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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.

MRS. ROBERT W. GASH
2627 PIEDMONT AVENUE
BERKELEY 4, CALIFORNIA

October 29, 1963

Dr. Wilson Popenoe
Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Dr. Popenoe -

After reading "The House in Antigua" we are very much interested in seeing it - and knowing your brother, Dr. Paul, makes us doubly interested. (We were among his first clients at The Institute of Family Relations in 1933, having been referred by our minister for pre-marital counselling.)

We plan to go with The Sierra Club on a trip to South America in February, to see Barro Colorado Island in Gatun Lake, Cuzco and Macchu Picchu in Peru, and then to visit the Chilean Lakes district, traveling by rubber rafts and camping at Nahuel Huapi National Park.

This part of the trip ends at Santiago on February 22nd; after that date we are on our own, to return home or to make other side trips.

Since my brother lives in Costa Rica, we had planned to stop over there for a visit on our way home, and then to visit Guatemala again. (We were there for a very brief visit in 1960 and thought it a delightful place - especially Antigua - but at that time I wasn't aware of your house.)

We plan to be in Guatemala on Saturday + Sunday, February 29th and March 1st and we hope we may have the pleasure of seeing your house then. The leader of the Sierra Club trip, Dr. Stewart Kimball, and his wife, will be with us. We do hope you will be there at that times too.

Yours sincerely,

Mary C. Gask

P.S.

Would you recommend The Aurora Inn as a place to stay? It looked charming when we were there.

2627 Piedmont Ave
Berkeley Calif. 94704
November 29, 1973

Dear Dr. Popenov.

Remembering our delightful visit with you in Antigua in 1964 (Heavens! nearly 10 years - why haven't we been back before this)

Now our daughter and her husband are planning a short visit there (en route to Costa Rica to see my brother) and we told them about the charming Posada Belém which you recommended to us. Can you tell us whether it is still operating and recommendable? If so, they will write for a reservation.

They also hope to visit "The House in Antigua" (which she has read twice, she says) but they'll be there only one full day - i.e., Sunday, December 16th. Would it be possible for them to see it then?

We would appreciate it so much if you could let us have your answer before December 10. They leave here on the 12th.

Their names are Mary Synne and John Francis Jr. He's a California winemaker, Vice President in charge of production of Francis Brothers Winery in the San Joaquin Valley, and a wonderful person - and if I don't sound prejudiced, I'd say our daughter is a wonderful person, too. I'm sure you'd enjoy meeting them.

Thank you for your help and for our

pleasant memories and pictures of you and
"The House" during our visit here. I've been
watching for more copies of the book to send
you, but haven't seen any for a long time. It
must be a "rare book" now.

Bob joins me in best wishes and kindest
regards

Sincerely

Mary Clark Gask
(Mrs Robert)

Additional message area

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Andriessen Papanoe
Calle de las Nublas #2
Antigua Guatemala
Guatemala, C.A.

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Mrs. Clark Gask
2627 Piedmont Ave
Berkeley, Ca
94704
USA

December 29, 1973

Dear Dr. Papano.

It was good to hear from you, and thank you for your most cordial invitation for our daughter & son-in-law to see your house. Unfortunately when their plane landed in Guatemala, they were informed that passengers are not allowed to land there except certain days of the week, and that was not one of the days! So they went on to Costa Rica to visit my brother, & returned to Guatemala on the way back.

Your letter must have been delayed along the way to us, and arrived here just after they'd left for Mexico. We tried in several ways to reach them en route, but failed, so they didn't know about your nice letter. They did stay at Hotel Antigua & that it was delightful. They hired a guide who took them shopping for Guatemalan weavings, and sightseeing, but I can't imagine why he didn't recommend seeing your house.

I am glad to hear that my brother, Arthur H. Clark of Glen Dale, is able to get copies of the book for you occasionally. I hardly ever see any more, & treasure my own copy.

We were sorry to hear Posada Belem is closed. We loved it - but also liked the looks of The Aurora. May try it some day.

We've been having an interesting time since Bob retired in 1969. We took a cruise, & on the way home, a man was lecturing on photography for the benefit of the passengers. Bob, being a pretty expert photographer, said to himself "Why couldn't I do that?" so we've made numerous voyages as a team doing this thing. Several trips to the Orient, one to Alaska, one around South America, and earlier this year to Australia on a Pt. O. ship and back home to wha later on the delightful "Meriposa". We have

no trips scheduled at the moment, but keep trying.
I'm afraid the "energy crisis" will cut down on cruises.
If no cruise develops, we hope to get to England & spend
some time there seeing it in more detail.

Thank you again for your letter. I do hope you
were not inconvenienced in anyway by the
failure of our children to get there on schedule.

With all good wishes for 1974 from us both -

Mary Gask

Additional message area

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AEROGRAMME • VIA AIR MAIL • PAR AVION

Dr. Wilson Roponen
Calle de la Notlaya #2
Antigua Guatemala
C.A.

postage 15c

USA





Bolanos, Zacatecas
Mexico
March 2, 1974

Dear Mr. Mrs. Popenoe -

We had such a good time in Guatemala, thanks to you that we still cannot believe our good fortune. You were marvelous to be so hospitable and so generous with your time. We both hope that some day you will come to California and that we can do something nice for you.

