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The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

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(f) Rafael Medina  
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THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN  
BRONX • NEW YORK 10458  LU 4-8500

December 22, 1964

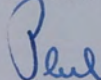
Dr. Wilson Popenoe  
Casa Popenoe  
Antigua  
Guatemala, C.A.

Dear Dr. Popenoe,

I am most upset on learning that you will be unable to do the article on Guatemalan fruits. The most important thing, however, is that we have some of your thinking and feeling about fabulous Guatemala and its endless treasure of plants. Feel free to write at any length on any Guatemalan subject, including reminiscences of your own many great moments in that country, the development of your garden and the investigations of the natural beauty and plant variety of the Republic. Deadline for the article is the 15th of January. Let me know by return air mail whether you can do it.

I look forward to seeing you in the fall.

Sincerely yours,



Phil Clark  
Public Relations

SOME INTERESTING INDIGENOUS FRUITS OF GUATEMALA

ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

Antigua Guatemala, a 11 January 1965

APARTADO 93

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS  
CENTRO AMERICA

Mr Phil Clark  
The New York Botanical Garden  
Bronx New York 10458

Dear Phil:

It has been awfully hard for me to get this paper done, due to having house guests all the time since you request came, but here it is. I am afraid it may be a day or two late, since you set what my Guatemalan secretary used to call, unwittingly, the death line, for the 15th of this month. Just stop the presses for a day or two and everything will work out allright.

I have written this in a very popular vein, because I assumed you want it in connection with your proposed excursion to Guatemala. It frightens me a bit to offer such a superficial article to a publication from the N Y Botanical Garden, but I have worked on the basis that this is the sort of thing you want. Please fell free to make any changes in it which advisable; Or dont use it at all. I am a pachyderm.

Faithfully yours,

Wilson Popenoe

Sorry I could not get into the City to buy a new typewriter ribbon before I did this job.



THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN  
BRONX PARK • BRONX 58 • NEW YORK

April 12, 1965

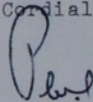
Dr. Wilson Popenoe  
Casa Popenoe  
Antigua, Guatemala, C.A.

Dear Wilson,

I just wanted to tell you how much we appreciated your coming and enjoyed your talk. We enclose the check for your very modest expenses.

Please remember to contact the young Honduran about accompanying our Tour.

Cordially yours,



Phil Clark  
Assistant to the  
Director (Public  
Relations)

## SOME INTERESTING INDIGENOUS FRUITS OF GUATEMALA

Wilson Popeoe

High up in the mountains of central Guatemala (8000 to 9000 feet), overlooking the valley of Tecpan, there grows a wild avocado which in all probability has been Guatemala's greatest contribution to horticulture. For this wild avocado, whose fruit is not as large as a tennis ball, has given through centuries of cultivation and selection of the best seedlings, varieties which sometimes weigh more than two pounds, which have relatively small seeds, and are of excellent quality.

Taken to other parts of the world and propagated by grafting, Guatemalan avocados ~~avocados~~ have become of great commercial value, especially when hybridized naturally with avocados of the other two horticultural races, the Mexican and the so-called West Indian. The Mexican race, which withstands more cold than any other, and has by some botanists been considered a distinct species (more commonly accepted as a geographical form of *Persea americana*, the botanical name for avocados in general) produces small, thin-skinned fruits of excellent quality. The Guatemalan race produces, in its present cultivated forms, larger fruits with thick, almost woody skins. It is slightly less cold-resistant than the Mexican. The West Indian race, wrongly so-called because it was not known in the Islands until the early Spanish colonists took it there, is a tree of the hot lowlands, producing large fruits with thick skins like the Guatemalan, but of leathery rather than almost woody texture.

The natural hybrids of these three races, most of which have developed in California and Florida, now constitute by far the

larger part of the world's commercial avocado production. This is largely due to the presence of Guatemalan "blood" in the hybrids.

In a very different part of the republic, climatologically, are to be seen two species of the family Sapotaceae. These are the sapodilla (Achras Sapota), commonly known in Spanish as chicozapote, and the sapote proper, Calocarpum mammosum. It is worth mentioning that the Aztec people, who are responsible for these names in their original form, tzicozapotl (gum zapote) in the first case, and Tzapotl in the second, had been working, before the Conquest, toward a rather practical classification of fruits and other plants. Soft sweet fruits were called tzapotl, with a prefix (such as tzico) to specify just what kind of a tzapotl they were talking about, and xecotl, the more acid fruits.

The sapodilla, or "gum zapote", is best known to North Americans in general because it was (formerly, at least) the main source of that solace of stenographers, chewing gum. Throughout the northern part of Guatemalan (El Petén) it is a common tree, <sup>saught</sup> south out by the chicle gatherers, who incidentally discovered and brought to the light of archeologists many important Mayan ruins.

But the round or oval, brown fruit, with sweet soft flesh, is really the important product of this tree. It was carried to India in the early days, and has become important there as well as in many other parts of the tropical world. It has long been grown on the the Florida keys, where it has particular value because it resists hurricanes so well. It is a really delicious thing, if one likes very sweet fruits. One of the great British Horticulturists wrote of it in India many years ago, "a more luscious, cool, and agreeable fruit is not to be met in this or perhaps any country in the world."



Many years ago, Cook and Collins of the United States Department of Agriculture, wrote that the sapote or zapote, Calocarpum, was the fruit which sustained the Spanish soldiers on the historic and almost fatal march of Cortes through the Peten in 1524. I believe it is more probable that it was the sapodilla or chicozapote, because <sup>of</sup> its great abundance in the Peten and the productiveness of the tree.

