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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.

December 4, 1958

Dr. Wilson Popenoe  
Casa Popenoe  
Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

When I visited Guatemala Dr. Fairchild gave me a letter of introduction to you, but you were away. My dear friend, Dr. Opdyke, and Lee Adams had wanted me to know you. I do hope that I may have that opportunity soon. I still have a vivid picture of your beautiful home in my mind's eye.

I know you are interested in helping Latin America in a botanical way, and I hope I can enlist your help in publishing a book on "Exotic Flowers" in Tropical America. I am sending you a copy of our book, "Flowers of the South, Native and Exotic", which in its fourth edition has reached 10,000 copies. I own the color plates and have the right to use them as I wish. Such a book is needed in the American tropics, but U.S. publishers don't distribute in that area. Besides these cuts I have 50 or more illustrations that I did in Central and South America when illustrating for "Exotic Flowers Around the World" with Otto Degener of Hawaii. That was too big a project! But I would like to put the illustrations to some good use.

When in Guatemala about 13 years ago their tourist bureau asked to use these illustrations for a tourist booklet. I agreed, but they had a revolution and that bureau was ousted! An inexpensive non-technical book on exotics is badly needed by tourists in the tropics and an elementary Spanish edition is needed even more.

I am interested in furthering inter-American understanding and promoting botanical knowledge in illiterate areas. I am willing to give the use of these color and black and white plates from the "Exotic" section of our book for such an edition. I would even finance the making of 20 more color plates if I could find some reliable company to sponsor the project ~~and~~ who will assure the distribution. I have had several Mexican publishing houses recommended, but to be quite frank, I am afraid of dealing with them by myself.

I know that the United Fruit Co. has done a great deal to further botanical knowledge in this area. Would you be willing to help interest them in sponsoring such a project? A small paper bound book (of 104 to 120 pages) selling for \$1 to \$2. is what is needed.

The Ford Motor Co. did just this sort of book on birds of Africa, and it is very subtle advertising. "Flowering Trees of the Caribbean" was made possible by the Alcoa Steamship Co., but it is too expensive and treats too few flowers. I do not want to make any money from it. I only want the color plates used in a way to make them available to the most people. It is all right with me if the cuts are used for advertising if by so doing, a less expensive book could be financed.

In our book please note that I am referring to the section beginning on page 147. All but 10 of the color plates listed on page IX would be small dummy with photos of the new

Dr. Wilson Popenoe  
Page 2  
December 4, 1958

sketches to be done in color. Could you suggest who in the United Fruit Co. to send it to who would be the most interested? Would you please send me their address by return mail. After you receive my book would you be good enough to write them about it?

I am enclosing one of the color cuts to give you some idea of them. After you are through with the book, would you please place it where it will be the most useful.

I hope to go to Central America in July, and hope that I may have the privilege of meeting you at that time.

Hoping that this project will interest you and thanking you for any help that you may be able to give me, I am

Sincerely,

*Willibronia F. Greene*



Jan. 14, 1959

242 CHASE AVE WINTER PARK, FLORIDA

Dr. Wilson Popenoe  
 Casa Popenoe  
 Antigua, Guatemala

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

Mexico & Central America, Venezuela &  
 I find that I can leave for/Guatemala on March first ,

Dr. Paddock has suggested that I might accompany Prof. Molina should he be going on a collecting trip. I have written to see when he has one planned. In the mean time I want to line up the rest of my trip tentatively.

Have you received my book "Flowers of the South, Native & Exotic"? I sent it to you before Christmas by Air mail but know how packages get head up at the aduanas! In case you may not have received my letter of Dec. 4. I am especially interested in popularizing the "Exotic Flowers" of the Americas. I am willing to donate <sup>my</sup> 140 colored and 100 black and white plates from my book for a Spanish edition (very simplified). I had hoped to find a Mexican publisher for I thought they might get better distribution, but I am told they expect an author to pay printing costs also! I have been recommended to see E.D.I.A. P.S.A. (Edicion y Distribucion Iber-Americana de Publicaciones) and Espasa-Calpe Mexicana, S.A. in Mexico City. Do you know anything about them or any other ~~the~~ publishers who have wide distribution in Latin America? (Naturally I do not expect to pay printing costs)

I have been advised to find a large industrial firm who might do a flower booklet as part of their public relations programme. Do you think that the United Fruit Co, National Biscuit Co, Ford Motor Co, Creole Oil Co of Caracas or any other Co. might be interested? Can you suggest anyone in Mexico City in either a publishing house or Industrial firm who I might see? or any Botanists?

