



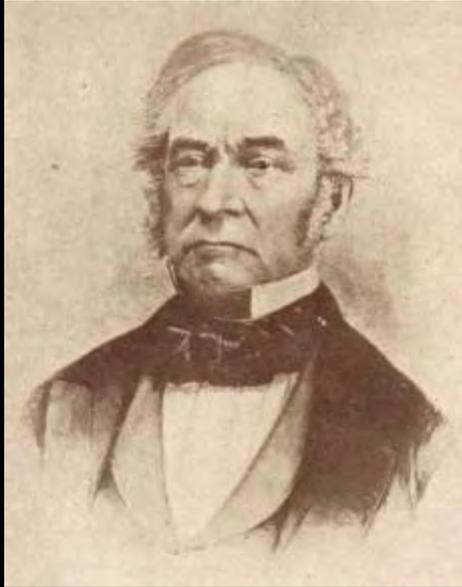
*Celebrating* **100** YEARS  
of Research for the *Growing World*

# Early USDA History

**Rob Griesbach**

**USDA had its  
beginning in  
the Patent Office**

**In 1839, Patent Office established Agricultural Section for collection of agricultural statistics & distribution of seeds and plants.**



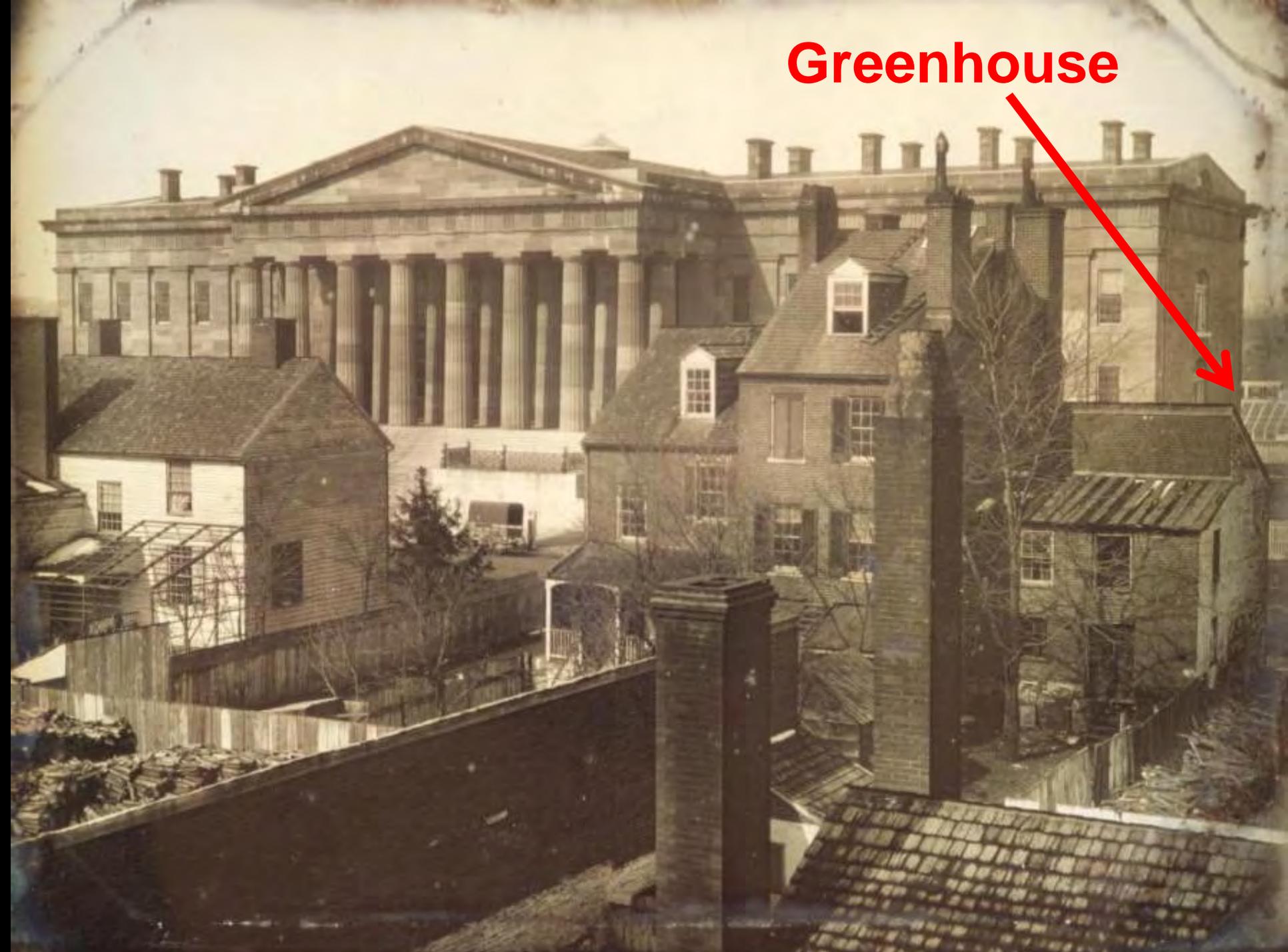
**Henry E.  
Ellsworth  
Commissioner  
Patent Office**