There is another "tzapotl" of interest, the matasano of the highlands. This is Casimiroa edulis, which belongs to the Citrus family, a fact which would not be guessed anybody who is not an experienced taxonomic botanist. It is a fruit two to three inches in diameter, so soft and with such a thin skin that it does not withstand much rough handling in transport or in the market. The flavor is thought by some to be rather mawkish. Its principal element is sweetness, so of course the Aztec classified it as a tzapotl, and to put it in its proper place it was cochiztzapotl (some of these Aztec names are a bit hard for a gringo to pronounce), which means "sleep-producing zapote". It was considered to be a soporific, and if any American race went into the medicinal value of plants and plant products, it certainly was the Aztec.

So as not to drop these Aztec plants too suddenly, though we are talking, of course, about plants native to Guatemala, we will mention the common jocote or Spanish plum of the British, known in the Nahuatl or Aztec language simply as xocotl (the x has the sound of the Spanish j or the English h). It is one of the commonest trees around Guatemala City, Antigua, and other places between sea level and about 6000 feet. To see a spreading jocote tree loaded with its plum-like fruits is a sight never to be forgotten. Many kinds of jocotes are recognized, due to the fact that vegetative propagation is practiced. This is so simple that limbs of jocote trees up to



four or five inches thick are planted as fence posts, and they grow into fine, productive trees. Jacotes are commonly an inch long, but sometimes up to a couple of inches; they may be red or yellow in color. All of them have tremendous "stones" or seeds, and very little flesh, which, however, is of pleasant subacid flavor something like that of the mango. Due to the facility with which this tree can be propagated vegetatively, it would <sup>be</sup> easy to develop varieties by selection of existing individuals which have more flesh and less seed.

In the highlands, at elevations between 5000 and 6000 feet, one often sees trellises covered with the handsome foliage of a broad-leaved vine. This is the granadilla, botanically Passiflora ligularis. One must be careful, if viewing it from a distance, not to confuse the vine with that of Sesquium edule (guisquil in Guatemala, chayote in the southern United States). This particular passion-fruit, which is often seen in the markets, is the size of a large egg, orange or brownish in color, with a thin brittle shell which enclosed translucent whitish pulp and what seems like a tremendous number of thin black seeds, guaranteed not to cause appendicitis when swallowed. This simply must be true because most people swallow them.

In the highlands, mainly between 5000 and 6000 feet, one also sees another sapote. This time the green sapote, from the name raxtul in one of the indigenous languages. It is the Calocarpum viride of the taxonomists, a large handsome tree with dark green foliage and oval, usually pointed, brownish green fruits, containing sweet flesh and a large seed, sometimes two of them. It is really superior in flavor to the common sapote, Calocarpum mammosum. Perhaps more like the sapodilla. Because it seems like a cross between these two, so far as flavor is concerned, it is known locally in

So far we have stuck religiously to fruits which are unquestionably native to Guatemala, which is not saying, of course, that they are not cultivated in other regions; But because of their interest it seems worth while to mention a few which may or may not be indigenous here. One of these is the capulín or cereza (cherry) which is so abundant in the highlands. This is generally considered to be a southern form of the northern choke cherry, Prunus serotina, which occurs as far south as Mexico and perhaps into Guatemala, unless it was brought here from Mexico in early days. This is a rather small cherry - there are much larger and finer ones in Ecuador - but of good though mild flavor. It is often common in the marketplaces.

The manzanilla, another rosaceous fruit, botanically somewhat hard to name with confidence though it is a species of Crataegus, the genus which gives us those taxonomically terrifying hawthorns of the United States. Around Christmas time houses are decorated with garlands of manzanillas - fruits an inch in diameter and orange yellow in color, very pretty - and much use is made of them for jellies, also for dessert when stewed in syrup.

The Annonas deserve a word, though the best ones are not native to Guatemala, with the possible exception of Annona squamosa. The Cherimoya, here called anona, is a delicious dessert fruit, when chilled just about as good as pineapple ice cream. And the guanábana (Annona muricata), probably from the West Indies, makes an absolutely delicious ice cream.

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN  
BRONX • NEW YORK 10458  LU 4-8500

June 18, 1965

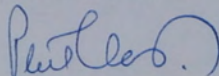
Dr. Wilson Popenoe  
Casa Popenoe  
Antigua, Guatemala, C.A.

Dear Dr. Popenoe,

Could you let me know definitely whether Antonio Molina, of the Tropical Agriculture School, will be able to be with the Tour as one of the horticultural guides? I certainly hope so and must know soon.

We have about fifty people signed up with deposits paid and should have at least fifteen more by departure date, October 22nd.

Sincerely yours



Phil Clark



THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN  
BRONX PARK • BRONX 58 • NEW YORK

June 18, 1965

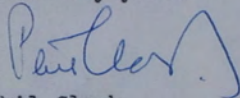
Dr. Wilson Popenoe  
Casa Popenoe  
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We have about fifty people signed up with deposits paid and should have at least fifteen more by departure date, October 22nd.

Sincerely yours



Phil Clark

Antigua, Guatemala, 29 June 1965

Mr Phil Clark,  
New York Botanical Garden  
Bronx, N.Y.