Will you be in Antigua around the 13-15 of March? If so would it be convenient for me to see you? I have heard so much about you from so many dear friends of mine that I am most eager to know you. Dr. Opdyke, Lee Adams and Dr. Fairchild. I have just found a letter from Dr. Fairchild saying that he would write you about me in 1947, but you were not at Antigua at that time. Can you suggest any Botanists who I should see in Guatemala City. I am sure the director of the Botanic Garden must be dead by now, and Dr. Rohas also.

Looking forward to the pleasure of meeting you, I am

Most sincerely yours, .

*Wilhelmina F. Greene*  
 Mrs. Ray Greene

Do you have Dr. Paul Stanleys address? He identified the sketches that I did in Central America on my last trip.El

I have been advised to stop at the/ Alcazar Hotel in ~~Antigua~~ Antigua. I like to stay at good small "Pensions" when possible to practice speaking Spanish and to be away from the hords of American tourists! Could you give me the address of a good place in Antigua?

I shall be very grateful to you for any help and suggestions you may be able to give me- Forgive me for bothering you again if you have already heard from me, but I didn't know then that I could go so soon. (W.F.G.)  
*The enclosed will tell you more about me.*



Photo  
Courtesy  
House of Garden

*Travel and Flower Lectures*

ILLUSTRATED WITH COLORED SLIDES OR SKETCHES

BY

WILHELMINA F. GREENE

ILLUSTRATOR AND CO-AUTHOR

*Flowers of the South, Native and Exotic*

U. N. C. Press, 1953



"Flowers and Gardens" of:

- a. "Japan" (with flower arrangements)
- b. "Australia and New Zealand"
- c. "South America"
- e. "Central America and the Caribbean"
- f. "Ceylon to Hong Kong"
- g.

*"Plant Hunting in the Hawaiian Wilds"*

WILHELMINA F. GREENE is illustrator and co-author with Dr. H. L. Blomquist, Director of the Botany Department of Duke University, of "Flowers of the South, Native and Exotic" published by the University of North Carolina Press, April, 1953. The book has 55 color plates illustrating 300 flowers, and 500 illustrations in black and white. Mrs. Greene is a zealous amateur horticulturist, growing many of the tropical plants she paints. She has traveled around the Caribbean, South and Central America and Hawaii, painting flowers. During the winter of 1953 she traveled around the world to complete her tropical sketches.

Mrs. Greene will be available for lectures from  
..... until .....

TERMS FOR LECTURES

\$50.00 for clubs with membership of over 100; \$25.00 for smaller clubs. Expenses to be added to the above rates.

REQUIREMENTS

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FOR INFORMATION PLEASE WRITE:

MRS. RAY GREENE

242 Chase Avenue

WINTER PARK, FLORIDA, U.S.A.



FLOWER PAINTINGS BY WILHELMINA F. GREENE

Available for Water Color Exhibit  
55 from

*Flowers of the South, Native and Exotic*

By Greene and Blomquist, published by  
THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA PRESS

Sketches from Ceylon, Java, Australia, Japan, Tropical and South America will be exhibited in groups of 10 to 25.

Wilhelmina Greene's paintings and sketches have been widely exhibited in the United States at horticultural societies, clubs, and art galleries. Silver medallions have been awarded her work by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society and also at the World's Fair in New York.

Express charges one way, hanging and packing for return to be assumed by exhibitor.



*What Reviewers Say about*

FLOWERS OF THE SOUTH

by WILHELMINA F. GREENE and H. L. BLÖMQUIST  
"The finest book on wild flowers ever published for the whole South."—William Lanier Hunt, F. R. H. S.

"An excellent identification guide, probably the best arranged and illustrated volume on the subject that has yet appeared."—*New York Herald Tribune*.

"A joy to both the experienced gardener and the amateur."—*Charleston (S. C.) Evening Post*.

"Should do much to make plant identification easier for a lot of folks."—*Miami (Fla.) Herald*.

"The best buy in print."—*Lynchburg (Va.) Daily Advance*.

"A well-indexed and handy guide."—*Houston (Texas) Chronicle*.

"Both a handy and a handsome book."—*Norfolk (Va.) Virginian-Pilot*.

"Mrs. Greene's paintings are beautifully done and her sketches are cleverly shaded so as to make identification easier."—*Charlotte (N. C.) Observer*.

Antigua, Guatemala, 20 January 1959

Mrs Raymond Greene,  
242 Chase Avenue, Winter Park, Florida.

