



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
5th Floor, Hunt Library
Carnegie Mellon University
4909 Frew Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3890
Telephone: 412-268-2434
Email: huntinst@andrew.cmu.edu
Web site: www.huntbotanical.org

The Hunt Institute is committed to making its collections accessible for research. We are pleased to offer this digitized item.

Usage guidelines

We have provided this low-resolution, digitized version for research purposes. To inquire about publishing any images from this item, please contact the Institute.

Statement on harmful and offensive content

The Hunt Institute Archives contains hundreds of thousands of pages of historical content, writing and images, created by thousands of individuals connected to the botanical sciences. Due to the wide range of time and social context in which these materials were created, some of the collections contain material that reflect outdated, biased, offensive and possibly violent views, opinions and actions. The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation does not endorse the views expressed in these materials, which are inconsistent with our dedication to creating an inclusive, accessible and anti-discriminatory research environment. Archival records are historical documents, and the Hunt Institute keeps such records unaltered to maintain their integrity and to foster accountability for the actions and views of the collections' creators.

Many of the historical collections in the Hunt Institute Archives contain personal correspondence, notes, recollections and opinions, which may contain language, ideas or stereotypes that are offensive or harmful to others. These collections are maintained as records of the individuals involved and do not reflect the views or values of the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation or those of Carnegie Mellon University.

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.

MASSEY, A. B.

Aug. 4, 1940

Dr. A. B. Massey,
Virginia Polytechnic Institute,
Blacksburg, Va.

Dear Dr. Massey:

I am sorry that I did not have another chance to see you before leaving Mt. Lake. My stay there was most successful and I added about 30 species to the local list, which now totals about 1000. In a way, I am sorry that you went through the herbarium there when you did, for there will be many hundreds of sheets of mine to be added to it in the near future and you will have it all to do over again. Moreover, I made this summer quite a few corrections on the sheets already there and there are others waiting to be made when I can find time for it.

One of the most interesting things to turn up this year was Arisaema Stewardsonii, which I found at 3 localities in Giles Co. Will you be so good as to tell me whether you know of any other station for it in Virginia? It is known, of course, from Maryland and West Va., and Wherry and Benedict reported it from Watauga Co., N.C. So my points merely fill in a gap in what now appears to be a rather typical Canadian distribution. I have in mind offering a little note on its occurrence to the Va. Journal of Science, but would naturally like to know if you have it elsewhere in the state. Apparently Gray Herbarium has nothing south of Penna. (See Ferhald in Rhodora, July 1940). If you have any doubts as to how to separate Stewardsonii from triphylum in the dried state, I should be glad if you would send me your series of the latter on loan. I can not feel for a minute that Stewardsonii is restricted to Giles Co.

Another interesting discovery was what looks like perfectly good Danthonia sericea on Peters Mt., along with several other coastal plain species. Obviously that Mountain is in need of very thorough exploration.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

John H. Rogers, Jr.

from Massey

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

BLACKSBURG, VIRGINIA

August 12, 1940

Dr. J. M. Fogg, Jr.
Botanical Laboratory
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Dear Dr. Fogg:

I am very much disappointed not to have seen something of you this summer. The first part of my summer has been quite hectic and unsatisfactory. In the first place, spring pollens affected me rather strongly and had me under the weather quite often. And this year, additional to this, our funds were exhausted before the end of the fiscal year so that we could not purchase tires for our department cars. And, inasmuch as my private car is worn out, I had to remain in Blacksburg. I was very much in hopes that I was going to be able to have the value of association at frequent intervals during the time that you were in this area.

I do not consider any of my Arisaema specimens to be of the A. Stewardsonii type. I have never looked upon this as a clear-cut species, but more as a form of A. triphyllum. I was much interested in reading Fernald's note on these forms and to observe that he had changed the status of the forms which the present Grays treat as synonyms. Sometimes I find it difficult to follow Fernald's varieties and to clearly differentiate them. I was very much interested in his statement as to the application of the terms, variety, subspecies, etc. It has helped me considerably in understanding his tendency towards trinomials in relation to geographic distributions.

