American Gardens of the Nineteenth Century



"For Comfort and Affluence"

ANN LEIGHTON

The University of Massachusetts Press

Amherst

1987

Contents

List of Illustrations xi

Foreword xv

Preview from the Summerhouse 3

Unfamiliar Territory

ONE
American Plants and Early American Botanists 15

T W O
Star of Empire: Botanist-Explorers in the Western Territories 29

THREE
Those Blessed Visitors: Observers from Abroad 42

FOUR
Free Spirits and Fixed Points 49

FIVE
Seedsmen and Their Nurseries 67

SIX Enter the Ladies 83

SEVEN Societies and Shows 101 viii | Contents

Laying on of Hands

EIGHT Early Links 119

NINE Cemeteries into Parks 134

TEN
Principals and Their Principles 144

ELEVEN
Later Links 173

T W E L V E Greensward into Central Park 186

THIRTEEN

The Final Link: Trees as Keys to Understanding the Value of
Natural Resources 196

Domestic Pleasures

FOURTEEN
Tracing Outlines of the Past: Living Clues and

Eyewitness Accounts 209

The Uses of Space, and of Embellishments 228

SIXTEEN
Bedding-out 241

SEVENTEEN
Neighboring Improvements 249

ø

EIGHTEEN
How to Make Country Places 261

Contents | ix

NINETEEN
Northern Lights 269

TWENTY
Specialty Gardens 284

Afterword 296

Appendix: Plants Most Commonly Used in Nineteenth-Century
American Gardens 299

Bibliography 381

Index 391