Dear Mrs. Greene:

We arrived from Europe just in time for Christmas, and to find a pile of mail which I have been attempting to care for ever since. Your letter of 4 December was here, and today yours of January 14 has arrived. The book also was awaiting me, and I will see that it is effectively used - perhaps at Escuela Agrícola Panamericana but I want to put it where it will do the most good.

Now to get down to business. Mrs Popenoe and I are leaving this week-end for a 30-day trip to Mexico and California, where I want to pick recent information for a "Manual Práctico de Fruticultura Tropical" which I have agreed to write for the best publishing house in Spain. We shall be back here before the first of March. You say that you will be here around the 13-15 of March. I feel sure we will be here up to the 10th of that month but we may drive over to Honduras to be present at the graduation of Escuela Agricultura Panamericana on the 15th. You ~~ask~~ about a place to stay in Antigua. I don't know how much you can take in the way of native Guatemalan life. I would go to the Pensión Rojas, which costs about \$5 a day. I stayed there 40 years ago and have stayed there many times since. I like it. But most Americans want private baths and hot water and all that sort of thing, and they are used to paying \$12 for a room without meals. The Hotel Antigua is really good, and about \$10 a day with meals. I suspect this is what you would like, and it is where most American visitors go.

I had a letter from Paul Standley in the same mail with this last one of yours. He is living in Tegucigalpa - I got him a place to stay there, the Hospital Viera, because they have a lot of room and he is very comfortable - but not sick! Referring again to your letter, the Hotel Alcazar is no longer in existence; the three hotels here are the Antigua, the Rancho Nimajay, and the Posada Belen. If you don't want to risk the native grub at the Pension Rojas and no private bath and no hot water, go to the Antigua.

I am very doubtful that the United Fruit Company will be interested, now, in backing your book. They would have done so ten years ago but times ~~have~~ been hard recently & they had to cut the quarterly dividend just recently. When you come, if I am here, we can talk things over and maybe I can offer some helpful suggestions. If you do not come by March 10, then perhaps we can meet over in Honduras or in San Salvador - the latter would be a good place for you to get some financial backing the right now everybody down this way is feeling awfully poor because of the "low" price of coffee. I saw "low" because it has dropped a lot in the last year but it is still high enough to give the grower a good profit. The hard part is the lower export tax, which hits the governments. The coffee tax works on a sliding scale, and as the Jamaican remarked in my presence, when he heard the UFCO was going to pay on a sliding scale, "Chah! Who ever hear of anything slide upward?"

Sincerely yours,



Jan. 26, 1959

242 CHASE AVE. WINTER PARK, FLORIDA

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

Thank you very much for your letter of Jan. 20.

As long as you will not be in Guatemala March 15th I will go on to Honduras, ~~as I have not been there.~~ I am sure that I can find plenty of flowers to paint at the Agricultural college after graduation.

In case your plans do change please let me know where you will be in San Salvador. My address in Mexico will be Pension Gonzales, 3 A del Sena 69, Mexico S.D.C. (where I stayed before) March 1-14

I try to find good local places when I travel- as far from the average American tourist as I can get! Your advice as to Pensions was appreciated.

Looking forward to the pleasure of meeting both you and Mrs. Popenoe, I am

Most sincerely yours,

*Wilhelmina J. Greene*  
(Mrs. Ray Greene)

*P.S.*

I have just heard from Mrs. Doris Stone that they would be glad to schedule a lecture for me at the Garden Club in Costa Rica and that she is also going to be at the graduation at the Agricultural College.

Dr. Paddock is away, so I haven't heard from him as yet about my trip with Prof. Molina. I haven't heard from Paul Allen a second time, so am leaving my plans for San Salvador until I get to Tegucigalpa.

*W. Greene*

Feb. 19, 1959

242 CHASE AVE. WINTER PARK, FLORIDA

Dear Dr. Popenoe:

Mr. Nelson Parks read the Spanish titles lecture for my slide this week and he and his wife want to be remembered to you and Mrs. Popenoe.

Mr. Paddock has just returned to the Escuela Agri. and I am afraid I will be there at a bad time- I couldn't get reservations for the 13th so get there the 14th- as you said you would be there the 15th. After graduation is over (on the 14th) I hope some of you will advise me where to go where tropical ornamentals would be most easily accessible to paint. I would like to go overland to San Salvador but can't find anything about that here- so have tentative air reservations for March 19 as Dr. Paddock has had to call off a collecting trip with Prof. Molina as I am a lone female! I have written El Prado Hotel in Tegucigalpa, with the Boston Hotel as second choice as everything is filled near the school.