I am rather inclined to believe that I have observed the Stewardsonii type in the field and I am not surprised at your having it from two or three stations in this region. I was at Mountain Lake last week, starting a re-check of the list I made last summer to note additions which you have made, and also I am noting some of your changes in nomenclature, etc. I have planned to go through the entire collection there within the near future. I would like to have an opportunity of adding to my list those species which you placed there. I made some annotations on the sheets in going over them last summer, and some in my notes. In the work I did last week I only had a short time, but got through the most, if not all, the monocots. I noticed the specimen of A. Stewardsonii which you had placed in the collection, and was much interested in examining your conception of that form.

As to Dentonia sericea, I have it from the East and I am of the opinion that I have picked it up on Peter's Mountain. However, I cannot make a positive statement which you can quote. The specimen is in a mass of unworked material and may be unearthed in the near future. I have promised Fernald that I would send him a series of Southwestern material and if I

- 2 -

have the Danthonia sericea I am liable to run across it when working up this series. However, if you wish to make any note in regard to it, forget my statement and do not wait for a possible specimen from me. I am of the opinion that I will have several species which you have not found, and may be able to send them to you to make your list as complete as possible.

I was very glad to hear from you and I will welcome any remarks or requests you may make to me. Trusting that I may have the opportunity of seeing you soon, I am

Sincerely yours,

A. B. Massey

abm:res

August 28, 1940

Dr. A.B. Massey,
Va. Polytechnic Institute,
Blacksburg, Va.

Dear Dr. Massey:

A thousand thanks for your very helpful letter of the 12th. I have had considerable experience with Arisaema Stewardsonii in the mountains of Pennsylvania and elsewhere and have ~~have~~ come to regard it as a good species, altho I did not at first consider it so. The coloring and fluting of the spathe are, of course, its most conspicuous field characters and these, unfortunately, do not show well in the pressed specimen. Here is one of those cases where the collector must make observation of his label of the fresh condition. The leaves are green beneath, in contrast to the usually glaucous under leaf surfaces of triphyllosum, and the corms nearly always produce offsets. I have not sufficiently checked Fernald's seed characters, but they look good. On the whole, I should look upon this as a very distinct species. Furthermore, it ordinarily occurs in swampier habitats than any other Arisaema, with the possible exception of pusillum.

I think there is no doubt that the sheet which I marked Stewardsonii in the Mt. Lake Herbarium really is that species. It has the proper spathe and the green leaves. Moreover, I found good material at the same locality this last summer, namely, the swampy woods near White Pine Lodge. In view of your statement that you may have "observed the Stewardsonii type in the field," I shall be very guarded in any remarks which I may make in print concerning the occurrence of this species in Virginia. My notion would be to emphasize the characters of the plant and urge those doing field-work in the state to keep on the watch for it. I have no doubt but that it will turn up elsewhere. It occurs to me that you might care to send me your entire series of Arisaema on loan. It might be that I could detect some Stewardsonii's among them, since I have had some experience with the plant as dried material. I would return your specimens to you very quickly. If you ^{do not} favor making loans of herbarium material, I had either bet^{ter} refrain from writing this problem up or wait until some future opportunity enables me to stop off at Blacksburg.

Thanks for your information concerning Danthonia sericea and for your very kind offer to supply me with a list of

additional species from the vicinity of Mt. Lake. If I ever get around to the final preparation of a List of the Plants of Giles County, I should most certainly present it to you for inspection before submitting it for publication.

I trust that you will come comfortably thru the autumn pollen barrage and that I shall have the pleasure of seeing you in Philadelphia at Christmas time, if not before.

Sincerely yours,

John M. Fogg, Jr.

Fram Massey

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

BLACKSBURG, VIRGINIA

September 10, 1940

Dr. J. M. Fogg, Jr.
Botanical Laboratory
University of Pennsylvania
38th Street and Woodland Avenue
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Dear Dr. Fogg:

Your letter of the 28th was received and read with much interest and appreciation. As to Danthonia sericea, do not give any consideration to my remarks as they are entirely too indefinite to give the slightest attention to.

