

The Arnold Arboretum

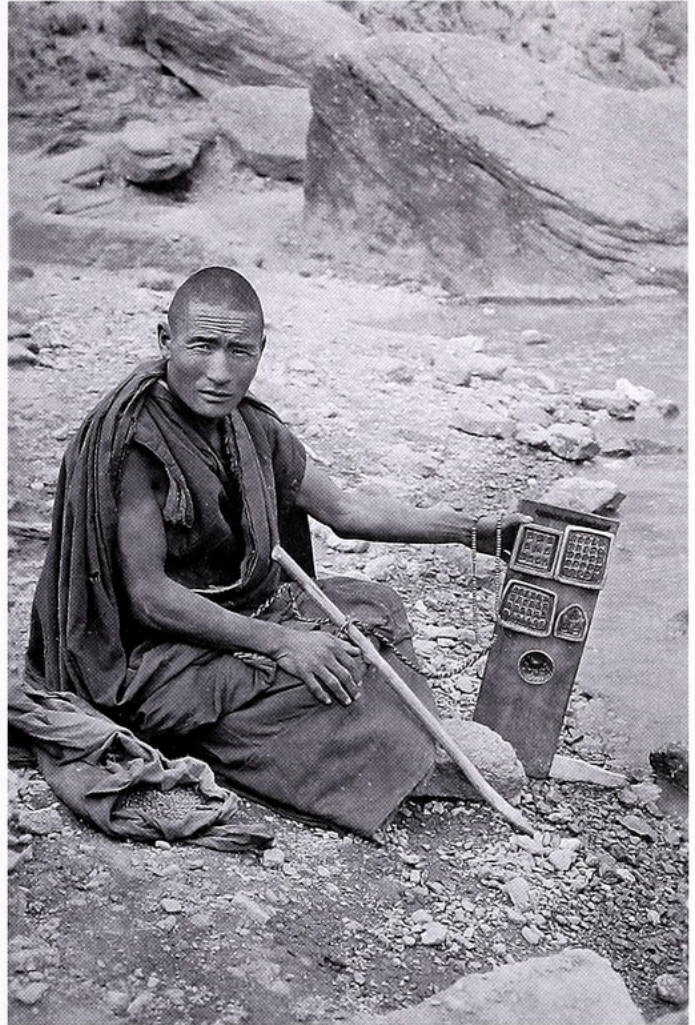
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Digital Projects in the Library

Bess Wellborn, Archival Fellow

The Arnold Arboretum library staff is in the midst of two very interesting digital projects. We are collaborating with the preservation reformatting division of the Library of Congress to provide value-added enhancements to the digitization of *Garden and Forest: A Journal of Horticulture, Landscape Art and Forestry*, conducted by the Arboretum's founding director, Charles S. Sargent, and published from 1892 through 1902. This undertaking is the Library of Congress' first web-based historic journal project. All ten volumes have been scanned, including advertisements, drawings, and text and can be accessed at <http://lcweb.loc.gov/preserv/prd/gardfor/gfhome.html>. To date horticultural research archivist Sheila Connor has contributed an essay that illuminates the historical background of the journal. Ongoing collaborations will include Arboretum-sponsored essays from scholars in the four major fields that *Garden and Forest* addresses: botany, horticulture, landscape design and preservation, and forestry. In addition, archival fellow Bess Wellborn is developing an electronic finding aid based on the volume-level indices in each original print volume that will enable users to search and browse subject terms, as well as author, title, and illustration caption information.

Another digital project, comparable to Boston's "Big Dig," has just begun. The library received a grant in October 1999 from Harvard's Library Digital Initiative (LDI) Program to take part in establishing on-line access to a selection of Harvard's historical and contemporary ethnographic and natural history collections of southwestern China. Although many of these complementary collections, which are held at several of Harvard's museums, libraries, and archives, date from the first quarter of the 20th century, ongoing exploration and research ensures the addition of current material well into the new millennium. The Arboretum's historical collections begin in 1924 with our expedition to northwestern China and northeastern Tibet led by Joseph



A photograph from the Arboretum's archival collections that will be included in the effort to digitize Joseph Rock's photos. The photo depicts a monk on the banks of the upper Yellow River. He repeatedly raises and lowers the prayer board on the surface of the water, "printing" the river with images of Buddhist deities, which are carried downstream.

C. Rock. Rock, in his quarter-century association with Harvard, began as a plant and bird collector for the Arnold Arboretum and the Museum of Comparative Zoology and ended at the Harvard-Yenching Institute, where he pursued linguistic studies as a research fellow from 1945-50. In 1997, the National Science Foundation awarded a grant to the Harvard University Herbaria to fund biological collections from the same floristic regions explored by Rock.