My lecture in Costa Rica isn't until about the 11th- but they wrote that Easter reservations were heavy so I will go there unless something interesting turns up in Honduras or San Salvador. Mr. Allen seems to be busy too. Where best to spend the last of March is my problem.

When will be a good time for me to see you? I don't want to be a bother but didn't want to make too definite plans until I talked to you. So many of my friends have known you and suggested that I ask your advice.

I understand that most of the United Fruit Co. places are well planted with ornamentals but have no idea where they are located, nor can I find out about anything here but air transportation.

I am also interested in photographing tropical Gardens for my lectures and in meeting botanists- That was why I thought Tegucigalpa would be interesting but it seems pretty far away from the Escuela.

Forgive me for bothering you with all of my troubles, but Dr. Paddock's letter knocked all of my plans sky high. He doesn't know how long people will be staying after graduation. If some leave early I hope that I may be able to stay a night or so at the school- for the early morning is the best time to collect flowers to illustrate. Of course it may be easier than I think to get out to the school by bus.

When do you go to San Salvador? It is hard for me to plan which places I should spend the most time.

Unless I hear from you to the contrary I will go out to the school as early as practical on Sunday morning March 15th as I presume you and Mrs. Stone will be there. I don't want to interfere with your plans in any way- but I am sure that there will be some flowers blooming so that I can keep busy drawing- or perhaps I can see Prof. Molina.

When will be the most convenient time for you to see me? Having just returned from a trip I know your mail has piled up so I don't want you to feel you have to write me. If you have time my address will be Pension Gonzales, Sena 69, Mexico 5 D.F. If you feel that I will be in the way that close to graduation please wire me collect.

Should you hear of any other woman who might like to go on a collecting trip with Dr. Molina and me do let Dr. Paddock know. I am free until my lecture in Costa Rica, which will probably be "the week before flower show", Mrs. Stone said. The show is April 18.

Please forgive this hastily written letter, and my bothering you between trips.

Cordially yours,

*I am enclosing a copy of my letter to Dr. Popenoe. Willhelmina J. Greene  
 Col. office should you care to give it to any officials attending graduation.*



February 23, 1959

Botanical or Cultural Relations Department  
United Fruit Co.  
Boston, Mass.

Gentlemen:

Mr. Paul Allen of Santa Tecla El Salvador tells me that you have an outstanding collection of tropical plants at your Tancetilla Experimental Station in Honduras and in your various townsites, but I can't find out how to get to them or anything about overland travel in Honduras.

I am going to Central America March 1st to illustrate more tropical flowers. I hope to use the 45 colored illustrations which I own from our book, "Flowers of the South, Native and Exotic", for a popular tropical booklet in Spanish -- or for a tourist booklet. I wrote Dr. Popenoe to ask if your company might be interested in the booklet as part of your advertising scheme, but he thought it would be too expensive a project.

Dr. Paddock at the Escuela Agricola had suggested that Dr. Molina might be able to take me on a botanizing collecting trip. I am a woman alone, so he had to call that off. He has been away and I have just heard from him, so haven't made any other definite plans between March 14th when I arrive in Tegucigalpa until the week of April 5 and 11 when Mrs. Doris Stone plans to have me lecture at the Costa Rica Garden Club.

The Cultural Relations department of our State Department is sponsoring my showing of Kodachrome slides to the Mexico City Garden Club March 11th and a demonstration lecture on "Flower Arrangement Quickies" at the V.A.U.W. in Venezuela April 27th. I didn't schedule other lectures because I had hoped to collect with Prof. Molina. My lecturing helps me make contacts with local people so that I can get flowers to illustrate.

Mr. Allen says that you have numerous groups in Central America, and I am wondering if you might be able to assist me with overland transportation or expenses in return for the sort of program that I do. I have one set of slides on American Gardens with Spanish titles, and Gardens of Japan in English. If no 35 mm. projector, I can do flower arrangement quickies if the flowers and vases are collected for me.

Unfortunately, both Dr. Popenoe and Dr. Paddock have been away from home, so I have been unable to get their advice. I am going to Tegucigalpa March 14th because Dr. Popenoe will be there, but that may be too late to arrange anything of this sort. I am afraid this is a bad time for Dr. Paddock.

My address March 1 to 12 will be Pension Gonzalez, Sena 69, Mexico D.F. I have written El Prado Hotel in Tegucigalpa for March 14th. Might it be possible that some of your people will be attending graduation at Escuela Agricola and that I might drive to one of your centers with them?

