Southeastern Pennsylvania, in which the old gardens described in this paper are located, is rich in points of historic, horticultural and scientific interest. The principal center of mushroom cultivation in America is located in Chester County, as is also the carnation growing center. The relatively mild climate, as contrasted with the rest of the state, permits the growth of many exotic and tender species of plants which cannot be raised elsewhere in Pennsylvania. This horticultural preeminence is not due to a sudden discovery of the suitability of the climate to gardening, but it was revealed to the colonists, who recognized the possibilities of the country at an early date.

ROSICRUCIAN GARDEN ON THE WISSAHICKON.

The first botanical garden in Pennsylvania was made by the Rosicrucian fraternity on the lower Wissahickon immediately west of the Tabernacle built by the German Pietists as a place of worship. The Tabernacle was standing during the Revolutionary War, but was torn down subsequently. The garden contained medicinal herbs used by the fraternity. The second...
garden was that of Christopher Witt adjoining the large house at the southeast corner of High and Main Streets, Germantown. Dr. Witt's garden antedated that of John Bartram by about twenty years.

**BARTRAM GARDEN.**

But the most famous of these old Pennsylvania gardens is that founded by John Bartram, who was born in the village of Darby on the 23rd day of March, 1699. When about thirty years of age, we find him on a farm located on the banks of the Schuylkill River. Here he built a house with a stone fitted in the south gable with the inscription—"John, Ann Bartram 1731." Bartram's interest in plant life was awakened soon after he located on the Schuylkill, and he assembled about the farmhouse trees, shrubs and herbs collected by himself on his journeys through the Amer-
ican colonies, or sent him by his correspondents, who, alive to the possibilities of growing American plants in Europe, were anxious to exchange with the Quaker botanist in Philadelphia. Planted by the botanist’s own hands many of the trees and shrubs have survived until recent years (Fig. 1). Some of the surviving trees are the gingko, yellow-wood, silver bell, Fraser’s magnolia, yellow and red buckeyes, etc. The garden was noted for a big cypress tree which was seven feet in diameter, planted in 1740. Dead for nearly twenty-five years and rotten at its roots it fell down of itself on May 1, 1920.

The celebrated Lady Petre pear tree was planted in Bartram’s Garden in 1765 and has borne fruit ever since. It is one of the three pear trees for which the Philadelphia region is noted, viz., the Petre pear, the original Seckel pear tree, which grew on the Neck near the Girard farm, and the original Keiffer pear tree in Roxborough. The Bartram gingko tree is probably the first tree of its kind planted in America, for it is a larger tree than the one in Woodlands Cemetery which Prof. Charles S. Sargent believes has documentary evidence to prove its greater antiquity. The celebrated Bartram trees which have died within recent years are the mossy cup oak, the Bartram oak, the large silver maple, hemlock and holly. The barn built by John Bartram 2nd and his wife Eliza Howell in 1775 is in an excellent state of preservation and the old cider mill hewn out of the solid gneissic rock is surrounded by an iron railing for its protection against vandals.

**MARSHALL ARBORETUM AT MARSHALLTON.**

Humphry Marshall, a cousin of John Bartram, had similar tastes, for he established an arboretum on his farm near the village of Marshallton in 1773. Before the commencement of the garden he had collected native plants and seeds for shipment to Europe and
subsequently with the assistance of his nephew, Dr. Moses Marshall, he began to plant his treasures at home. In 1849, when Dr. William Darlington wrote his "Memorials of John Bartram and Humphry Marshall," he stated that a large number of the trees still survived, although the garden from neglect had become a wilderness. The house was embowered in trees. Some of the finest trees were cut down about 1894, but in 1920 there remained in the arboretum the following: cucumber tree, Kentucky coffee tree, sweet gum, hackberry, black locust, honey locust, tree of heaven, white pine, hemlock, chestnut, black birch and white poplar. Maple trees and horse-chestnut trees were part of the collection.

The old stone house built by Humphry Marshall is in an excellent state of preservation. There are a few of the lower stones in the east wall with letters inscribed. Two stones have H M—Humphry Marshall. A larger stone has a pair of compasses and below A F 1773—Arboretum Founded, 1773 and A. H. M. There was written "Arbustrum Americanum—the American Grove, or an Alphabetical Catalogue of Forest Trees and Shrubs, natives of the American United States." It was printed in Philadelphia in 1785. It is a duodecimo volume of 174 pages. With the exception of "Catalogue d'Arbres Arbustes et Plantes Herbaceis d'Amerique" published in Paris in 1783, the Arbustrum is the first purely botanical work on American trees. The Chester County Historical Society erected a memorial stone in front of the main entrance to the arboretum with this inscription:

THE HOME AND ARBORETUM OF HUMPHRY MARSHALL
EARLY AMERICAN BOTANIST
1722–1801
MARKED BY THE CHESTER COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY, 1913.
THE PAINTER ARBORETUM.