Dear Phil:

Replying to your letter of 18 June, I have had to wait until I could get in touch with the folks at Escuela Agrícola Panamericana before confirming that Antonio Molina will be available. As I believe I told you, Doctor Muller was whole-heartedly in favor of having Antonio take part in the Guatemalan tour, but did not know just what would have to be his teaching schedule, but I am now advised that everything is lined up and Antonio can be with us. There is only one proviso Doctor Muller would like to see the school get a little well-deserved publicity out of Antonio's cooperation. I am sure you will agree in this. Enclosed is a note which is along the lines Doctor Muller would like to see Antonio's part covered in your own publicity regarding the tour. This is just to guide you, just to give you the idea.

In your letter of the 18th you say that 50 people are already signed up and you may have fifteen more. Naturally, I hope you get even 75. I am wondering just how I can be of most help down at this end. You have mentioned the possibility of using our house as "the Club" while the groups are in Antigua - and it is a sure thing that you will have to divide the tour into two groups if you have more than 50. I believe your last idea was that I should stay here and try to help each group put in its time enjoyably and profitably while in this valley. I think that it probably the right thing to do. But if you run two tours of the highlands, one clockwise and other counter-clockwise so to speak, Antonio Molina will not be able to accompany both. If it seems desirable, I am willing to go with one of the groups, and I think I know enough about the interesting plants which will be seen to answer most questions. Antonio knows more of them - the wild ones. Even so, I believe I could get by. I wish you could get Julian Steyermark to come on the tour.

If I should go on the tour, instead of staying here in Antigua, I wonder if Marjorie Stillman would not like to make her home headquarters for the two groups while in this valley. Even if I stay here, it occurs to me that she might like to do this. You can keep this in mind. I realize that I am too prone to offering advice, and I had best leave the show up to you folks; but I am a trifle concerned lest we depend too much of the travel agencies. A tour of 50 to 75 people is a big job for Guatemala. I talked with Mrs Coleman about this, because she has been here and appreciates the problems - as I am sure you do also. Incidentally here in the valley of Antigua there are three fine gardens which can be seen - Carmona, Retana and Pastores.

Sincerely yours,



THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN  
BRONX • NEW YORK 10458  LU 4-8500

July 2, 1965

Dr. Wilson Popenoe  
Casa Popenoe  
Antigua, Guatemala, C.A.

Dear Dr. Popenoe,

How good to hear that Antonio Molina will be able to accompany the Tour! I think with him added to Drs. Steere and Dansereau and myself (and Louis Politi, if we reach 80), that we will have just the right combination to keep both our groups well informed and their curiosity fully satisfied.

I want to save you for Antigua. It will be a special privilege for our people to learn from you and be shown around by you in your special "ambiente"--and I want all our people, in both groups, to have the pleasure.

If acceptable to you, my program is for you to meet us on our first or second evening in Guatemala City--that would be Friday or Saturday, October 22 or 23, then accompany the group which leaves for Antigua the Monday morning of October 25. During their four days in and near Antigua, you would accompany them on scheduled visits to ruins, homes and gardens and handicraft shops and on side trips to the Finca Zapote and the Village of San Antonio Aguas Calientes and to the Fincas La Providencia and San Martir. Then on October 29, you would take leave of the first group, which would go on to Atitlan.

Our second group would arrive in Antigua the evening of Saturday, October 30, after having completed its tour of Atitlan, Chichicastenango, Quetzaltenango and come by the Pacific Road. During the next four days this group would follow much the same schedule as the earlier group.

Apart from the regularly scheduled visits to your house and the other private homes in Antigua, I don't think our tourists will have time during their four days to repeat visits. The center for the group during their Antigua stay will, I think, tend to be the hotel. Naturally, we wish to avoid any preferential treatment or invitation-only events for special members of the Tour, officers of the Garden or its organizations.

We hope that you will join us for a dinner being given by the Garden for all Tour members at the El Patio Restaurant, on the



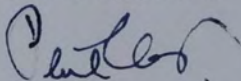
last night of the Tour, Friday, November 5, when everyone is back from Tikal. We will also have the owners of the gardens we have visited, who wish to attend, present for this final festive affair.

From many years experience dealing with travel agencies in garden and wild plant tours (I have conducted seven of Mexico and three of Guatemala), I have learned to respect their specialized knowledge much as I respect that of a physician. However, I have found that business considerations often cause travel agents to push tours along at too fast a pace (so a huge number of sights and sensations may be advertised in advance) and to emphasize what is dramatic at the expense of what is more truly typical. We have carefully avoided these pitfalls on this Tour, without making the other error of amateurism. On such matters as hotels, routes, guides and transportation, the travel agents know best.

I wish I had seen the Carmona, Retana and Pastores gardens when I was last in Antigua. Are these in the community or outside it? How would they compare to the Hodgdon, Webster or Willauer gardens in the city? There is a point reached where a tour has enough gardens, but not if an entirely new quality--something different from the others--is represented. If these gardens are similar, perhaps we might visit the best of the three. In recommending any new garden, remember that for everthing added, something must be subtracted.

Of course, we shall be proud to include information in our publicity about Antonio Molina and his connections with the Escuela Agricola Panamericana. I wish we could have included this in earlier publicity, as well.

Sincerely yours,



Phil Clark  
Tour Director

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN  
BRONX • NEW YORK 10458  LU 4-8500

July 19, 1965

Dr. Wilson Popenoe  
Casa Popenoe  
Antigua, Guatemala, C.A.

Dear Dr. Popenoe,

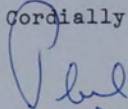
Your suggestion that we visit the Carmona estate is excellent. This is exactly the kind of place I wanted to include. Perhaps we will reduce the number of restored places in Antigua since these will be rather repetitive. I think that the history of the place--the connection with General Barrillas--is an added attraction.