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This project, entitled "Plant and fungal diversity of western Sichuan and eastern Xizang, China," not only complements the historic collections through the addition of contemporary images, but also furthers our understanding of an area of high floristic diversity and endemism.

The digital format, constructed by the LDI group, will link the various repositories and facilitate study by allowing students and scholars to move through time and several collections. Material in the collections not only depicts the area's natural and ecological resources, but also documents the social and cultural history of China and Tibet. Sheila Connor, assisted by library assistant Carol David, network systems manager Andrew Hubble, and David Boufford, assistant director for collections and research taxonomist at the Harvard University Herbaria, as well as Bess Wellborn, have been working together to prepare the various collections. Ultimately, they will be accessible via the worldwide web.

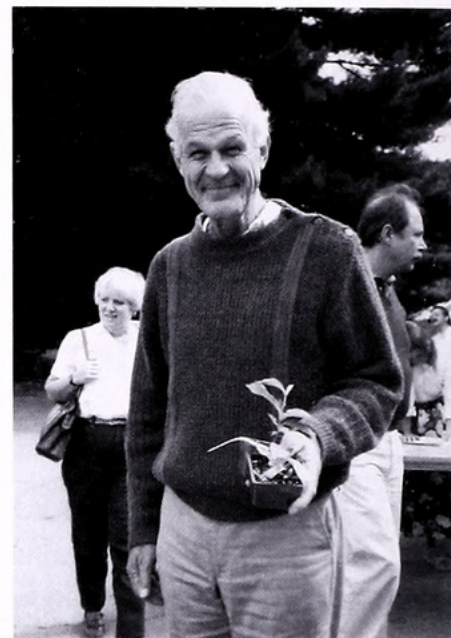
MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

We want YOU . . . to tell us how we are doing. You can expect to receive our membership survey through the mail in May. Please take the time to let us know what your needs and interests are and whether we are fulfilling your expectations. We aim to please, and your feedback will help us do just that.

Farewell to Walter Hunnewell

Robert E. Cook, Director

On December 30, 1999, the Arnold Arboretum lost a loyal and generous friend in Walter Hunnewell. A former member of the Arboretum Visiting Committee and member of the Arboretum Council, Walter's deep interest in horticulture continued a historic relationship between this institution and the Hunnewell family. We particularly remember the annual visits by our summer interns to the pinetum at his Wellesley home, where he would graciously guide these young students through his special collections. He was instrumental in helping the Hunnewell family



Archives of the Arnold Arboretum

raise \$1,000,000 for our recent, successful campaign for endowment, and he brought his generous and kind spirit to many other botanical institutions in Boston. We shall all miss him very much.

New Research Facility Opens at Dana Greenhouses

Jianhua Li, Horticultural Taxonomist

In support of its mission to perform research in botany and horticulture, the Arboretum has established the new Laboratory of Plant Anatomy and Morphology, located in the basement of the Dana Greenhouses. The lab will be used to observe and record plant traits at both the internal and external levels. The facility has been furnished with state-of-the-art equipment, including a multi-magnification dissecting microscope with a camera and a drawing tube, a programmable automated tissue processor, a programmable automated tissue stainer, and a compound microscope with a camera and a drawing tube. Processes that, in the past, have required hours of close oversight now can be accomplished with minimal supervision using this current technology.

A research project presently underway in the lab compares internal structures of the leaves of yew (*Taxus*)-related genera, including *Torreya*, *Amentotaxus*, *Pseudotaxus*, *Austrotaxus*, and *Cephalotaxus*. Other projects slated for the future include a study of the embryological development in sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), alder hazel (*Fothergilla major*), and seven-son flower (*Heptacodium miconioides*), as well as an investigation of leaf structure differences between mildew-resistant and mildew-susceptible lilacs (*Syringa*).

The Laboratory of Plant Anatomy and Morphology is available for use by outside researchers; contact Jianhua Li at 617/524-1718 x150 for further information in this regard.

An Update on the Plant Introduction, Promotion, and Distribution Program (PIPD)

Jack Alexander, Plant Propagator

Initiated in 1995, the Arboretum's Plant Introduction, Promotion, and Distribution Program (PIPD) strives to share exceptional woody plants from the living collections with progressive nursery professionals. Each year staff members select woody ornamentals with good landscape potential from the collections for promotion and distribution to hundreds of nurseries. Descriptions of the chosen plants are published annually in *American Nurseryman*.

