



# Visions of an Artist



## JANICE & CHARLES DRAKE LIBRARY ART COLLECTION

- *June Floren Pritchard*
- *Scott Stearman*
- *Scott Ambler*

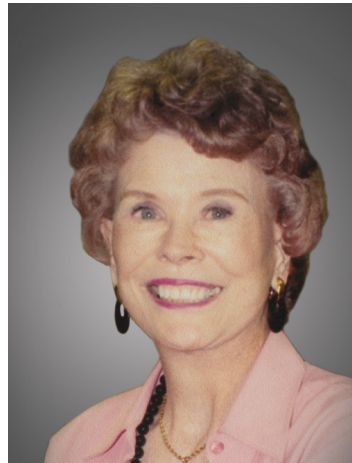
Welcome to the Janice and Charles Drake Library at Oklahoma Wesleyan University. This booklet contains the artists' reflections of fourteen paintings on both floors of the Library and the bronze sculpture in the pond on the northwest side of the building. All the paintings were created by June Floren Pritchard of Bartlesville, OK. Artist Scott Stearman of Colorado created the sculpture "The Blind Man Rising from the Pool of Siloam."

The artworks were installed after the completion of the library in 2009 through the generous support of Jim and June Pritchard and Janice and Charles Drake. Additional artwork may be found in the newly renovated LaQuinta Mansion. We encourage you to take your time viewing the artwork, LaQuinta Mansion and the beautiful grounds at Oklahoma Wesleyan University.

On the Cover, Janice and Charles Drake Library  
Inset, *The Blind Man at the Pool of Siloam*, by Scott Stearman, 2009

The giclée reproductions of June Floren Pritchard's original watercolors were digitized, enlarged and printed on canvas by Gary Gibson of Ampersand Graphics.  
Published January 2012





## JUNE FLOREN PRITCHARD

*"I enjoy painting what I love  
and then discovering that others  
find pleasure in my work."*

Jim and June Floren Pritchard have supported Oklahoma Wesleyan University for many years. Their most recent contribution is a series of artworks reproduced from June's original watercolor paintings, to grace the walls of the Janice and Charles Drake Library.

In childhood, June loved to draw. She majored in Art Education at the University of Oklahoma. However, her desire to paint developed when her two children were in college, and after the death of her first husband, Sigfrid E. Floren. She signs her paintings 'J. Floren.'

June has studied with many nationally known watercolorists including Hugh Walkinshaw, Milford Zornes, Robert E. Wood, Sheila Parsons, George Kountoupis, Charles Sovek, Janet Walsh and Lee Weiss. She has traveled abroad to paint on site in Italy, Yugoslavia, Greece, France, Mexico and China.

June's paintings have received awards in both regional and national art competitions. Two of her fanciful rooster paintings were licensed for worldwide distribution by Portal Publications, Ltd. of Novato, CA.

Being aware of the beauty around her, June enjoys a wide variety of subject matter including landscapes, street scenes, portraits, roosters, other animals and many flowers, especially the iris. June also does whimsical watercolor sketches of children.

Solo shows of her watercolors have been featured in Appleton, WI; Dallas, TX; Ft. Smith, AR; as well as Oklahoma. June's paintings are in private collections in many states and several foreign countries. Her work is on permanent display at the Bartlesville Chamber of Commerce, Rogers State University, and Oklahoma Wesleyan University.

June has been an active member of the Bartlesville Art Association and has served as its president. Some of her work can be viewed on her website at: [www.junefloren-art.com](http://www.junefloren-art.com).

The pieces in this collection are reproductions created for the permanent display that opened at the dedication of the Janice and Charles Drake Library in 2009.

