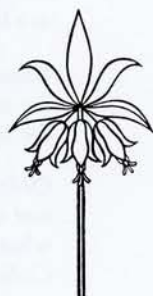


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Guide to the
Botanical Records and Papers
in the Archives of the Hunt Institute

Part 1

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Preface

This *Guide* describes the botanical materials in the Archives of the Hunt Institute (Carnegie-Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA). It consists of a detailed register of accessioned collections of papers as well as a synopsis of each letter in the rather extensive, separately maintained General Autograph Collection. The entries are arranged alphabetically by the surnames under which the items described are catalogued in the Archives. The *Guide* will appear serially, each part accompanied by a separate index. The final part will include a separate accounting of the Oral History Collection and will conclude with a cumulative index of names. Supplements to the *Guide* will be prepared as new materials accumulate in the future.

Letters in the General Autograph Collection (GAC) have not received separate accession numbers, but are nonetheless accessible through their alphabetical listing in our master file. The cumulative index will also include correspondents from the GAC and, for such entries, will indicate that the material is neither accessioned nor stored in the same manner as other manuscript materials.

The Institute's original manuscript collection, assembled by Mrs. Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt, held 410 autographed signed letters from 176 persons. These represented the period before 1850 and included many notable botanists of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. In *The Hunt Botanical Library, a decennial report* (1970), G.H.M. Lawrence, then Director, reported that more than 6,000 letters by more than 1,450 botanists were then

awaiting cataloguing in the Archives. Additional manuscript collections and some new autographs have been acquired since 1970. Thanks mainly to the diligence of Mrs. Abby Levine, my predecessor as Archivist, and Mrs. Anita Karg, Assistant Archivist, most of the collection is now catalogued. Many letters in languages other than English have been translated by Mrs. Levine, Mrs. Karg, Dr. A.F.G. Buchheim, and by others, including me. My main task has been to write biographical sketches, series descriptions, and container lists of each manuscript collection, and to edit those already existing.

Any qualified scholar may use the archival collections of the Hunt Institute. Restrictions placed upon materials by donors or by the Institute are strictly enforced, and each researcher is required to read the rules pertaining to the use of the Archives and to sign an agreement to follow them. The Institute is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., subject to the operating calendar of Carnegie-Mellon University.

The Institute exists to serve not only the botanist but other scholars as well. Indeed, there is much material in the Archives which could be used by the non-botanical researcher. Topics which have been or could be investigated include: travel and exploration in various areas from the 1700s to the present; nineteenth-century education in the United States; scientific expeditions sponsored by the U.S. government; early medicine; social commentary; the sociology of science; and the diffusion of such knowledge.

We hope that this *Guide* will provide ready and detailed reference to our manuscript holdings for all researchers. Perhaps it will inspire such individuals to come to Pittsburgh and consult the materials, and to help convey to the professional and lay reading public the sagas of botany and botanists which lie boxed on our shelves.

M.T.S.
May 1980