Meantime we will try to send you some wine by your daughter when she leaves Berkeley.

Our trip to Chichicastenango was delightful - only marred by the sad news of our driver's father's death that day - but wasn't he nice to arrange with a friend to drive us on from Chichicastenango to Guatemala. We found Chichicastenango very crowded, & not as picturesque as 10 years ago - (so glad we saw it then.) But we had a good time picture taking and shopping for weavings. I have a

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heavy load of material to take home to our

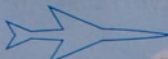
relatives. We couldn't get in at the Mayan Inn, but were just as glad when we had a charming little suite with a fireplace at Chiquila and delicious meals.

We are now staying with a friend in a sort of a little ghost town in the mountains northwest of Guadalupe. For the last 6 years he has been restoring a lovely old home that is more than 200 years old. Legend has it that it was the house of a Countess from Guanaquato. It was quite a wreck, but he has done a marvelous job here, and has had furniture made to suit the house. It's rare, like a castle, with stone floors + walls, + beautiful arches, and the crowning touch is a pair of peacocks strutting in the garden.

Having been so interested in your house, we were eager to see this house, too, to see what could be done. Our friend's name is Harald Wagner, and he visited The House in Antigua about this year ago with two of his friends. Talking about grapes to grow in Guatemala, he wondered if you knew of the book "The Wines of America" by Adams published by San Francisco Book Co.

Again our sincere thanks for giving us a wonderful time in Antigua. Greetings to Sally and love to you all from us both
Mary. (GWS)

Mrs R Gask
2627 Piedmont Ave
Berkeley Ca 94704
U.S.A.



Dr Wilson Popenoe
Calle de la Nobleza #2
Antigua Guatemala
Guatemala, C.A.

AÉROGRAMME • VIA AIRMAIL • PAR AVION

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Additional message area

2827 Piedmont Ave.
Berkeley, Ca 94704
April 1, 1974

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

Our daughter in law, who works at the University of Nevada Library, has received three offers of copies of The House in Antigua:

- 1) Harper 1937 - 1st ed. Very good condition, no dust jacket; faint stain on covers \$6.
- 2) No pub. or date listed. Original ed. Very good to fine condition, in dust jacket \$10.
- 3) Harper, 1937 Good condition. \$10.50

If ordering more than one copy, reduce each copy by \$1.

Of course we don't know whether these have already been sold but we wonder whether you would be interested in any of them.

We are still enthusiastically reporting on our recent visit to Antigua, and our slides are returning from processing, so we feel we are re-living the trip when we look at them. We surely had a wonderful time there, thanks to you and Mrs. Popenoe. It has been hard to come back to cold weather and lots of rain after that delightful balmy climate. I exhibit my flor de palo with much pride. No one has ever seen anything like it -- not even our expert horticulturist friend.

I wish I had listened more carefully when you and Arturo Falla were talking about curing a vanilla bean. I brought home the one he handed me when we were at his farm, but I don't think I'm treating it right.

One day recently I telephoned to your daughter Marian and we had a nice chat. We told her we'd like to send you some California Sherry when she goes to Guatemala. Now she says it will probably be September.

If we find that some of our pictures of you and your house are good enough to print, we will send you some.

Please give our best to Alice and Sally along with all good wishes to you, from both of us.

Sincerely,

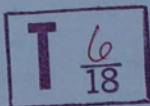
Mary Gask

Mr Robert Gask
2627 Piedmont Av
Berkeley Ca
94704 USA.



USA
postage 15c

Dr Wilson Popenoe
Calle de la Nobleza # 2
Antigua Guatemala
Guatemala, C.A.



AEROGARME • VIA AIR MAIL • PAR AVION

② Second fold



Zephyr Court, Lake Tahoe
Nevada

June 19, 1974

Dear Dr. Popenov-

The three copies of "The House" you wanted have come to me via our daughter-in-law, and I am mailing them in separate mailers by surface mail. You will see by an enclosed note in one of them that the dealer also has a fourth copy, slightly different. If you are interested in this one, perhaps you will want to write him direct.

The mailer envelopes cost 25¢ apiece and the postage 48¢ apiece, or a total of \$2.19.

We are enjoying some weeks at our little rustic cabin at Lake Tahoe, doing some reading and swimming in the chilly lake.

We have enjoyed viewing our slides of our visit with you and Alice, of "The House" and La Recoleccion, and our visit to Arturo Falla's finca, and have shown them to a number of people. It was a delightful time we had in Antigua! I hope it won't be another 10 years before we get there again.

We hope this finds you well. Please remember us to Alice and Sally, and also to Arturo Falla whom we enjoyed meeting. What a remarkable horticulturist he is. Bob adds that he was very happy to show pictures of you + Arturo and the avocados, apples, flowers, tomatoes, coffee, etc - to his San Francisco Business Men's Garden Club.

With best wishes,
Sincerely
Mary Gask