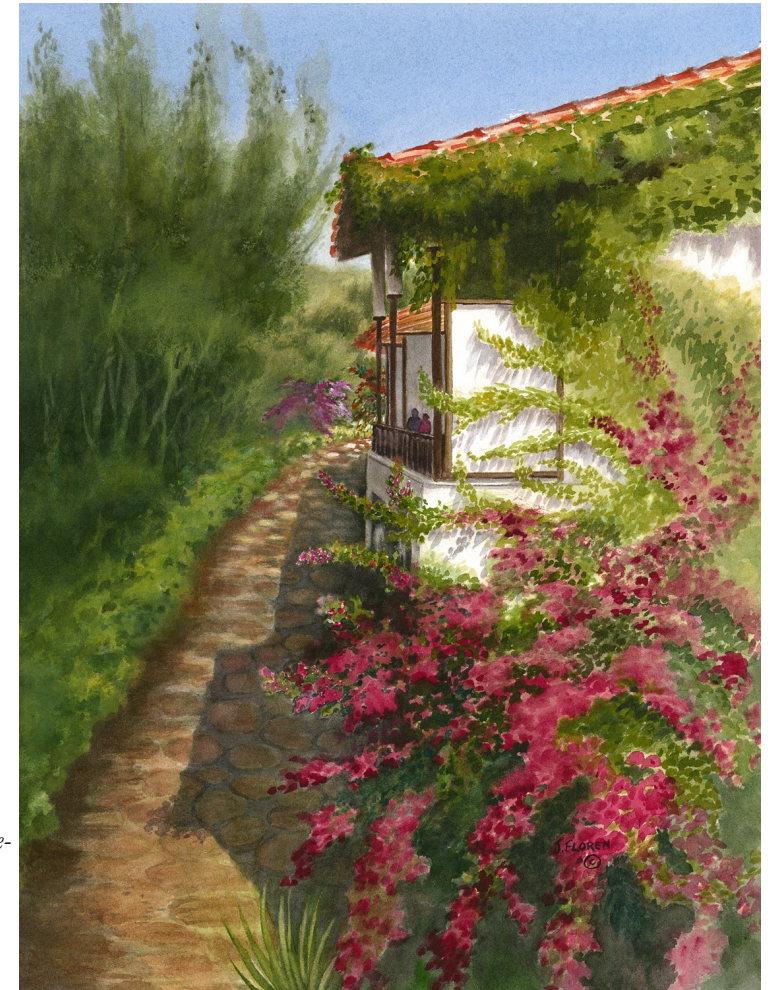


### Bougainvillea Hideaway

By June Floren Pritchard  
Painted September, 1992  
Plein Air in Greece  
Original watercolor,  
18.5" x 12.5"

*"In 1992 I joined a group of 23 artists for a three week painting trip to Greece. It was a rare and beautiful experience! After soaking up some of the ancient sights in Athens, we took the ferry to four of the Greek islands where we had several days to paint on each island."*

*"Bougainvillea Hideaway" is of the breathtaking view from the balcony of our hotel room on the Island of Samos. The light was perfect, bougainvillea was growing in profuse clusters, my watercolors were handy, and I spent a delightful afternoon on the balcony capturing the gorgeous scene just outside my room."*



Continue along the windows to the center of the library. As you cross over to the other side take a moment to view the beautiful architecture of the building. When you reach the windows, notice the lake and beautiful view of the La Quinta Mansion. Walk north and you will see "The Moat at Chateau du Coudray – Montbault"