It has been my experience that a tour group, including as it does a variety of people, enjoys all types of places. Some will prefer one kind and some another. That's why I try to arrive at a potpourri which is at the same time representative of the many dimensions of a country's life.

Of course, all the arrangements for Antonio Molina, as you list them in your letter of July 16th, are completely acceptable. We shall want to give him a small honorarium as well.

Hugh Craggs' place, "La Providencia," is on our list of places to be visited. To me, it and Casa Popenoe are the high points of the Tour.

Cordially yours,



Phil Clark  
Tour Director

## ESCUELA AGRICOLA PANAMERICANA

APARTADO 93

Antigua Guatemala, 16 July 1965

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS  
CENTRO AMERICA

Mr Phil Clark,  
New York Botanical Garden  
Bronx, New York 10458.

Dear Phil:

Replying to your letter of 2 July, I just wish to mention that I am going over to Honduras tomorrow and will complete arrangements for Antonio Molina to join the Tour here. Doctor Muller has mentioned, in a recent letter, that all the Escuela Agrícola Panamericana will ask is that you pay Molina's transportation from and to Tegucigalpa and his expenses while on the Tour. I am sure this will be agreeable to you. I do not believe you could get anyone, except Julian Steyermark, who is more familiar with the flora of Guatemala.

As for the other matters covered in your letter - the program in general - I want you to know that I will gladly fit in with your plans in every respect. As for gardens in the vicinity of Antigua, there is this to be taken into consideration: The Hodson, Stillman, and Willauer-Webster houses are modernised old Antigua homes with lovely patios and not too many plants. The estates I have mentioned are old fincas with larger gardens and more plants, and especially Carmona. I would think Carmona should be included as a beautiful example of old Guatemala, and if you make arrangements in advance I am sure the owners would be glad to receive your people. They would see a fine old Guatemalan home - about 1875, built by an ex-president General Barillas -, and it is only 15 minutes from town by car. A beautiful place on the slopes of the Volcan de Agua. I am interested in having your people see something of the old Guatemala, but I suspect that most of your people will be happier in the newer places. Probably I am wrong in this; you will know best.

I expect to be back here in about three weeks. Write me if there is anything you want me to do before you come, but remember that I do now wish in any way to influence your program. That is not my job. I do hope you will include a visit to Hugh Cragg's lovely place though the last part of the road there is not too good and tourists have a tremendous aversion to some of our roads. Hugh has told me he will be will be glad to cooperate in every way.

Sincerely yours,

Wilson Popenoe



Antigua, Guatemala, 10 August 1965

Mr Phil Clark  
New York Botanical Garden,  
Bronx, New York.

Dear Phil:

Just a note to say that I have returned from two weeks in Honduras and El Salvador. Antonio Molina is lined up to take part in the tour, in every way you wish. Later we should tell him when and where to show up over here in Guatemala.

The family which owns Carmona only comes over from Guatemala City on Sundays. One of these days, well in advance, I will talk with Mrs Zelaya and ask her permission for your people to visit their garden. I am sure she will be happy to cooperate, and I am sure Carmona is about the best old Guatemalan garden for your people. Of course I realize that they are going to be happy in the modernised homes in Antigua, such as those of Mrs Stillman, Mrs Wilhauer and others, but this will be easy and can be arranged as desired.

Hugh Casses' place, I agree, will be one of the high spots of the tour. And I wish to reiterate that Casa Espence will be completely at your orders. The garden is not too interesting, but some of your guests may like to sit in the patio and wander about the place as a chance from hard travel. You have only to keep me lined up, from time to time, as to how I can help.

Cordially yours,

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN  
BRONX PARK • BRONX 58 • NEW YORK

August 16, 1965

Dr. Wilson Popenoe  
Antigua  
Guatemala

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

I would appreciate your writing just as soon as the Carmona arrangements are final. Our visit to the garden probably would best be made on October 28 and November 3, if there are two groups.

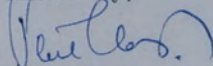
You will be interested to know that we now have about 50 people and expect at least a few and possibly many more before the Tour leaves. Many people are waiting until the last minute to make up their minds and we are now making a new effort to solicit tourists.

Probably the best time for Antonio Molina to meet us would be Saturday morning in Guatemala City — on Oct. 23. We will make arrangements for him to stay at the Guatemala Biltmore and then accompany the group throughout the Tour.

I know that many people will want to take advantage of your open invitation to the Casa Popenoe.

Many thanks for your help on these and so many other matters.

Sincerely,



Phil Clark

PC:md

Antigua, Guatemala, 31 August 1965

Mr Phil Clark  
The New York Botanical Garden,  
Bronx 58, New York.

Dear Phil:

Replying to your letter of the 16th, I have today been able to make arrangements for the tour to visit Finca Carmona, which is ~~which is~~ about a fifteen minutes drive from Antigua. The garden is large and formerly was very fine. It has not been kept up too well in recent years but is full of interesting plants and the place in general is one of the best examples of an old-time Guatemalan estate.

In case you should wish to visit another fine finca, I have made arrangements with Retana, also a beautiful spot, right here in the valley. There is an attractive garden with a pond, and the house is another lovely one. There is no need, of course, to put Retana on the itinerary, if you have enough places without it.