I shall be glad to send you such materials as I have of Arisaema spp., but trust that you are not in a hurry for it. At present I am going through a mass of material I have on hand, selecting a series which I have promised Dr. Fernald. Most of my Arisaema specimens at present are somewhat out of place, however, I will be able to get them together in the near future. If for any reason you are in any hurry to get them, please drop me a card. I will be glad to loan these to you and you can return them as early as convenient to you. I shall be much interested in any remarks regarding these specimens, but do not expect you to find anything out of the ordinary. In fact, I have not given close attention to the collecting of specimens of this genus. In the future, however, I will give it more attention.

I have completed a re-checking of my notes with the specimens in the Mountain Lake herbarium, and was much interested in your annotations which were found on a number of the sheets. What do you think of my asking Dr. Lewis to allow me to go up there and stamp an accession number on each sheet. I have one of these hand number stamping machines. It would not take very long to number the whole collection and then in the future when any sheets are added they could be numbered. In order to define those sheets I have examined and listed, I placed a small mark in the lower right hand corner of the sheet. However, a number on the sheets would be better and also it would be much easier to refer to specific sheets. Such numbers, when added to the sheets, I would like to indicate on my list and will do so if I have allowed enough space.

lg 7854
Need more p-d
needed.

The autumn pollen barage does not affect me, I am glad to say. I have enough of it in the first half of the summer, so don't

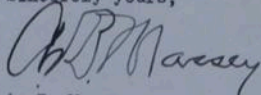
to Fogg 10-1X-1940

- 2 -

wish the autumn on me. However, I thank you for your thoughts of my comfort.

With regards and best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'A. B. Massey'.

A. B. Massey

abm:res

MASSEY, A. B.

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

BLACKSBURG, VIRGINIA

February 19, 1944

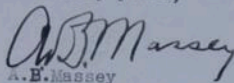
Dr. J. M. Fogg, Jr.
Department of Botany
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Dear Dr. Fogg:

Last year Dr. Gilly of the New York Botanical Gardens wrote to me inquiring as to the distribution of Arundinaria in Virginia. Virginia records do not indicate that it occurred west of the Coastal Plain. I have given some attention to it's occurrence as I felt quite certain that it's range in Virginia was not so restricted. I have been rather interested in finding it in some points of the Piedmont and in a number of southwest Virginia counties from Lee County eastward. I have been interested in discovering the occurrence of it on an island in New River in either Pulaski or Wythe Counties at a point near county line. In your rambles in southwest Virginia especially in the New River Valley have you ever found ~~the~~ specimen? I imagine it would be in the Mountain Lake herbarium had you found it. However, I understand from Dr. Lewis that you have a good bit of material with you. I am trying to get together specimens from as many counties as I can for comparative study along the line of Gilly's recent paper. As yet, I have not secured specimens from Dickenson or Buchanan Counties. It occurs in the bordering Kentucky Counties and the chances are very good that it occurs in both of these Virginia counties. I hope to get into these counties this summer if gas etc. permit. Any information you can give me in regard to this will be appreciated.

Best regards and best wishes.

Sincerely yours,


A. B. Massey

AEM:MRS

From Fogg

February 25, 1944.

Dr. A. B. Massey,
Department of Biology,
Virginia Polytechnic Institute,
Blacksburg, Virginia.

Dear Dr. Massey:

I have absolutely no knowledge of the occurrence of *Arundinaria* west of the coastal plain in Virginia. I should certainly expect it to turn up in some of the counties which you mention, but in the work which I have done in Giles, Craig, Bland and a few other counties, I have not as yet come upon it. I assume that you are much more familiar with the literature than am I but I do not recall having seen it reported from this general region.