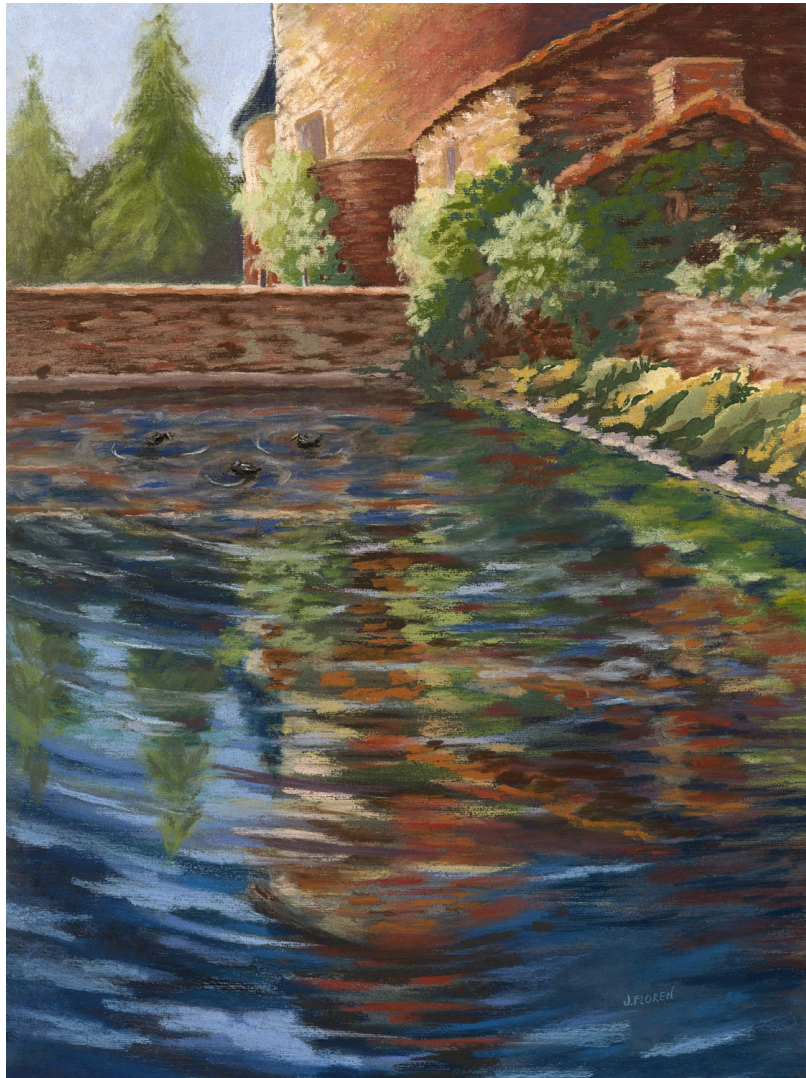


*"In September of 1991, I joined a group of artists on a three week painting trip to France. For several days we stayed at a farm in the beautiful Loire River Valley and took day trips to various scenic locations to paint.*

*One afternoon following a tour given by the owner of this castle we had several hours to paint this site. Because of the interesting reflection of the castle, I chose to paint the moat. The painting was completed with pastels in my home studio in December 1991."*

**The Moat at Chateau du Coudray – Montbault**

by June Floren Pritchard  
Painted September 1991  
Plein Air  
Original watercolor,  
20" x 14"



**Flying Home** by June Floren Pritchard

Painted August 24, 1996

Original watercolor 22 x 30"



*"As my husband, James E. Pritchard, and I were flying home from Angel Fire, NM to Bartlesville one August evening I sketched fast, trying to capture the spectacular sunset around us. Huge banks of clouds reflected the brilliant last rays of the sun. The lights of Bartlesville could be seen between the parade of small rows of clouds in the distance below. I completed the painting the next morning in my studio while the beautiful image was still vivid in my memory."*



**Italian Village Side Street** by June Floren Pritchard

Painted May 1984

Plein Air

Original  
watercolor

*"Just two and a half years after I had begun to paint in water color, I traveled to Italy with a group of artists for two weeks. Being hesitant to paint in a crowded situation where people could watch me, I chose a secluded street near our hotel in Monterosso. I soaked in the beauty around me and the hillside vineyard beyond. That afternoon of painting was sheer delight. Only two people passed by as I painted. The lady carrying the shopping bag walked by at a very opportune time so I decided to add her, to show perspective in my painting, before she got out of sight."*



**Yugoslavian Shoppers**  
by June Floren Pritchard  
Painted May 1988  
Original watercolor  
Owned by Bill & Rita Ragusin

*"On an artists' trip to Yugoslavia in the spring of 1988, I really felt that I was in the 'Old World.' There were many surprises as we ventured onto the quaint shopping streets. It was delightful to see bells, trinkets, sidewalk cafes, antiques, open market places and NO CARS."*



**Down at the Station** by June Floren Pritchard  
 Painted fall of 1988  
 Original watercolor 22" x 30"  
 Owned by the Bartlesville Chamber of Commerce



*'Down at the Station' captures the history of Bartlesville as depicted by some of its landmark buildings. In the foreground is the Santa Fe Railroad Station (1909) now the headquarters of the Bartlesville Chamber of Commerce. The Tower of Frank Phillips' building (1930) stands out in the background with the Phillips Building (1964) and the Plaza Building (1985).*

*After the painting was finished a friend commented, 'June, you are known for your paintings of roosters but I don't find one in this painting.' So I painted a little one in the clear space near my signature.*

*The original "Down at the Station" is on permanent display in the Chamber of Commerce office. This painting was selected by the Chamber of Commerce from a group of seventeen works by local artists in a competition sponsored by the Bartlesville Art Association in the fall of 1988. It was given to the Chamber of Commerce.*



**Monterosso – Rainy Day** by June Floren Pritchard  
 Painted Plein Air, Italy May 1984  
 Original watercolor, 18" x 24"  
 Owned by John and Helen Vanderveen

*"It was raining that last day in Monterosso but I was determined to make one more painting. I found a covered area for protection then looked around at my painting possibilities. This is the result."*