Marjorie Stillman is here, and we talked today about houses in Antigua which you may want to include in the tour. We think there are three that are especially good: these are Mrs Stillman's, Doctor Chamberlain's, and the Arrott house. The Arrotts are not here right now and I do not have their address in Washington, but I could get it. We would have to get permission from them direct before their house could be included. There is a fourth house you may want to include, the Van Zannefeld's, and I am quite sure there would be no difficulty in this case, because the family is here and Mrs Van Z likes to take part in tours or fiestas.

I don't know whether or not you have heard that the Posada Belen may not be available. I dropped in there this morning and was told that they will close permanently on 30 September. The place has been sold to the Bethlehemite nuns. Mrs Hayter told me the other day she is trying to have the hotel kept open until the end of the year but it seems doubtful - according to the papers - that this will be done.

No doubt most of your people will want to go to Mildred Palmer's house also, as she has a shop and almost everybody buys there. Her house is a restoration, considerably modernized, very pretty with a very lovely patio. You probably saw it when you were here.

Antonio Molina does not need to stop as such an expensive place as the Guatemala Biltmore. He would be just as happy at the less expensive Palace, but maybe you would like to keep him close at hand. You mention October 23 as the day for him to arrive. I think you better confirm this as the time draws near.

Cordially yours,



THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN  
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September 13, 1965

Dr. Wilson Popenoe  
Casa Popenoe  
Antigua, Guatemala, C.A.

Dear Dr. Popenoe,

How good of you to have made all the arrangements for the Finca Carmona trip! This is a really valuable addition to the itinerary. I'm afraid, however, there will not be time to visit Retana.

The suggestions which you and Mrs. Stillman have worked out for the Antigua town gardens sound very good; the Stillmans', Dr. Chamberlain's and the Arrotts'. Could you please send me the addresses of all these people so I may formally write them for permission to visit and, if it's not too much trouble for you, could you personally ask those presently staying in Antigua?

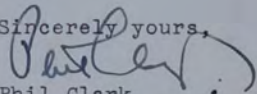
I would also much appreciate brief outlines about the gardens and families who own them.

Yes, I do think it will be inevitable that the Palmer place be included. However, I assume the agency will make this arrangement as it usually does.

Too bad about the Posada Belen. It does seem appropriate, though, that it should go to Bethlehemite Sisters. I think we will have room enough at the Antigua since our Tour will be broken into two groups--one under Dr. Steere's leadership with Dr. Dansereau assisting and the other under my leadership with Mr. Antonio Molina assisting. Mr. Molina will share a room with me during the Tour so he will be staying at the regular Tour hotels.

Either October 22nd or 23rd will be appropriate dates for Mr. Molina to meet the Tour, whichever is more convenient for him. Our own arrival has been set some hours ahead due to Pan American's fall schedule and we will arrive some time early on October 22nd. We won't really need Mr. Molina until the 24th, since it will be on the road where he will be most valuable but I think it will be nice for him and for our people to get acquainted.

I greatly appreciate all you are doing for the Tour, and will do when we get down there. My greetings to Mrs. Stillman.

Sincerely yours,  
  
Phil Clark  
Tour Director

CHARLES B. HARDING, *President* • FREDERICK S. MOSELEY, JR., *Vice President* • MRS. HERMANN G. PLACE,  
WILLIAM C. STEERE, *Director* • J. H. THORNE, *Secretary*

Antigua, 25 Sept 1965

Mr Phil Clark  
New York Botanical Garden  
Bronx, New York

Dear Phil:

This is in reply to yours of the 13th instant. I am enclosing a memo regarding Carmona, which so far as old Guatemala is concerned, is the most interesting place you will see here. The garden is so old that many of the plants are senile and not in condition to be photographed, perhaps, but this makes them all the more interesting. You will not, I believe, see another garden like it in Guatemala.

I will make no further mention of Retana, but if the people who have several days in Antigua, and find they do not have enough to see, wish to go there, it will be easy. Just a mile from the center of the town, in the heart of the valley.

As to the houses and gardens you will see in town, all of these are much more houses than gardens, most of them the same sort of thing you would see in Santa Barbara. Some very nice modernized colonial houses (of which one of the prettiest, with more room around it, is the Stillman) with plantings around the houses on a modern, very pretty basis. Not very extensive, as I have said. It is not clear just how many of these you can, and will want, to visit. I saw Doctor Chamberlain a week ago. He has gone to the States for medical treatment; expects to be back here November second but of course cannot be sure. When not here personally his house will not be open to your group. I can not get the address of the Arrotts because the lady who has charge is in the States, but I think she will be back here in time, and if so, I imagine she will feel free to show your group the house, which is a very pretty restoration, less modernised than most. I do not think there will be any problem about seeing Mrs Palmer's and at least a couple of others. But I would not think it wise to announce them in advance.

I will see that Antonio Molina is here on time. You mention having him stay with you at the various hotels. He does not speak English fluently and his very great value will be in determining plants which are shown to him. He is pretty timid about conversing, and his vocabulary is somewhat limited to botany. But there is noone else in Central American who will be able to name as many of the native plants as he can.

Do you want me to meet your party on arrival at the airport? At Mrs Stillman's house a couple of weeks ago, the local manager of Pan Am, J.H. Wilson Jr., whom I have known for many years, said that if you wished, he thought he could have a marimba at the airport to welcome you, and serve a couple of coffees to all interested. You might let myself or Mrs Hayter know about this. Maybe the Biltmore will want to do the honors.