In scheduling lectures I prefer to give them at night where possible, so I have more time to paint flowers in the daytime. I am sorry to give you such short notice, but since I had counted on the botanizing with Dr. Molina I wanted to make plans. Please tell me where your centers are located in San Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica, where there is good material. I am sure I can get to them.



Antigua, Guatemala, 27 Feb 1959

Dear Mrs Greene:

Your letter of the 19th has just come. Mrs Popenoe and I returned from California a week ago today and find news here which changes my plans for going to Salvador and Honduras. I have been urged by old friends to go to Venezuela, to help plan a fruit improvement program. I shall have to go within a few weeks and have so much work piled up here that I will have to stick right here in Antigua until we fly to Caracas.

If you want to stop off in Guatemala on your way south, you can get a bus every hour from the City to Antigua, 50 cents one way. In the City your best bet probably is the Hotel Panamericano, about \$9 a day with meals; the Palace also is good. There are some pensiones but for a short stay probably not worth while. I think I have written you that Antigua has good accommodations at various prices: the Hotel Antigua is modern and excellent, also about \$9 a day with meals. The Pension Rojas old fashioned, pure Guatemala, about \$4 or perhaps now \$5 a day with meals. No matter where you go or what you eat or drink, you will probably get the Tropical Trots or Tourists Disease from which you will recover in about 3 days. Better count on that. Very light liquid diet and take it easy.

There are not many flowers to paint in Tegucigalpa, and not many at the school. You can get a bus out to the school from the city, but I don't know the hours. I really don't believe there is much for you in Honduras; "Doctor" Molina (he is one of my former students, a young chap who knows the country and knows plants) could not be of much help unless you are embarking on a serious round of botanical collecting. The United Fruit Company probably cannot supply overland transportation; there is, however, overland bus service from Tegucigalpa down to the north coast, but I would strongly advise a trip by air from Tegucigalpa to Tela, where there are a lot of fine exotics at Lancetilla Experiment Station which I founded in 1925. There is a hotel in Tela which I believe is not too bad, and I am sure the Company would be glad to have you do all the painting you want at Lancetilla. Very tropical, in a beautiful setting.

If you have time, it would pay you to go down to the Pacific side of Guatemala - Escuintla and Mazatenango for example. Lots of tropical ornamentals, train service every day both ways. Hotels nothing wonderful; I hope you aren't too fussy. San Salvador also has some good gardens; the hotels are expensive by my standards. Anything over \$6 per day with good food is expensive by the latter.

Sincerely,

Wilson Popenoe

[ III / 1959 ]

Dear Dr. Popescu,

Thank you for your letter of Feb 25

+ 27<sup>th</sup>

I will stop in Guatemala city March 14 at Pension Mertines, 11 Ca 08 - near 6<sup>th</sup> Avenida as friends have stayed there. As long as I have heard that Dr. Mariano Pacheco, & Ulises Rojas are still there I know that I can get flowers to paint there so will stay a while.

I have written Pension Rojas in Antigua for reservations for March 15 - in case it is convenient for you to see me either Sunday or Monday <sup>Mar 16</sup> please don't feel you should have me for lunch for I realize you are very busy -

If some other time would be better for you please let me know here or at the Pension Mertines, 11 Ca 08 - Guatemala City.

I love Guatemala city & can find plenty to do there so want to make my plans to see you when it is the least inconvenient. Sorry to have taken so much of your time writing Sincerely

Wilhelmina J. Greene

(Mrs. Ray Greene.)

Pension Goursaly  
Avenida 69 Mexico 5 D.F.

If I don't hear from you I will telephone from Antigua Sunday



Antigua, Guatemala, 16 March 1959

Mr D J Cloward, Manager  
Tela Railroad Company

Dear Dave:

Mrs Wilhelmina Greene of Winter Park, Florida, bearer of this note, is in Central America for the purpose of painting pictures of tropical flowers for use in lecturing and publications. I know her work very well and it is first-class. She has asked me where she could get suitable material in this part of the world and I have told her I dont know of a better place than Lancetilla.

I have explained to Mrs Greene that there is a small hotel in Tela (she is not exacting as to accomodations) and that I believe she can get back and forth to Lancetilla on the track car which I assume still runs up and down once or twice a day. She will be grateful if arrangements can be made so that she can be taken up to the garden when a car is going on routine work.

From Honduras Mrs Greene is going down to Costa Rica where Doris has arranged for her to lecture before the garden club in San José.

Sincerely,

Wilson Popenoe