**Agricultural Section  
housed in basement  
(seed processing)  
with outdoor gardens  
and greenhouse  
(propagation).**



**Greenhouse**



# 1849 Patent Office Expands



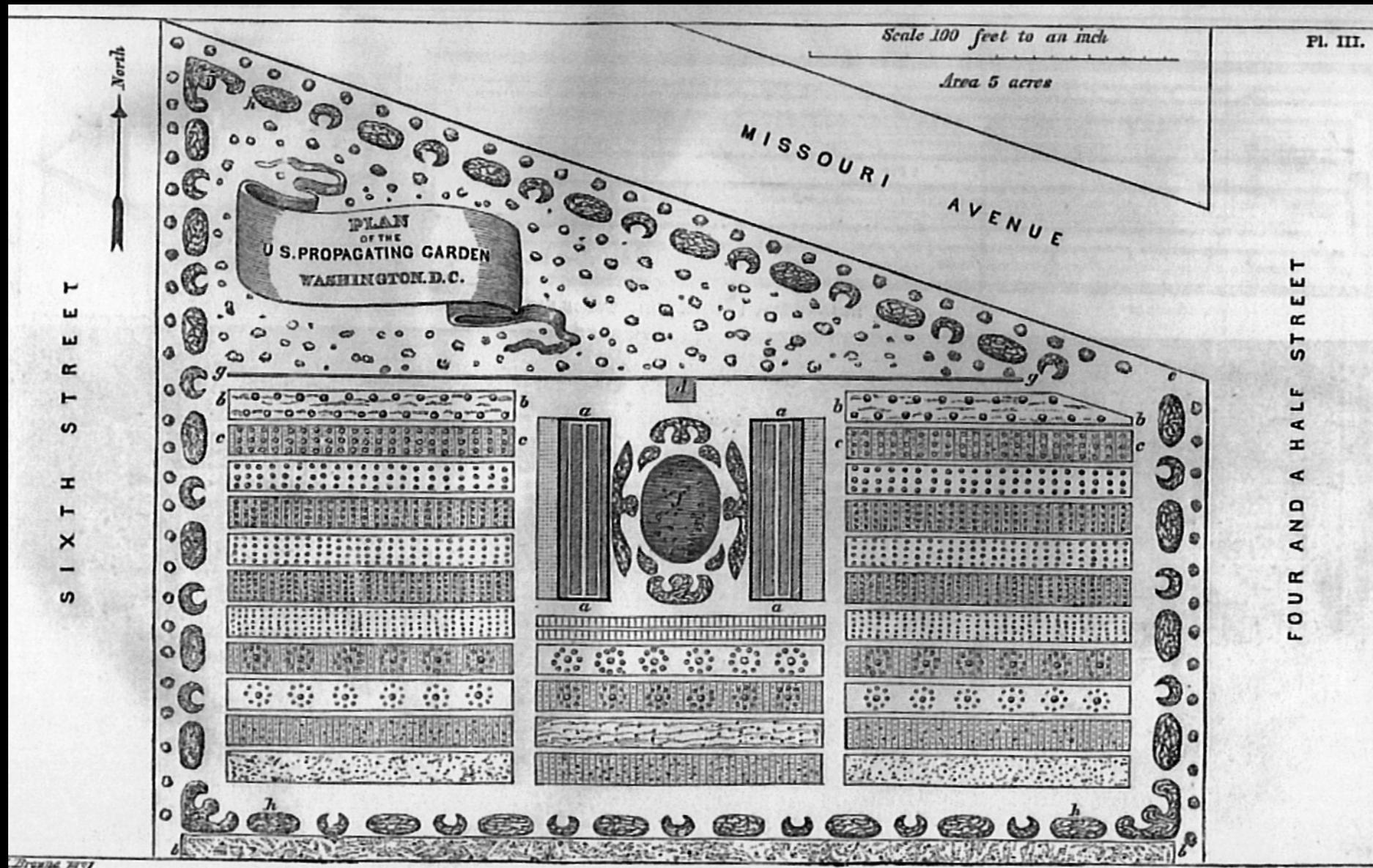
**Old Patent Office Building is now:  
Donald W. Reynolds Center for American Art & Portraiture**