Sincerely,



CARMONA, one of the most beautiful farmsteads of Guatemala of the past century, was the property of General Manuel Lisando Barillas, who assumed the Presidency of Guatemala upon the death of Justo Rufino Barrios in 1885. Later the property passed into the hands of don Luis Pedro Aguirre, a statesman who was at one time Minister of Foreign Affairs, at another Minister at the Court of St. James. It now belongs to the heirs of Don Luis Pedro.

The property is situated upon the slopes of the Volcan de Agua, two miles from the city of Antigua, at an elevation of 5500 feet (and higher). The house is a splendid example of the grand rural homes of the old days; the extensive garden contains many native as well as exotic shrubs and trees.



FIELD MUSEUM  
OF NATURAL HISTORY

February 6, 1967

Dr. Wilson Popenoe  
c/o Dr. Hugh Popenoe  
University of Florida  
Gainesville, Florida

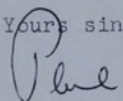
Dear Dr. Popenoe,

I am enclosing a copy of the itinerary which we have set up for the Field Museum of Natural History Guatemala Tour, October 27 through November 12, 1967. You will not be surprised, I am sure, to find mention of yourself in this itinerary. Like the New York Botanical Tour, the Field Museum group will be broken into two units. This will mean that we will be asking for two presentations.

We are hoping that you will be able to show us around Antigua and to give us a talk on the Spanish American Garden as you so generously did for the New York Botanical Garden in 1965.

Could you let me know at the earliest possible moment whether you will be in Guatemala on this date and whether you will be willing to help us out?

Yours sincerely,

  
Phil Clark  
Public Relations Counsel

PC/BB

PS - "Witely" Hayter is acting as our Special Representative in Guatemala, as before.  
BB

the itinerary

THE TOUR'S FULL MEASURE

by Phil Clark

You find the unexpected in Guatemala . . . and it is usually beautiful.

It is a land where green and blue parrots, not drab crows, raid cornfields, where to be in fashion, all women of a village wear identical clothes, where men in some villages wear skirts, where dahlias and daisies grow on trees and marigolds and orchids are wild, where some rocks float, where winter is called summer and where tropical jungle and pine forests are within minutes of each other.

In Guatemala, you discover cobbled Spanish colonial towns still pulsing with life and sections of the capital city where, midst the first bustlings of a new-born industrial era, ornate contemporary baroque stands side by side with sleek-lined modern buildings. You visit great tropical plantations and meet their owners, still living the cultured lives of a more calm era, and in the Indian highlands, view the crazyquilt of tiny cornfields seemingly pasted to the mountainsides. You see the pyramids and temples of ancient Tikal soaring above the rainforest's palm and mahogany and, in the chill mountains, hear the living chant of Mayan prayers in a Catholic church where paganism still openly contends with Christianity. And you bargain for handicrafts in Indian markets where Cakchiquel or Tzutuñil are spoken more often than Spanish.

This kaleidoscope of contrasts is Guatemala and forms the bright pattern of Field Museum's carefully designed tour--designed not merely to give exotic

itinerary--2

relief from the routine of everyday life, but through expert interpretation by Field Museum specialists to reach a deeper dimension. It also brings you into a personal dimension when as a guest you go behind garden walls, enter private homes and attend parties being given by some of the country's leading citizens.

The tour is well timed, too, for it begins just after the rainy season ends, when days are sunny but the countryside is still flowery and green. In a country with high standards in accommodations, your tour takes you to the finest hotels and restaurants, all ready to do something special for Field Museum. And travel is easy, in limousines driven by English speaking chauffeur-guides.

Attendance is limited to keep tourists from getting in each other's way, with the total group not to exceed 60 persons. Once you leave Guatemala City, your group will total only 30, for the tour will have been broken into two separately-routed units, with one beginning at one end of the round-the-country circuit and the other, at the other end. Each group will be accompanied by Field Museum staff. E. Leland Webber, Director of Field Museum, will accompany one group, and Phil Clark, the other. Staff anthropologists and botanists will be with the tour throughout.

But let's examine the itinerary day by day, taking the full measure of its 17 days.

Friday, October 27

You leave from O'Hare Airport, taking Delta Airlines to New Orleans and Pan American on to Guatemala City, with arrival in late afternoon. Despite the spring-like temperature, it won't take you long to know you are in the tropics; the huge orange flowers of the tulip trees and the massed magenta of bougainvillea



on garden walls will tell you. Your hotel, the just-completed Ritz Continental, is in the center of the capital city. You dine in the hotel's skyroom, which commands a sweeping view of the National Palace Square and the mountain-circled city. After dinner, you hear a talk on tropical fruits by Dr. Antonio Molina, field botanist for Field Museum, Professor of Botany at the Escuela Agrícola Panamericana of Honduras and one of the tour's botanists.

Saturday, October 28

This morning you visit the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology and, on the outskirts of town, the partially-excavated ruins of Kaminaljuyu, one of the great ceremonial centers of the highland Maya, the foundations of which date from before 500 B.C. After lunch, you call at the home of don Mariano Pacheco, dean of Guatemalan horticulturists, whose patio is a miniature botanical garden with famous collections of Guatemalan native plants, and tour the National Palace, a building in the grand style of hispanic houses of state enriched by numerous nationally-created works of art. You pause in the Spanish colonial splendor of the Church of Nuestra Señora de la Merced, then join a Guatemalan finquero (plantation owner) for cocktails at his townhouse. Dr. Donald Collier, Chief Curator of Anthropology, and his wife, Dr. Malcolm Collier, former assistant editor of "The American Anthropologist", our tour anthropologists, will discuss the modern and ancient Maya, at an evening gathering in our hotel.

