



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
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About the Institute

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.

June 16th
Haver Hill

Dear Wilcox,

Rafa called me this morning from San Pedro Sula, and mentioned that I had received a letter from you. He'll bring it with him when he comes up to the States next week to meet me in Florida.

I'm up here in green, gorgeous Vermont with my family, escaping the 110-115° F. heat of San Pedro and the drought we're suffering; just relaxing and repairing my threadbare wardrobe by trips to Boston, etcetera.

I've been thinking of you quite often lately. I hope you are well and taking care of yourself. A couple of weeks ago, when I was in Miami, a bird-watching friend of ours, took us to see the Fairchild Gardens,

which I had never seen before and where I met a nephew of yours - John Popenoe. He's very personable and we had a nice chat with him and he helped Rafa enormously by locating some books of the citrus industry - books Rafa had really been hunting.

Seeing the Fairchild Gardens brought *Lancetilla* very much to mind. It was with great shock that I realized how precious *Lancetilla* is - that it cannot be duplicated anywhere - and that its scientific and economic value are so far superior to anything in the sub-tropics or tropics. Without comparing it to anything anywhere else I've always thought *Lancetilla* a rare place - as have many others. Which brings to mind something else; two months ago, at a social gathering, I

met a young P.H.D. from the research department of the company in La Lima with whom, after talking about varied and sundry subjects, got on to Lanetilla which he loves just as much as I, or perhaps more, being a trained agriculturist. We broached the subject of what will happen to it now that the Tola Railroad Company has passed it over to the 'ministerio de Recursos Naturales' for use as an experimental station again. The idea of a concerned group to support and sustain it: "Amigos de Lanetilla" was brought forth and it seems like a good idea to me; what do you think of it? Another thing, one of the caretakers at Lanetilla told me that the 'company' sold all the varied fruit crops Lanetilla produces, locally, and even as far away as California

to buyers who come down for the harvests of some of the more exotic fruits, etc.

What do you think about going to the "ministerio de R.N." after forming "Amigos de Lanetilla" to see that they set up a special fund for Lanetilla of all the monies received from Lanetilla crops; to be used to independantly sustain it, and whatever monies are lacking the "Amigos de Lanetilla" contribute? Another critical item will be getting a good man to run Lanetilla. With him, Lanetilla can be an active drawing card to Honduras, plus the great experimental station that it is.

I hope to be back in San Pedro by the first few days of July, so let me know how all this hits you.

My regards to your lovely

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lady, Dona Alice.

With great affection,
PATTI

P.S. Remember the last time I saw you at Zamorano, I had asked you whether I should buy the portfolio of Catherwood lithographs I'd been offered, and you said "yes"? Well, I got them. They are so lovely I look at them all the time and am going to frame all 24 of them for my house. What makes them even more interesting for me is a biography of Catherwood's life I was given. It gives more meaning to each of the scenes he did—great art under harsh circumstances.

P.

DAVILA & ASOCIADOS

November 10, 1972

San Pedro Sula, Honduras

Dear Wilson,

Many thanks for your kind note. Milton Lau was very nice indeed and called us up about your letter the night he came back from Guatemala. Even though we ourselves had a wonderful two day trip to Guatemala and Antigua I do wish I had been able to see you. Since you and your wife go over to Zamorano once or twice a year, just let us know when you'll be there and we'll be happy to drive up from San Pedro to see you all, OK?

Unfortunately, I haven't been to Gracias for quite a while but many people from there stop in to see me here and give me the latest news. The next time I do go to Gracias--which may be soon--I'll go over to meet the missionary couple who took the Richards' place and check on those grape vines for you.

About Lancetilla--how right you are that the UFC isn't encouraging visitors. I had to call the manager's office to get a pass to go and see it with Rafa next Saturday. I am really looking forward to it. The latest that I've heard is that the Ministerio de Recursos Naturales wants very much to have Lancetilla passed into its hands to continue it as the great experimental station that it is. Which reminds me--I'll have an agricultural "anti-proyecto" for Honduras' north coast that I would appreciate your looking over and have your observations and ideas on it when we meet again, if it is all right with you.

At the end of September I came back from an almost two month trip to

DAVILA & ASOCIADOS

the States. I was in Washington, D.C. a month, then two weeks in Vermont, then another week with Rafa in New Orleans. In Washington, my mother took me to one of her favorite places--called "YES". It's a natural organic foods place--shop, restaurant, and bookstore--owned by Oliver Popenoe who must be a relative of yours. Anyway it's fabulous and I loved it--so would you--that is--if you haven't already been there?

My regards to you both. Rafa sends his, too.

Fondly,

Pamela

COPIA DE TELEGRAMA DOBLE ENVIADO

Noviembre 29 de 1972

Sr. Rafael Dávila
Apartado Postal 560
San Pedro Sula, Cortés

Esperándolos Casa Popenoe Zamorano Sábado 9:00 A.M.

Wilson Popenoe

Dado por teléfono a Nubia a las 2:09 P.M. - AML.

cc: Dr. Wilson Popenoe

[Dorby, Vermont]
May 5, 1975

Dear Wilson,

Many thanks for your lovely letter. I am so glad you and Alice enjoyed Dona Lola's book and that it well done.

Rafa arrived here from Honduras a couple of days ago and brought your letter with him. I've been up here with my family since the end of March. Rafa, Mary, our little girl, and I met my family in Montreal, spent the weekend together in Quebec City then came down to Haven Hill. Rafa went back to

Honduras after ten days, to ²
work at his businesses so
he was there through all
the turmoil that is taking
place there.

How strange that we
were sitting with you in
Antigua the day the whole
scandal started - with Eli
Black's suicide.

Rafa's been filling me
in on how the political
situation seems to have
and who the new "ministers"
are.

We are in luck. A
friend of mine, Fernando
Montes, is the new "Ministro
de Recursos Naturales". He
is a very modern, progressive
man who since the 1969
war with El Salvador, has
headed the "Fundación
Hondureña Para el Desarrollo"

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in Tequigulpa, starting from
scratch, and has done a
wonderful job at it. It
gives credit to campesino
agricultors, to buy land,
plant crops, start irrigation,
etc.

For a year and a half
I served as the director of
the Fundación in San
Pedro Sula and that is
how I got to know Fernando
quite well.

As you know, I expect
Alice and you to stay at
our house when you come
to San Pedro to drive over
to Lansetilla. Our house
is # 14 8th calle and 3rd.
Ave., N.O.. That is eight
blocks north of the cathedral
on the "Calle de Comercio"
and a half block down on
Eighth Calle. It is very easy to find.

please send me a note
 as soon as you know
 when you are coming, I
 am really looking forward
 to it, and want to make an
 appointment for you to talk over
 as for us, we'll be
 back in San Pedro from
 around May 30th onwards.

Rafa and I are flying
 to London this Wednesday
 to see a little of England
 and Scotland, and then
 to Paris, then Germany
 where Rafa has a little
 business to conduct. This
 is the first time Rafa
 has been across the "great
 chert" as he calls it
 and is really looking forward
 to it.

Maple sugaring has just
 finished here in Vermont.
 The spring's been quite late
 so I saw a lot of snow.
 My regards to both of
 you.
 Faith

Linnell will report what you come.