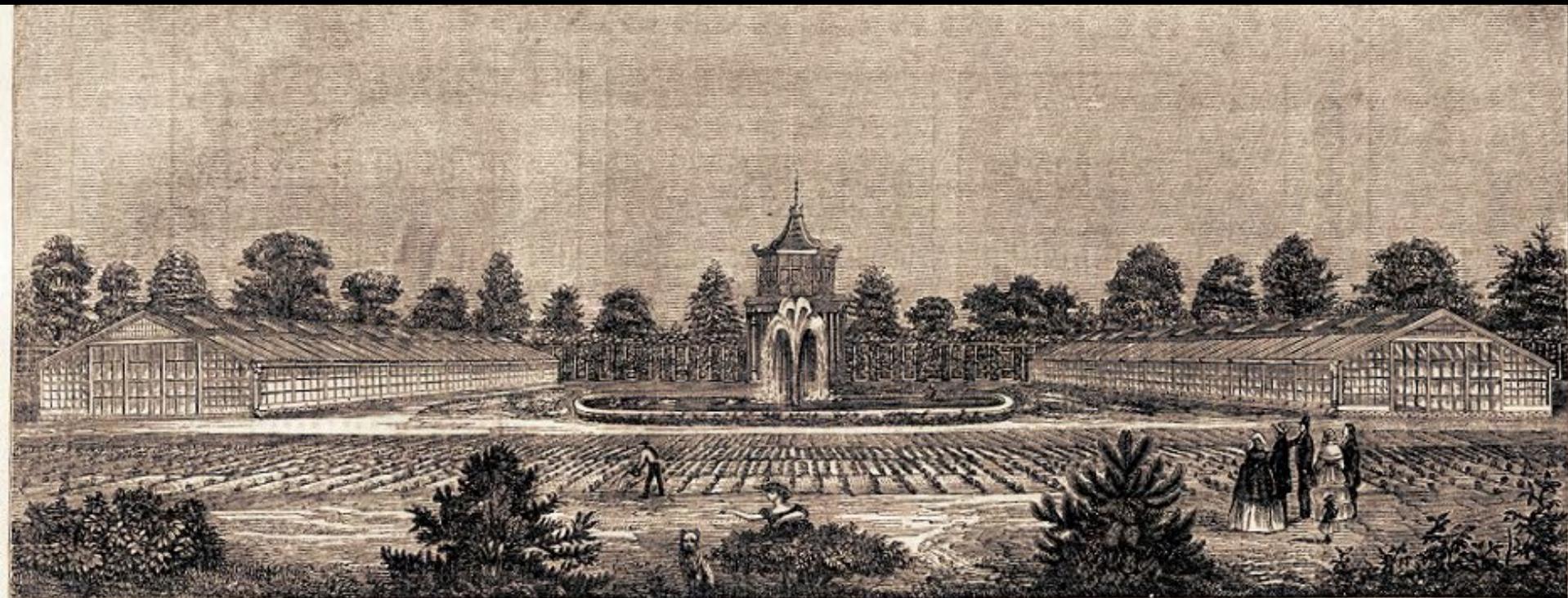


**Because of expansion,  
outdoor garden &  
greenhouses were  
destroyed.**

**In 1856, a new expanded  
facility called the  
US Propagation Garden  
was constructed west of  
the Capitol Building.**

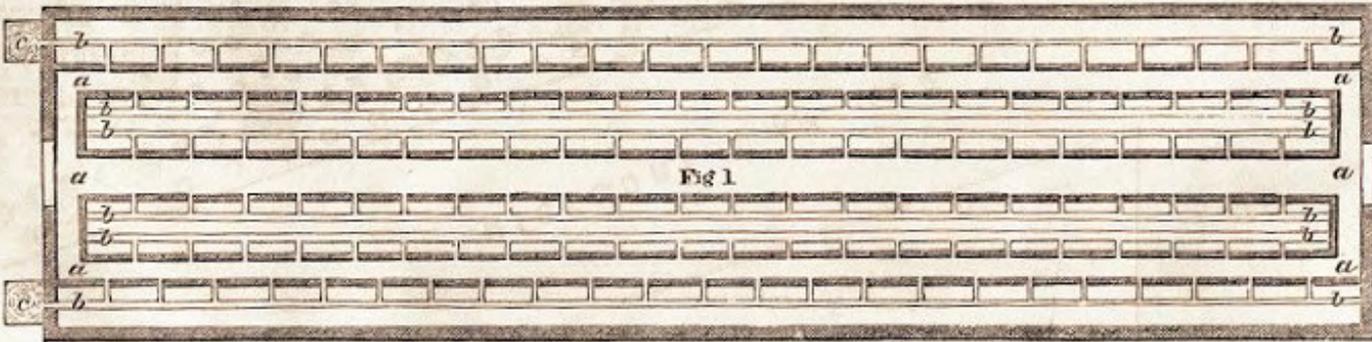
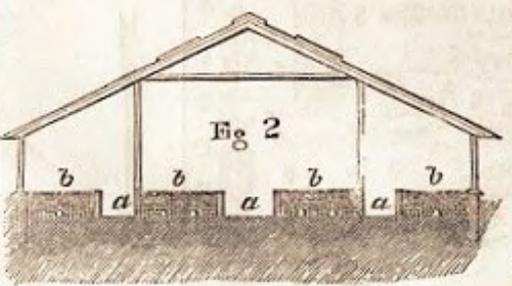
# 1856 U.S. Propagating Garden





