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The Garden Club of America Collection - Alice Lockwood's Lecture American Gardens of the Southern States

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Virginia

3-

^[[[]]] 5 -] Wall at Westover. [[/underline]]

^[[+]]7. ^[[[]]] The old wall, so well built that it has resisted the depredations of time, and the old tool house, both of which were part of the original plan of 1730. [[/bracket and line]]

^[[+ []]] ^[[[]]] BRANDON on the James River ^[[[]]]

8. ^[[[]]] Brandon was first called Martin's Brandon as it was granted to John Martin who came from England with Captain John Smith. ^[[[]]] It passed to the Harrison family in 1720 and they have held it for two centuries; now, by a strange coincidence, it is owned again by a descendant of John Martin, Robert W. Daniel.

^[[+]] 9 [[/bracket and line]] Brandon has been described as the loveliest place on the James River. [[/bracket and line]] this is saying a great deal, but it is certainly exceedingly beautiful.

^[[[]]] The oldest part of the house was built in 1735. ^[[[]]] and we can only presume that the planning of the grounds was done at the same time.

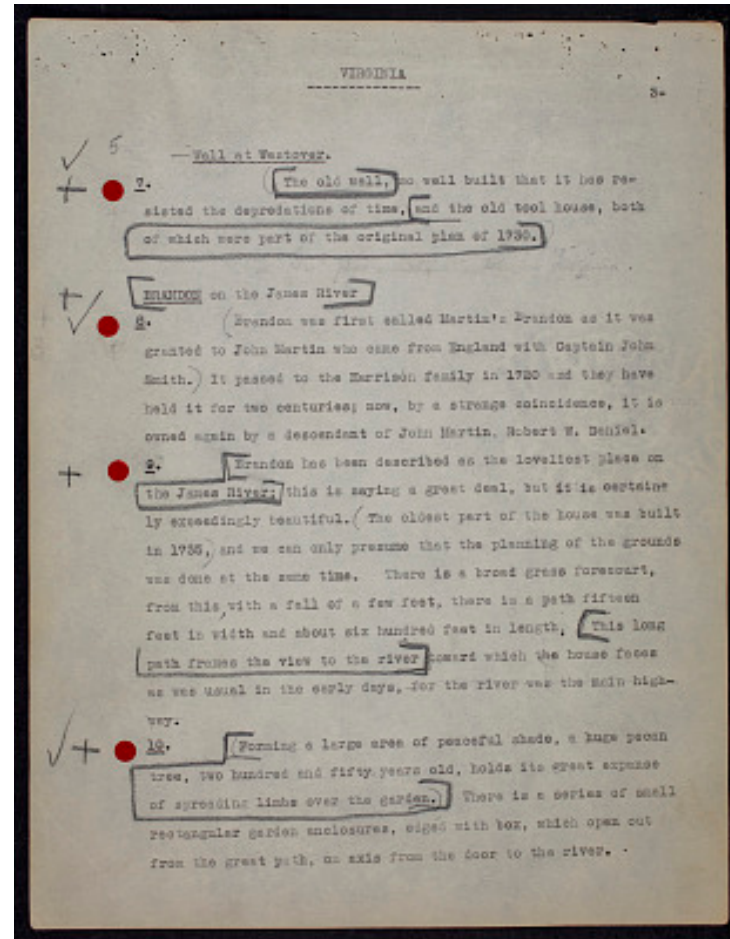
There is a broad grass forecourt, from this ^[[[]]] with a fall of a few feet, there is a path fifteen feet in width and about six hundred feet in length.

^[[[]]] This long path frames the view to the river

toward which the house faces as was usual in the early days, for the river was the main highway.

^[[[]]] 10 ^[[[]]]

^[[[]]] Forming a large area of peaceful shade, a huge pecan tree, two hundred and fifty years old, holds its great expanse of spreading limbs over the garden. ^[[[]]] There is a series of small rectangular garden enclosures, edged with box, which open out from the great path, on axis from the door to the river.



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