Sunday, October 29

This morning you worship in Yurrita Church, a strange blend of gothic and hispanic styles, and meet José Yurrita, son of the finquero who designed and built the church as thanksgiving for the miraculous rescue of him and his family after being buried for three days in volcanic debris. During the afternoon, you visit four private homes and gardens, each in a completely different style from

itinerary--4

the others. The first--where you are served coffee--is a gem-like patio garden in the Spanish colonial mode, another belongs to the Republic's most daring modern architect, the third combines traditional Spanish house with contemporary informal landscaping and at the fourth you meet many of Guatemala City's leading citizens at a party in the setting of a palatial, traditional home surrounded by sweeping gardens.

Monday, October 30

You leave after breakfast for Antigua--the capital of Spanish colonial Central America. Founded in 1543, Antigua became one of the three great cities of the New World, only to be destroyed by earthquakes in 1773. After lunch at Hotel Antigua, you explore this Spanish American city which time forgot--and which the erosion of wind and rain has made gentle and dream-like. Here are the ruins of some of the 16th Century's most monumental New World churches--Nuestra Señora de la Merced, San Francisco, El Recoleccion, Las Capuchinas--and the graciously columned Palacio de los Capitanes Generales and one of the first universities in the Americas, San Carlos, where a stunning collection of Spanish colonial sculpture and painting is displayed. After dinner you hear a talk by Dr. Wilson Popenoe, noted authority on tropical horticulture, on the Spanish colonial garden.

Tuesday, October 31

You take an excursion, with picnic lunch, into the tropical lowlands, to visit the coffee finca of Hugh Craggs, a progressive agriculturist who will tell you how he has achieved the highest coffee yield in Central America and demonstrate the cleaning and drying of coffee. His handsomely landscaped estate is also well known to orchidists as the place where many orchid hybrids have originated--for this and other plant breeding are hobbies of don Hugh. You stop to inspect the landscaped waterfall of the Grutas de San Pedro Martir on the return trip to Antigua.

Wednesday, November 1

During the morning, you view an All Saints Day procession at a nearby Indian village and thrill to its Indian yet medieval spirit. For another colorful glimpse of Indian life, you tour the large Antigua market and visit some of the textile looming shops. During the afternoon you visit several small patio gardens, showing different degrees of modernization of the old Spanish houses, including the completely authentic Casa Popenoe.

Thursday, November 2

You take an excursion to the great plantation-garden El Zapote, almost on the rim of the smoking volcano, Fuego. The lady of this estate, Mrs. Carmen Pettersen, one of Guatemala's most enthusiastic gardeners, will show her gardens with their artificial lakes of waterlilies and give a talk on her exciting life in Guatemala. The finca raises principally quinine and cardamon.

Friday, November 3

Today you enter the real Indian Guatemala, as you reach the highlands. You pass through a chain of Indian villages and stop at the colorful market of Patzún and at the Mayan ruins of Iximché, where temples and pyramids, now silently framing Volcán Fuego, were busy Indian centers when the Spaniards came. Finally you reach magnificent Lake Atitlán, a volcano-circled oval of brilliant azure, its bright blue the result of its great depth and purity. After settling in your cottage at the garden hotel, Casa Contenta, you visit the nearby market town of Sololá, where the men wear gray woolen coats embroidered with stylized black bats and plaid skirts over blue, pink and white striped pajama-like trousers. The women wear blue, white and red headpieces, wide sashes and blue skirts. Tonight the tour goes to a dance, with a marimba band.



itinerary--6

Saturday, November 4

A launch takes you across Lake Atitlán to Santiago Atitlán, a village of Tzutuhil-speaking Indians. The women wear bright red, tightly-wrapped skirts, white huipiles and "halo" headdresses made by winding red ribbon around their heads; men wear white shirts, red sashes and short, white trousers embroidered with butterflies. During the afternoon, swimming and a botany hike are scheduled.

Sunday, November 5

Today is market day at Chichicastenango, 17 corkscrew miles up the mountains through heavy pine forest to the north. A minute after you reach this mountain-top town, you know that here is one of the last strongholds of the Indian in the Americas--the very street mood suggests another, different culture. That culture centers around gleaming white Santo Tomás Church, at one side of the market. Clouds of black "pom" smoke rise heavenward from the stairs, up which worshippers climb a step at a time. They chant prayers in Maya and swing censers of copal and pine resin, as did their ancestors on the steps of ancient temples. Inside, the church is alight with gleaming candles to which squatting Indians chant while sprinkling flower petals on the floor. The men wear black shorts and vests embroidered in magenta red. You return to the Spanish colonial charm of your hotel, the Mayan Inn, for dinner.

Monday, November 6

A hike up the mountain Pasqual Abaj through first cornfields, then pine-oak forest brings you to the black stone idol of the still-worshipped god, Turkaj. Freshly cut flowers and perhaps bloody duck legs lie before him and smoke and incense still rise before three Mayan crosses. On the way back to Chichicastenango, you stop at the mask-maker, to examine handcarved wooden masks of animals and human faces and to watch a Conquest dance. At tea in late afternoon, Guide Oscar Martinez gives a talk on the Indians of Chichicastenango.

itinerary--7

Tuesday, November 7

You start early for Quezaltenango, 55 miles to the north, with a stop at the market town of Totonicapán, famous for its colorful woolen blankets. Amazing examples of terracing make patchwork of the steep mountainsides on which corn and wheat are grown and black sheep are tended by shepherds wearing a sort of Indian kilt in brown and black checks. In Quezaltenango, you visit an hacienda-style home with an impressive library and an unusual column-form Guatemalan holly tree.