**One Morning in Santorini**  
by June Floren Pritchard  
Painted February 16, 1995  
In Greece  
Original Painting 1  
0.5” x 14.5”  
Owned by Patricia & Max  
Legatski



*“Five days of painting on the distinctive Island of Santorini were not enough! I hated to leave. On our day of departure I woke early as the sun was just coming up. Taking my camera I strolled alone through the colorful narrow streets. A Greek Orthodox priest suddenly came into my view as I was about to take a picture. When seeing my camera he made an abrupt turn and stood at the wall of a scenic overlook. I captured the moment! I created the painting later in my studio.”*



**Winter Recess** by June Floren Pritchard  
Painted January 29 1995  
Original watercolor 10.5” x 14”



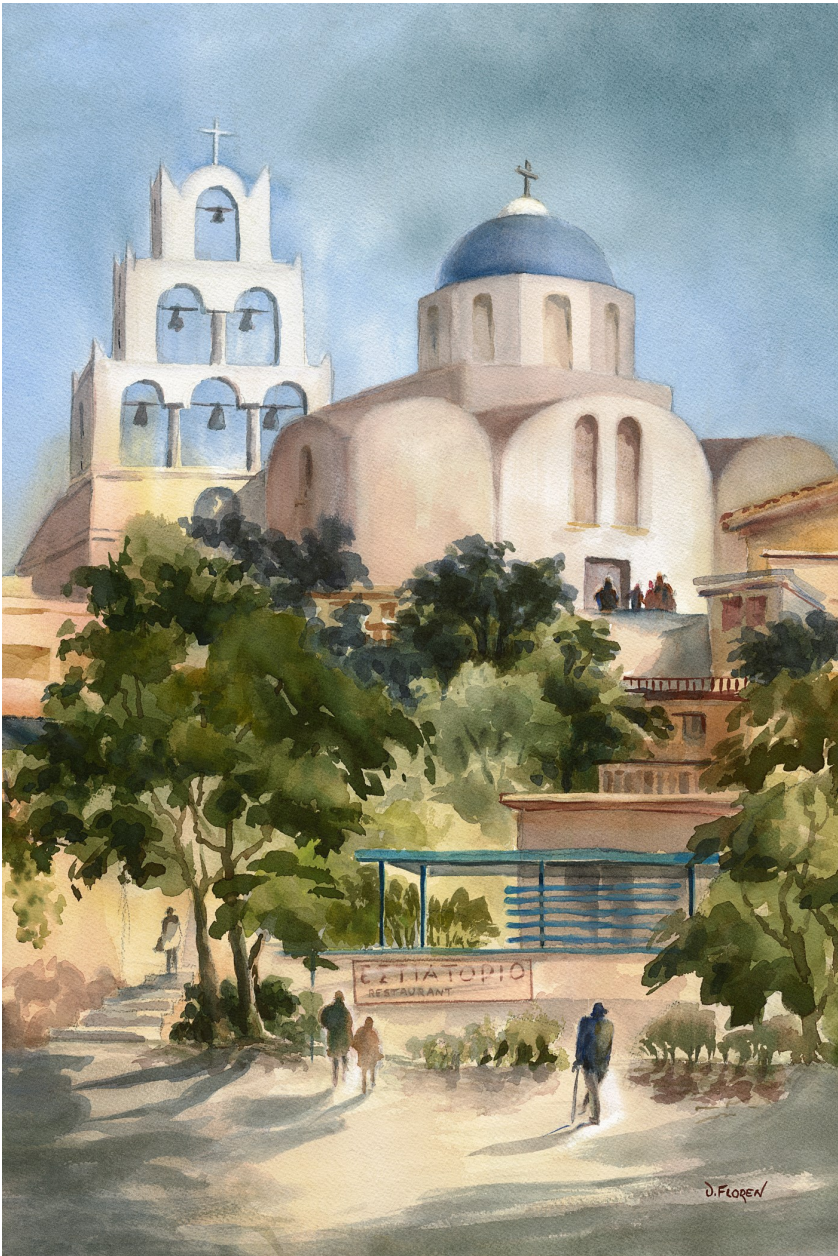
*“This happy event on the hillside of First Wesleyan Church was a joy to see as I happened to drive down Silver Lake Road. I rushed home to get my camera and was so glad to find that the children were still there! The original painting was bought by a Bartlesville lady whose child was a student at Wesleyan Christian School. She told me she thought the child in the painting who was ‘making snow angels’ might have been her son.”*





