Global Explorer’s Guide to Ten Broeck Mansion: Let’s Find Plants from Around the World!

Stop 1: Copper Beech (Europe)
Begin at the east porch of Ten Broeck Mansion (facing the Hudson River). Near the front door you will see the oldest tree have in our gardens, a lovely copper beech (*fagus sylvatica f. purpurea*). Copper beech trees were originally from Europe, and came to North America in the mid-1700s. This copper beech was planted in 1880 by the Olcott family, who lived in the Ten Broeck Mansion for 100 years. 

Fun fact: The Copper Beech tree was planted at the same time the Olcotts added a second floor to the southern addition on the Ten Broeck Mansion. Notice the change in bricks between the 2 floors.

Stop 2: Papyrus Plants (Africa)
Walk around the circular drive to the west porch of Ten Broeck Mansion, facing the garden. On either side of the steps leading to the garden you will see two papyrus plants (look for the spiky green leaves). *Cyperus papyrus* is native to parts of tropical Africa and the Mediterranean. Ancient Egyptians used papyrus to produce paper! Near the papyrus plants you will also see two large metasequoias (*metasequoia glyptostroboides*), or dawn redwood trees, native to China. Reach up and feel their soft leaves!

Stop 3: Hostas (Asia)
Turn left off the garden path and head toward the shade garden near the benches, where you will see our hosta plants! Hostas are native to Japan, China, and Korea. They were introduced to Europe in the mid-1700s and then brought to the United States around 1850. Sit on the benches and enjoy the shade with our leafy hostas!

Stop 4: Kousa Dogwood
Leaving the shade garden, walk toward the parking lot. You will see a Korean dogwood tree. The Korean dogwood or kousa (*Cornus kousa*) is a small tree known for its four-petaled white flowers and reddish-purple leaves in autumn. Native to East Asia, this tree was brought to America in the late 1800s.

Stop 5: Yucca Plant (South America)
Rejoin the garden path and you will see a yucca plant on your left! Yucca is native to South America and the southern United States. It is part of the agave family, and related to asparagus family (Asparagaceae). Notice its sharp spiky leaves!

Fun Fact: a south eastern species of yucca was planted at Thomas Jefferson’s house, Monticello, in Virginia!

Stop 6: Grape Arbor (North America)
Continue on the garden path and walk under our grape arbor. When ripening, Concord grapes have a sweet smell—just like grape juice! Did you know New York State was one of the biggest grape producers in the United States in the 1890s, second only to California? Concord grapes were developed in Concord, Massachusetts and by the 1800s were the main grape grown in New York State. The Olcott family, who lived in the Ten Broeck Mansion for 100 years, had a greenhouse which grew grapes near this site.

You’re Done! Good work!
Just like an explorer, use your drawing sheet on the back to draw the plants you have learned about today.

Thank you for joining us! We hope you had fun! The Ten Broeck Mansion is a nonprofit community-centered museum. Learn more at: www.tenbroeckmansion.org