



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.

January 28, 1952

Professor A.L. Bakke
Botany and Plant Pathology
Iowa State College

Dear Professor Bakke:

It was a pleasure to receive the copy of the letter written by Dr. Ernst Bessey regarding the early days of his father, C.E. Bessey, at Ames. Your kindness is very much appreciated.

Professor Pool tells me that somewhere in his belongings he has a rather full account of the blizzard encountered during Bessey's trip to California. If it comes into my hands, I'll have a copy sent to you for your files.

Sincerely yours,

W.W. Ray
Chairman