I hope to have the leisure within the next few months to finish working over my Virginia collections of 1940 and when this is done shall have a very substantial batch of duplicates to deposit in the Mountain Lake Herbarium. I have not given up the hope of some day being able to publish an annotated checklist of the plants of Giles County.

With warm personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Associate Professor of Botany.

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

BLACKSBURG, VIRGINIA

May 7, 1945

Dean J. M. Fogg, jr.
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

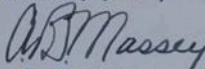
Dear Doctor Fogg:

Would it be feasible for me to borrow a copy of the thesis of Carroll E. Wood, jr., which considers the plant life of Roanoke and vicinity; and also, if available, I would appreciate having the chance to look over the thesis, or report, of Lloyd Carr.

If you prefer to loan these through our library, it could be easily arranged.

With regards and best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,



A. B. Massey

ABM:NEB

May 14, 1945.

Dr. A. B. Massey,
Department of Biology,
Virginia Polytechnic Institute,
Blacksburg, Virginia.

Dear Dr. Massey:

I have your letter of May 7th and am writing to say that I have asked our Graduate School to forward you a copy of Carroll Wood's thesis on the plants of Roanoke County. As you probably know, this was a Master's dissertation and, as such, does not have to be published but is merely represented by a bound, typewritten copy deposited with the Dean of the Graduate School. A good part of the material included in Wood's thesis appeared in RHODORA, but I am sure that you will be interested in his fuller discussion of certain aspects of his work.

Unfortunately, Lloyd Carr left to enter the Navy before having completed the final draft of his dissertation. I have seen his results only in preliminary form and assume that he took them with him when he left here. At any rate, they are not on deposit with us.

I look forward to the day when I may be able to return to Mountain Lake and again have the pleasure of seeing something of you.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

John M. Fogg, Jr.,
Professor of Botany.

MASSEY, A. B.

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE

BLACKSBURG, VIRGINIA

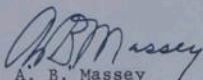
April 25, 1961

Dr. J. M. Fogg, Jr.
Morris Arboretum
Philadelphia 30, Pennsylvania

Dear Dr. Fogg:

Did Lloyd Carr complete the Doctorate and file his dissertation in U. P. Library? I have his *Rhodora* paper on Houstonia. If there is a dissertation on file, I would like to request our library to borrow it for me. If available, where is it filed?

Sincerely,


A. B. Massey
Botanist Emeritus

ABM:dbp

April 28, 1961

Dr. A. B. Massey
Department of Forestry
and Wildlife
Virginia Polytechnic Institute
Blacksburg, Virginia

Dear Dr. Massey:

Lloyd Carr never received the Doctorate at this University, nor did he submit a dissertation. In fact, he never got beyond the preliminary oral examination which he failed on two occasions.

We had all lost track of Lloyd for a number of years until he turned up here last Autumn saying he had received his doctor's degree in Paris. He has also added an initial to his signature and is now Lloyd G. K. Carr. I suppose the "K" is for "Kiddie."

It was good to hear from you and I hope to see you again one of these days.

Sincerely yours,

John M. Fogg, Jr.,
Director

JMF:am

MASSEY, A. B.

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE

BLACKSBURG, VIRGINIA

May 3, 1961

Dr. John M. Fogg, Jr.
The Morris Arboretum
9414 Meadowbrook Avenue
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

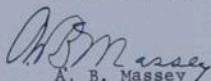
Dear Dr. Fogg:

Thanks for your letter of April 28th and the information therein. I didn't think that Lloyd Carr could have finished with you. I wonder how he worked the Paris stunt!

I am busy working up an annotated catalog of Virginia Flora. We have not done as much field work in the western counties of Virginia as desired. I do not have all the data desired from Smyth County west. Lloyd seems to have collected in Lee County. Is there an authentic list of his collection available? I'll not have a chance to visit the herbaria of University of Pennsylvania or Academy of N. Sci. If there is no authentic list which I may borrow, do not trouble to answer this letter.

With regards and best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,



A. B. Massey
Botanist Emeritus

ABM:dbp