The arboretum laid out by the two brothers Minshall and Jacob Painter is celebrated for its fine trees and shrubs. Minshall was born on March 6, 1801, and his brother Jacob on June 22, 1814. Both remained bachelors and lived together on the farm, part of which they laid out in an arboretum. Here grow cedar of Lebanon, cryptomeria, maiden hair tree, California redwood, balsam, papaw, yellow-wood, silver bell, varnish tree, sweet gum and several magnolias.

On the death of Minshall Painter of apoplexy August 21, 1873, and of his brother Jacob on November 3, 1876, the place passed to John J. Tyler. The brothers lie buried in the Cumberland Cemetery adjoining the meeting house they attended and their graves are marked by substantial monuments inscribed with expressions of their love of plant life.

PEIRCE ARBORETUM AT LONGWOOD.

The influence of Humphry Marshall was felt in the establishment (1800) of an arboretum at Longwood about two miles north of Kennett Square, Chester County, by two brothers Samuel and Joshua Peirce, whose mother was a niece of Humphry Marshall. Here were assembled more than a hundred different kinds of trees including Norway spruce, Canadian spruce, swamp cypress, horse-chestnut, gingko, beech, holly and several species of magnolia. The trees were planted in long rows forming several avenues. George W. Peirce, son of Joshua Peirce, inherited the place and he added much to its beauty. After his death the farm passed to the Stebbins family from whom the present owner Pierre S. DuPont bought it.

The growth of the estate under the direction of Mr. DuPont has been phenomenal with the construction of a million dollar greenhouse in 1921. It is heated by
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Oil-burning boilers. The formal gardens blend on the one side with the golf course, on the other with the old Peirce arboretum. The old house built by Caleb Peirce of bricks imported from England bears the date of 1730, and to this fine colonial dwelling the DuPonts have added a wing between which and the old wing is a glass covered court with a playing fountain.

TWADDELL GARDEN, KINGSESSING.

Until recently, there stood back from Baltimore Avenue between 45th and 46th Streets a large double-house, the back portion of which was built by a Swede, Johan Johansen, about 1700 on the site of an older house. The front part of the house was built by two French brothers after the Revolutionary War, who adorned the grounds about the house with boxtrees, La Provence roses introduced from France, various trees, such as tulip tree, black pine, sycamore and mulberry trees, as the brothers were interested in the raising of silk worms for the production of silk. The orchard stood in front of the house along Baltimore Avenue. Several trees in the orchard showed the effect of crown grafting in that the stock grew faster than the cion. Centaurea nigra, which escaped from cultivation, was long established in the wilder parts of the ground and in the fields of the immediate neighborhood.

WOODLANDS.

Woodlands on the bank of the Schuylkill River above Bartram’s Garden was founded by Andrew Hamilton, whose son Andrew Hamilton second passed it on to William Hamilton, who built an impressive mansion, which still adorns the cemetery created out of the old estate. The trees and the garden flowers of Woodlands were celebrated, for Francois Andre Michaux, the botanist, speaks of the collection of exotics as immense and remarkable. Frederick Pursh, the botanist, lived
at Woodlands from 1802 to 1805 and he introduced plants from all parts of North America.

William Hamilton died at Woodlands on June 5, 1813, and his nephew William Hamilton succeeded to the estate. Subsequently on April 13, 1840, the estate was sold to The Woodlands Cemetery Company of Philadelphia and was transformed into one of the principal cemeteries of the city. Here until recently stood a row of large *Zelkova crenata* trees, native of the Caucasus, a large *Magnolia grandiflora* and a *Gingko biloba*, 7 feet 7 inches in circumference, thought by Professor Charles S. Sargent to be the first tree of its kind planted in America.

**FAIRMOUNT PARK.**

Fairmount Park, the pleasure ground of the people of Philadelphia, started as a small area at the base of Fair Mount in 1812. To it was added Lemon Hill, the country seat of Robert Morris, and subsequent additions have brought the total area of the park to over 3500 acres. General Lafayette planted a black walnut tree at Belmont in 1824, and Washington planted a Spanish chestnut tree near the old Judge Peters' mansion by inserting it in a hole made by his cane. Around Horticultural Hall are many fine trees (Fig. 2) and the Michaux Grove established by the munificence of Francois Andre Michaux in leaving a fund with the American Philosophical Society for the purpose is near the hall built for the Centennial of 1876.

