

- **BIOGRAPHY**
- **Mrs Patrick B. Buchanan**
- **Exeter, Rhode Island, United States of America**

- A native of Providence, Rhode Island, Helen Danforth was born January 11, 1922, into a prominent New England family with a long and distinguished heritage in business and philanthropy.

- The daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Murray S. Danforth, Helen graduated from St. Timothy's School in Catonsville, Maryland, and from Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, New York, in 1943 with a degree in chemistry.

- Helen's longstanding interest in historic preservation and conservation has been a strong focus for the work of her family foundation, Quinque Foundation. The Foundation's mission is to contribute to the advancement of training and skills needed to preserve and conserve built and natural heritage.

- Quinque has partnered with Historic Scotland to bring preservation professionals together to contribute to the body of knowledge of techniques, standards, policies and materials vital to the preservation industry. The Quinque Fellows Program has brought numerous Scots to the United States working. Additionally, Americans have been hosted by conservation and preservation groups in the United Kingdom.

- Helen and the Quinque Foundation have been instrumental in supporting properties of the National Trust for Scotland, including endowing Robert Smail's Printing Works in Innerleithen and supporting the campaign for Newhailes.

- In 1943 Helen married John C. A. Watkins and they had four children. During the 1950's, Helen raised her children and managed a large working farm of more than 1,000 acres in Exeter, Rhode Island, part of her family's holdings in that state.

- In the early 1960's, Helen married Patrick B. Buchanan of Stirling, Scotland. Helen's passion for gardening and horticulture were further developed over the next 40 years of living in Scotland helping to oversee a 5,000 acre working farm and manor house, Touch House and Farm.

- An accomplished sailor from a very young age, Helen was an active competitor in races of the Herreshoff 12½ footer fleet in Bristol, Rhode Island. This passion for sailing developed her interest in oceanography with ongoing philanthropic support of Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Massachusetts and of The Metcalf Institute for Marine and Environmental Reporting at the Graduate School of Oceanography of The University of Rhode Island.

- Helen and her family are art patrons and collectors who were instrumental in founding and maintaining the Rhode Island School of Design in Providence. Helen today continues to support this institution with numerous gifts to its Museum and various capital campaigns, as well with donations of artwork from her collection. Additionally, the family has been involved in the Rhode Island Hospital, gifting the Metcalf Wing and to the recent capital campaign for the new Cancer Centre.