tennessee Williams' "Summer and Smoke". Plans are being made also for the first time to have in our new Community Center a native arts and crafts show.

There will of course be many other things, but these are the definite things that I thought you might like to know about.

I do hope this information has reached you in time. I am a little late in answering this, due to the fact that I have been out of town.

With very much appreciation to you and the New York Times for your interest and cooperation, and with kindest personal regards to you and the Reverend, I remain

Sincerely yours,

RETA F. SAWYER, Chairman
Old Island Restoration Foundation.

RFS/mam
Air Mail Special

P. S. I have just learned that a retired Navy Captain and his wife have started a Friday and Saturday night Night Club Tour in Key West, encompassing about five clubs, and featuring entertainment of the Spanish and Cuban variety. The tour has been quite successful, and will of course continue to improve as the season goes on. of the most interesting things planned for this celebration will be the Old-Timers' Reception, RFS, and the time the first train came in.