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

Extracted on Mar-29-2024 08:18:25

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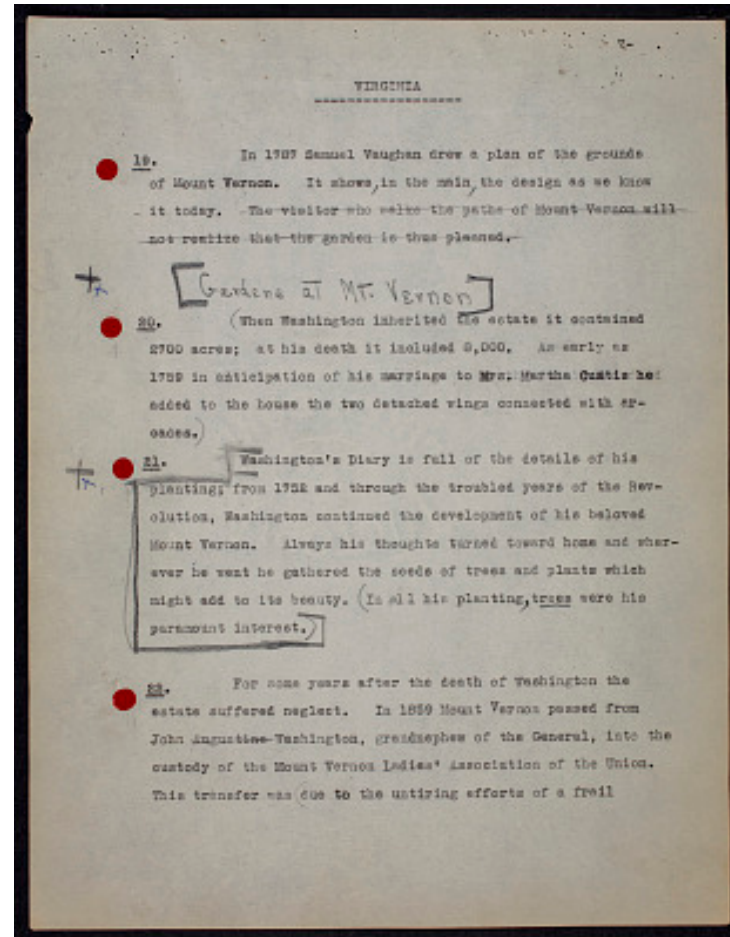
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VIRGINIA

19. In 1787 Samuel Vaughan drew a plan of the grounds of Mount Vernon. It shows in the main the design as we know it today. ~~The visitor who walks the paths of Mount Vernon will not realize that the garden is thus planned.~~

20. When Washington inherited the estate it contained 2700 acres; at his death it included 8,000. As early as 1759 in anticipation of his marriage to Mrs. Martha Custis he added to the house the two detached wings connected with arcades. Washington's Diary is full of the details of his planting; from 1752 and through the troubled years of the Revolution, Washington continued the development of his beloved Mount Vernon. Always his thoughts turned toward home and wherever he went he gathered the seeds of trees and plants which might add to its beauty. In all his planting trees were his paramount interest. For some years after the death of Washington the estate suffered neglect. In 1859 Mount Vernon passed from John Augustine Washington, grandnephew of the General, into the custody of the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union. This transfer was due to the untiring efforts of a frail



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