

OBITUARY

KITTIE FENLEY PARKER
(1910–1994)

Dr. Kittie Fenley Parker died on 9 November 1994 in San Diego, CA, USA. She was a Professor Emeritus of Botany at George Washington University (GWU) and a Research Associate of the Smithsonian Institution, both Washington, DC, USA. She received a BA (1930) and an MA (1932) from the University of California at Berkeley and PhD (1946) from the University of Arizona. She began teaching botany courses first in the School of Agriculture at the University of Arizona and later in the 1950's at George Washington University where she rose to the rank of Full Professor. At GWU she taught popular undergraduate courses in field botany, taxonomy of flowering plants, horticulture, economic botany, and graduate courses in plant systematics, including systematics of Poaceae and Asteraceae. She retired from GWU in 1979, received emeritus status, and continued to teach horticulture for several more years. The new greenhouse at GWU was named for her as a tribute to the plant teaching-collection she accumulated and maintained.

Between 1959 and 1989, Kittie also worked in her spare time in the Department of Botany, Smithsonian Institution. Here she identified hundreds of Mexican Asteraceae collections that had been sent to the U.S. National Herbarium for identification and pursued her research interest in *Hymenoxys* and *Tetraneuris* (both Asteraceae). She published her research on the South American species of both genera. While at the Smithsonian, Kittie was very instrumental in placing a number of her botany students in various open positions in the Department of Botany.

She was also an active member and past president of the Botanical Society of Washington and a long-time member and former secretary of the Potomac Chrysanthemum Society. Her late husband, Kenneth Parker, was Chief of the Range Research Division of the U.S. Forest Service. Kittie is survived by two grand-daughters. She will long be remembered by her many fields and colleagues in the Department of Botany for her kindness and outgoing personality.

—DIETER C. WASSHAUSEN, Department of Botany, NHB-166, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560-0001, USA.



Wasshausen, Dieter C. 1995. "Kittie Fenley Parker (1910-1994)." *Madroño; a West American journal of botany* 42, 419-419.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/185854>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/171290>

Holding Institution

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

Sponsored by

Biodiversity Heritage Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: In Copyright. Digitized with the permission of the rights holder

Rights Holder: California Botanical Society

License: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/>

Rights: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/permissions/>

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.