The program is designed exclusively for the nursery industry. Plants that are selected may or may not be "new" cultivars, but all are chosen primarily for their promise as landscape plants, for horticultural characteristics that appeal to a larger market, and for their general unavailability in the trade. Before choosing a plant for the program, it is evaluated on the grounds and in the greenhouse/nursery. Propagation experiments performed in advance of selection often yield plants that are distributed first at the Annual Fall Plant Sale. Nurserymen interested in participating in the program should contact Tom Ward by fax at 617/524-6413.

Following are descriptions of the plants chosen for the 2000 PIPD program:

Cephalotaxus barringtonia var. *koreana* (syn. *C. koreana*), the Korean plum yew, is a densely branched evergreen shrub with dark green, needle-like foliage and reddish-brown fruits (produced only by the female plants). Native to Korea, Japan, and China, this slow-growing plant reaches about six to eight feet in height. In addition to its handsome appearance, the plant is not attractive to deer.

Euonymus carnosus features glossy, rich green leaves that turn mahogany red in autumn. The pink fruit capsule surrounded by an orange seed coat is stunning. An upright growing small tree, the plant will reach 20 feet in height in almost as many years. Unlike its relatives within the genus, *E. carnosus* does not appear to attract euonymus scale.

Syringa x chinensis 'Lilac Sunday,' the 'Lilac Sunday' lilac, was introduced by the Arnold Arboretum in 1997. The fragrant, light purple flower panicles are produced not only at the branch tips, like the common lilac, but also from the lateral buds along the stems. This unusual arrangement results in magnificent inflorescences that appear to be two feet long. Reaching 12 feet in height, the plant has a graceful, arching habit. Though the plant is resistant to powdery mildew and leaf-roll necrosis, it is not immune.



Gary Koller



Peter Del Tredici



New Staff

In January Chris Santos joined the Arboretum as director of development, succeeding Lisa Hastings, who left last year to join the leadership gifts staff at her alma mater, Boston College. A native Bostonian, Chris worked for the past five years at Simmons College, first as director of annual giving and then as director of advancement services and campaign operations. Prior to that, she was on the annual giving staff at Wellesley College, where she earned her bachelor's degree in music and English. Chris also holds a master's degree in music education with a major in music therapy from the University of Kansas and a graduate certificate in management from the Radcliffe Seminars. She volunteers for Wellesley College, raises funds for the Brookline public schools that her two children attend, and looks forward to making the acquaintance of Arboretum aficionados.

The Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University

INSTITUTE for CULTURAL LANDSCAPE STUDIES



*Sponsored by the Institute for Cultural Landscape Studies
of the Arnold Arboretum*

7–9 pm, 4 May 2000

in the Lecture Hall, Hunnewell Building, the Arnold Arboretum
125 Arborway, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts

Connecting Landscapes to Communities

Applying the Lessons of Vermont's Experience in
Conservation, Preservation, and Affordable Housing

James M. Libby, Jr.

*General Counsel, Vermont Housing and Conservation Board & Founding
Member, Vermont Housing and Conservation Coalition*

with a response by

Betsy Shure Gross

*Special Assistant for Community Preservation, Massachusetts
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs & Former Chair of the Board,
Historic Massachusetts*

This event is free, but advance registration is required. Reserve by
telephone: 617/524-1718 x162, email: icls@arnarb.harvard.edu

Since it was established in 1987, the Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB) has supported 745 projects in 205 towns, linking affordable housing and community development with land conservation and historic preservation. Jim Libby will discuss what others can learn from the Green Mountain State's unique community-based approach to strengthening the connections between land and people. Betsy Shure Gross will comment on the prospects for sustained collaboration among a similar coalition of preservation, conservation, and affordable housing interests that has been supporting the proposed Community Preservation Act in Massachusetts.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Lilac Sunday, May 14, 2000

Join us for our traditional celebration of lilacs and spring. The sights and scents of our lilacs – over 500 plants of more than 200 kinds – have delighted visitors since the turn of the century. Enjoy picnicking (allowed only on this special day), entertainment, refreshments, and, of course, the lilacs.

Annual Fall Plant Sale, September 17, 2000

The 20th Annual Fall Plant Sale is scheduled for Sunday, September 17, 2000, at the Case Estates of the Arnold Arboretum, 135 Wellesley Street, Weston, Massachusetts. More than 200 special and rare varieties of trees, shrubs, vines, and herbaceous perennials will be available for purchase. See you there!

Additional details are posted on our website, www.arboretum.harvard.edu. Those interested in volunteering at either of these events should contact Ellen Bennett at 617/524-1718 x125.



1999. "The Arnold Arboretum News." *Arnoldia* 59(4),

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