Gardening In The Ancient World. The earliest gardens were grown for practical reasons. People grew herbs or vegetables. However when man became civilized an upper class emerged with the leisure to enjoy purely decorative gardens. They also had servants (or slaves) to do the gardening for them. Gardening in Ancient Egypt. In the hot and arid climate of ancient Egypt rich people liked to rest in the shade of trees. They created gardens enclosed by walls with trees planted in rows. Sometimes the Egyptians planted alternating species. Little Machines in Their Gardens: A History of School Gardens in America, 1891 to 1920

Brain Trelstad

Abstract

“Little Machines in their Gardens: A History of School Gardens in America, 1891 to 1920” explores the rise and decline of the school garden movement in the United States. The paper first documents the early history of the gardens and establishes them as a national phenomenon that weaves together Progressive governance, the Back to Nature Movement, and early education reform. The paper then seeks to explain the sudden demise of the school gardens after 1920 by exploring the changes in American urban life and the nature of the professions that promoted the gardens.

© 1997 by the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System