**Old World**  
by June Floren Pritchard  
Painted April 1990  
Original watercolor  
15” x 19”

*“Italy is a paradise for artists and photographers. This is one of several paintings I made after my painting trip to Italy. It captures the rich colors and the unique structure of buildings in Italian cities. Clothes hanging to dry on lines between the buildings are a familiar sight.”* **Pyrgos Monastery**



**Pyrgos Monastery**  
by June Floren Pritchard  
Painted Plein Air  
September 17, 1992  
Original watercolor  
24” x 19”

*The massive Greek Orthodox Monastery with its blue dome atop massive walls and the three tier bell tower dominate the small village of Pyrgos at the north end of the Island of Santorini, Greece. Our group of artists had only three or four hours for painting that day and this awesome subject was a challenge to say the least. As we painted, curious people would wander by; some stopped to watch and tried to converse. I just had to smile at them because I don’t understand Greek!”*



**Sedona** by June Floren Pritchard  
Painted April 15, 1998  
Original size: 6.25” x 24.25”  
Owned by Susan and Michael Murphy

*“My view through a high oblong window of a restaurant in Sedona, Arizona was the inspiration for this painting. While waiting for my order to be served, I sketched the overlapping shapes of rooftops that were “framed” by the window. In my studio, after returning from the trip, I had fun using pastels as my medium in imaginative and intensified colors.”*



**Reverse Image**  
*“The giclée process of reproducing artwork allows a reverse image to be made. This is the reverse image of the Sedona painting.”*



**Oklahoma Prairie Grass** by June Floren Pritchard  
Painted April 6, 1995  
Original watercolor 10” x 14”



*“When the wind sweeps across a large expanse of Oklahoma prairie grass the peaceful swaying is similar to gentle ocean waves.”*





**Springtime at CJS Farm** by June Floren Pritchard

Painted November of 1997

Original watercolor 22” x 30”

Owned by Clarence and Juanita Sumpter

*“In 1995, my good friend, Clarence Sumpter, asked if I might make a painting of their home. It is a distinctively beautiful home and I was pleased that he asked me. Over a period of about two years he made suggestions of other things he would like to have in painting, such as, the barn where they have barn dances, his forty head of cattle which are brown, but now the herd is being changed to black since the purchase of his new prize Simmental\* cow, ‘Miss High Interest’ that he would like to feature in the painting. And ‘oh yes, I also want the beautiful wooded area behind the house! Could you include that too?’*

*All this was quite challenging and I wondered if I could possibly do it to please him. Then when he told me he often saw a beautiful rainbow over the wooded area and wanted it in the painting, I decided I had better get started before he thought of something else! Finally, this was the result. Thank goodness he was very pleased and I was too! They surprised me with a memorable unveiling party, including many friends and flowers! WOW!”*

\*Simmental cattle originated in the Simme Valley of Switzerland in the 14th Century. Because of their huge size they were used as draft animals. In recent years this breed has become known for their excellent beef.



## SCOTT STEARMAN

*“Stearman is great.  
He did exactly what we asked.  
He nailed it.”  
– Dr. Everett Piper*

Noted artist Scott Stearman of Colorado created "The Blind Man Rising from the Pool of Siloam," which you will find placed in the pond on the west side of the Janice and Charles Drake Library. The sculpture, weighing nearly half a ton and standing seven and a half feet tall, faces the stained glass window of Jesus on the west side of the Lyon Chapel/Fine Arts Center. Commissioned just for OKWU, the sculpture has significant meaning for the University.

“We chose the blind man and the pool of Siloam because it's a perfect representation of our mission. He obeys Christ, does what he is told to do, and sees as the result. He sees truth. He sees Jesus,” said President Everett Piper.

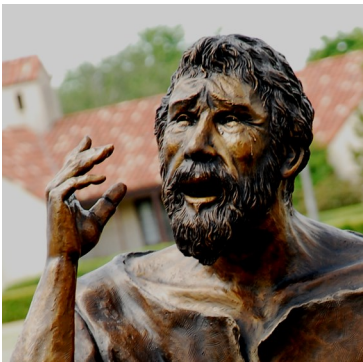
Dr. Piper heard about Stearman because of his John Wesley sculptures and because he had created the bust of Mr. and Mrs. William Mueller for the Mueller Sports Center.

The sculpture of the blind man stands at the edge of the water and his staff lies nearby on the ground. He is in rags; the result of a blind man's life of begging. His eyes are open, wide and excited. His expression reflects joy and sadness as he sees the beauty around him for the first time. His rugged hands reflect his difficult life. As a beggar, he has been subjected to the

treachery of the street. He has been beaten and robbed. Droplets trickle down his face, perhaps tears from the emotion of the experience.