Wednesday, November 8

The trip back to Guatemala City is via the Pacific road, which passes through lowland jungles. Growing at roadside are purple sobralia orchids, orchid cacti, tree ferns, Spanish cedar, balsa and teak trees and fields of pineapple, sugarcane and plantations of cacao, banana and coffee. Santa Maria volcano is framed by palms. You stop for a conducted tour of a tropical agriculture station where chocolate, lemon grass, annatto dye, rubber, black pepper and vanilla orchids are grown.

Thursday, November 9

You take the early morning plane across rainforests to Tikal, where pyramids and temples tower over the jungle and where artifacts dating to earlier than 500 B.C. have been found. You lunch, dine and spend the night in simple but clean Jungle Lodge. An unforgettable moment is the sight of the Temple of the Jaguar in its setting of chicle and palm, in the moonlight. A talk on the history of the restoration will be given by Dr. Collier.

Friday, November 10

After further touring of the ruins, you lunch at Jungle Lodge, then fly back to Guatemala City.

itinerary--8

Saturday, November 11

During the morning, you tour the Guatemala City market. Afternoon, at leisure. This evening, both groups reunite for a dinner, farewell party and program at El Patio restaurant.

Sunday, November 12

You return to Chicago.

---

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YOUR RESERVATION TODAY. THE  
ALL-INCLUSIVE PRICE IS ONLY  
\$1,290, OF WHICH \$400 IS A TAX  
DEDUCTIBLE DONATION TO  
FIELD MUSEUM.

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February 6, 1967

Dr. Wilson Poponoe  
c/o Dr. Hugh Poponoe  
University of Florida  
Gainesville, Florida

Dear Dr. Poponoe,

I am enclosing a copy of the itinerary which we have set up for the Field Museum of Natural History Guatemala Tour, October 27 through November 12, 1967. You will not be surprised, I am sure, to find mention of yourself in this itinerary. Like the New York Botanical Tour, the Field Museum group will be broken into two units. This will mean that we will be asking for two presentations.

We are hoping that you will be able to show us around Antigua and to give us a talk on the Spanish American Garden as you so generously did for the New York Botanical Garden in 1965.

Could you let me know at the earliest possible moment whether you will be in Guatemala on this date and whether you will be willing to help us out?

Yours sincerely,

Phil Clark  
Public Relations Counsel

PC/BB

P5 The original of this letter was mailed to your Gainesville address. "Witchy" Hayter is acting as our Travel Agent in Guatemala, as before.

# THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

BRONX • NEW YORK 10458



212/933-9400

5300 South Shore Drive  
Chicago, IL 60615  
January 3, 1974

Dear don Wilson,

I thank you for your letter and the trouble you have gone to in making inquiries.

We will not need many gardens in Antigua, since we have only the one day for both gardens and ruins. I intend to ask Jorge Castellanos to plan the following for January 16th AM-to Santa Clara, San Francisco, the Cathedral and the San Carlos Museum, with a visit to your garden perhaps early enough (10 AM?) to avoid the crush of others. Then if we could also see the Arrot garden-- I agree, a real gem, after yours. That should be enough with the afternoon given over to San Sebastian and a return to Antigua at 4 PM in time for people to fresh up before cocktails at don Ronald Hodgson's place (he has offered this). The following day we go to El Zapote and probably Dona Carmen will again give us lunch (if not we'll have a picnic). She wrote me last month that she thought the road would be passable.

At San Sebastian we will concentrate on just two things: his coffee and his garden around the house. We will not have time enough to do more. We'll arrive at about 2PM and would have to leave by 3:30.

It may be that Ed Shook has already contacted Sr Falla, but if you phone Sr. Falla it might give us a double check. Incidentally, Dr. Shook is giving cocktails on the 15th evening, soon after we arrive in Antigua. Could you have someone ask Mrs. Arrot about a visit there around 10:30 AM January 16th?

I expect to see Dr. Wms at Lake Atitlan and, according to plans we made before he left, he will meet the group.

Again, many thanks!

Phil Clark

Antigua, Guatemala 9 January 1974

Mr Phil Clark  
5300 South Shore Drive  
Chicago 60615

Dear Phil:

Yours of the 3<sup>rd</sup> has just come. Not knowing just what Guatemala sightseeing is expected to/regar<sup>ing</sup> arrangements for visiting gardens here in Antigua, I wrote them suggesting that they get in touch with me, because I thought I could help them by personally speaking to some of the people here. I have not heard from them so assume their job is only to drive you around.

Your letter of the 3<sup>rd</sup> more or less confirms this. I have written you that I have already spoken to several people; since my last to you I have talked with Margaret Arrott who regrets that her house is so torn with repair work that she cannot undertake to receive the group.

We shall be glad to have you come to our house as early as possible on the morning of the 16<sup>th</sup>. Ten will be alright, but since we open to the public at that hour there are usually quite a few people in here by 10.15 or 10.20. So a days 25 or 30 may be in between 10 and 11; some days as many as 100. We never know. If you have time I would suggest that you visit Don Williver's place; his little patio is a horticulture gem.

I did not know Ed Shook was making any plans for you here, but will talk with him anyway about seeing Arturo Falla's place since I happen

to know Arturo very well and it will do no harm to speak to him.

Ever yours,