**JOHN EVANS ARBORETUM.**

In our description of "Some Old Pennsylvania Gardens" we proceed to Ithan Creek below Bryn Mawr where John Evans, born February 13, 1790, established in 1828 an arboretum. John Evans began the study of botany with Darlington's "Florula Cestrica," and he started to grow many varieties of trees and other
Fig. 2. Large Sassafras. Fairmount Park near Horticultural Hall, February 10, 1917.

Fig. 3. Yellowwood (Cladrastis lutea). Awbury, May 26, 1919.
plants in the pursuit of his favorite science. Aquatic species were grown in a pond, sand-loving species on a sandy stretch along Ithan Creek. Today the original woods protect many finely grown specimens of trees, such as the pecan, cucumber tree, *Magnolia macrophylla* and various conifers. The present owner has improved the old by the judicious introduction of herbaceous plants as the undergrowth. Altogether there are few places which have combined so successfully the old and the new.

**AWBURY, GERMANTOWN.**

Awbury was established about sixty years ago by Thomas P. Cope, who introduced many trees and shrubs, which have now reached almost adult size. The original planting was well done, for we find many beautiful vistas, some of them suggesting the best examples of English park scenery. The Cope family has made of Awbury a public park by a provision in the will of Miss Annette Cope, who died January 8, 1911. The generosity of Miss Caroline E. Cope has added materially to the endowment fund managed by members of the Cope family and the City Parks Association. Improvements are under way to make at Awbury a fine arboretum of trees which will grow in the latitude of Philadelphia with the nucleus of the trees already established there (Fig. 3).

**ALDIE, DOYLESTOWN.**

Doylestown, the county seat of Bucks County, is delightfully situated in a rich agricultural region. Here is located Aldie, the estate of Mr. William R. Mercer, inherited from his father, who died at the age of ninety-one in 1917. The property boasts many fine trees arranged in the style of an English landscape, planted when the large house was built in 1870. Many of the trees are therefore fifty years of age and over. Here
are sweet gum, bald cypress, English oak, English ash, elms, beeches, yellow-wood, magnolias, black spruces, red spruces, Norway spruces, various pines and maples beside flowering shrubs and showy herbs which brighten the borders. Near the house, in English cottage style, now the residence of the Mercers, we find the formal gardens embellished with old Italian grain jars, Byzantine mosaics and a Byzantine font supported by twisted cement columns.

COMPTON, CHESTNUT HILL.

Compton on Wissahickon Creek is beautifully situated and is rich in native trees and shrubs, as well as new introductions from China and Japan. The Chinese and Japanese plants were consigned to the owner from the Arnold Arboretum, because he had contributed largely to the several botanical expeditions of the institution to the orient. The garden is well watered from three springs, with an ample flow to meet all garden needs. The Japanese section of the garden covers a knoll with pools and waterfalls over which the vari-colored maples hang their branches. Some of the oriental trees are supported by wicker frames which confine the branches and place them in the right position for artistic effect. The flower garden is situated below the house on the slopes of the hill and its beds are outlined with trim box hedges. The architectural features of Compton consist of sun dials, bird baths, playing fountains, a Greek temple, terraces, terrace steps, balustrades and large garden vases. A log cabin along the stream which flows across the estate provided seclusion for the former owner, who was devoted to archeologic and literary pursuits.

BOXLY, CHESTNUT HILL.

This brief survey would not be complete without reference to Boxly, the country estate of the late Fred-
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Fig. 4. Garden House at Boxly used for Sericulture (100 years old), October 10, 1921.

Fig. 5. Box Bushes and Old Apple Trees. Boxly, Chestnut Hill, October 10, 1921.
erick W. Taylor at Chestnut Hill. Boxly is part of the land given by William Penn to Francis David Pastorius, who came to America in 1683. It passed through various hands until in 1803 it came into possession of John Du Barry, a Frenchman who laid out the grounds in the French style. Mr. Du Barry was interested in silk culture and he planted white mulberry trees at Boxly with the intention of raising silkworms (Fig. 4). The apple trees still found in the garden were brought by him from France (Fig. 5). The celebrated box borders were planted by Du Barry. Here is one of the first forms of greenhouse sunken six feet in the ground to avoid the cold of winter and heated by the sun. At one side of the ground are the experimental grass plots where Mr. Taylor with the assistance of the head gardener, Mr. Bender, carried on trials of various grasses suitable for lawns and putting greens.

Altogether southeastern Pennsylvania is rich in fine estates, where all styles of landscape gardening may be studied, and where an unusually great variety of native and exotic plants are grown. A large volume would not be sufficient to describe in detail the horticultural development of the region.