Stearman describes the scene, "His staff lays on the ground...useless now. It once was his crutch and his best friend. Because he has met Jesus, he doesn't need it anymore. A smooth worn place reflects the years he carried it. At the top grows one leaf representing 'new life.' New life he can only see since his encounter with Jesus.”

“What I love about this piece,” reflects



**Blind Man Rising from the Pool of Siloam**

Stearman, “is it allows people to connect their own story to the sculpture. This isn't my story. This is the Oklahoma Wesleyan University story. This is the story of a student who will stand in front of this sculpture and understand the concept of having the

veil removed from their eyes. I met Christ, now I see clearly.”

Stearman's hope is that those who look at the sculpture connect and understand that such a miracle is available to them.

Thank you for touring the Drake library. Please feel free to visit the La Quinta mansion while you are on campus and come again soon.



## JANICE & CHARLES DRAKE LIBRARY AND LA QUINTA MANSION

The Janice and Charles Drake library is a sleek modern version of the Spanish architecture seen in La Quinta mansion. The large arched windows create a spacious interior filled with light. The stair case, with its wrought iron work, seems to float to the second floor. The beautiful columns and pergola on the west side offer the visitor a comfortable place to rest and take in the view across the lake.

In 1935, Edward Delk was given the Certificate of Award from the Kansas City Chapter of the American Institute of Architects for his work on the Foster's Bartlesville residence. Architect Scott Ambler commented on his interest in Edward Delk's designs and the influence La Quinta had on his conception for the Drake Library.

"I am enamored with the work of Mr. Delk and am honored for our work to share the campus with La Quinta. The Drake Library was designed to capture the visitor's eye upon entering the campus and to prepare the viewer for the surprise that is to come. From the Mansion, the Drake Library frames the view of the Fine Arts Center. Our goal was to create a modern interpretation of Delk's Spanish Eclectic Style. The elegance of the mansion, one of Delk's best works, is a prominent feature on the OWKU campus. I hope the Library is viewed as an appropriate counterpoint to the beautiful La Quinta."

Scott Ambler, Architect

The La Quinta mansion was designed by Edward Buehler Delk and built in 1932 as the



home of H. V. Foster. Delk was well known for his work on the Country Club Plaza in Kansas City, where he established his career in the mid 1920's.

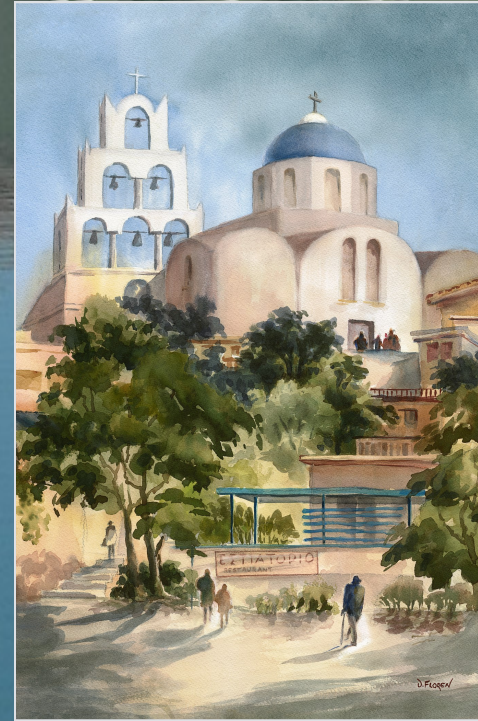
An extensive traveler, Delk often used adaptations of the architecture and design that he discovered

abroad. You see that influence in the Spanish mission style he used to create La Quinta.

Mrs. Foster verified, in an interview written by students in 1965, that their two daughters were interested in Mexico at the time that the mansion was being designed. Their father chose the Spanish mission style to please them.

We invite you to tour the mansion with its beautiful red tiled roof, wrought-iron balconies, and stucco covered walls. The Spanish mission architecture has provided a theme and focal point for the campus of Oklahoma Wesleyan University. The interior has many interesting features – including hand-painted ceilings, seven fireplaces, fourteen bathrooms, and a tower that overlooks the city of Bartlesville.

Thank you for visiting Oklahoma Wesleyan University. We hope you enjoyed your visit.



*Pyrgos Monastery  
By June Floren Pritchard*

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