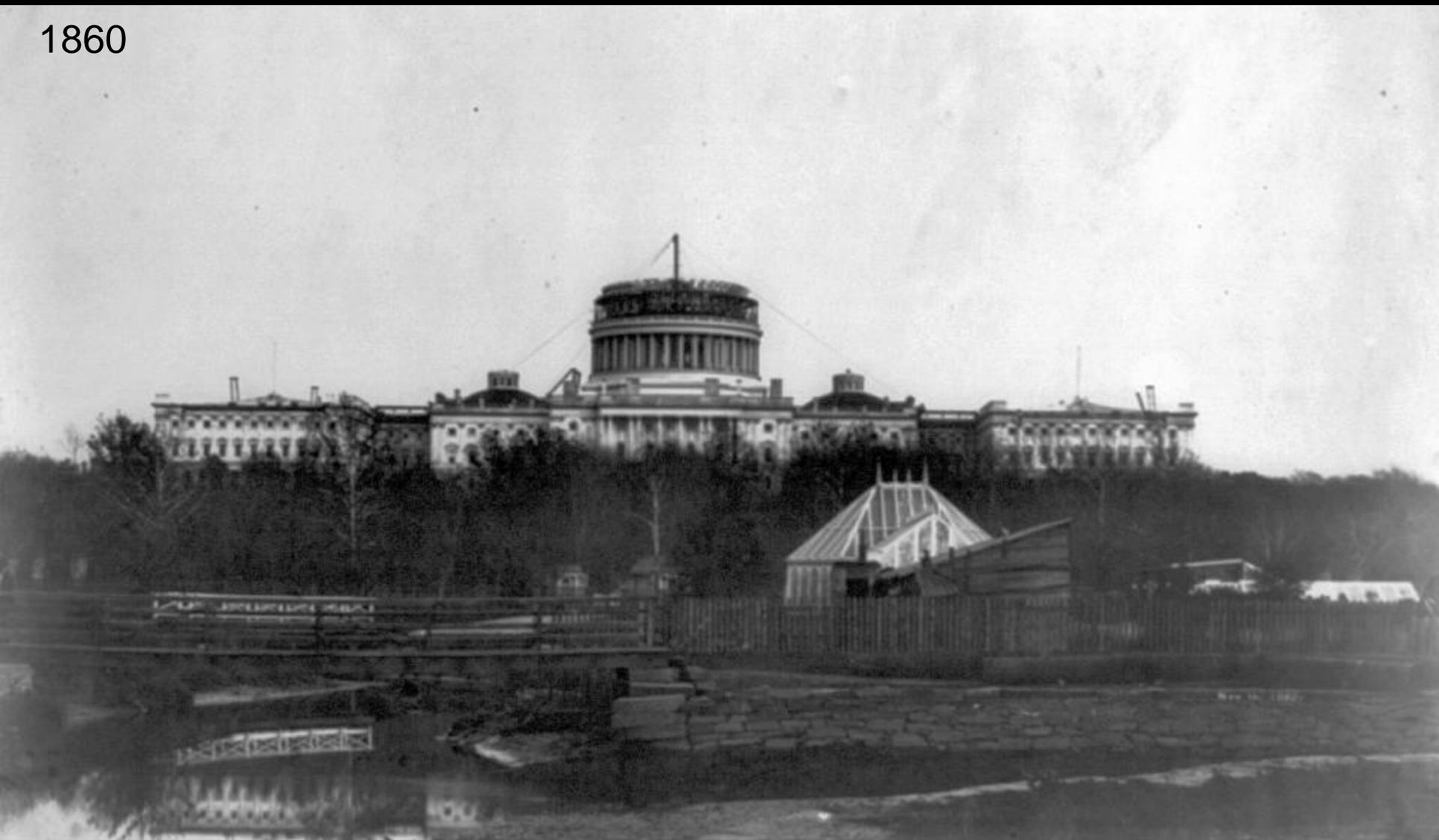
*D. J. Browne Del.*

U. S. PROPAGATING GARDEN WASHINGTON. D. C.

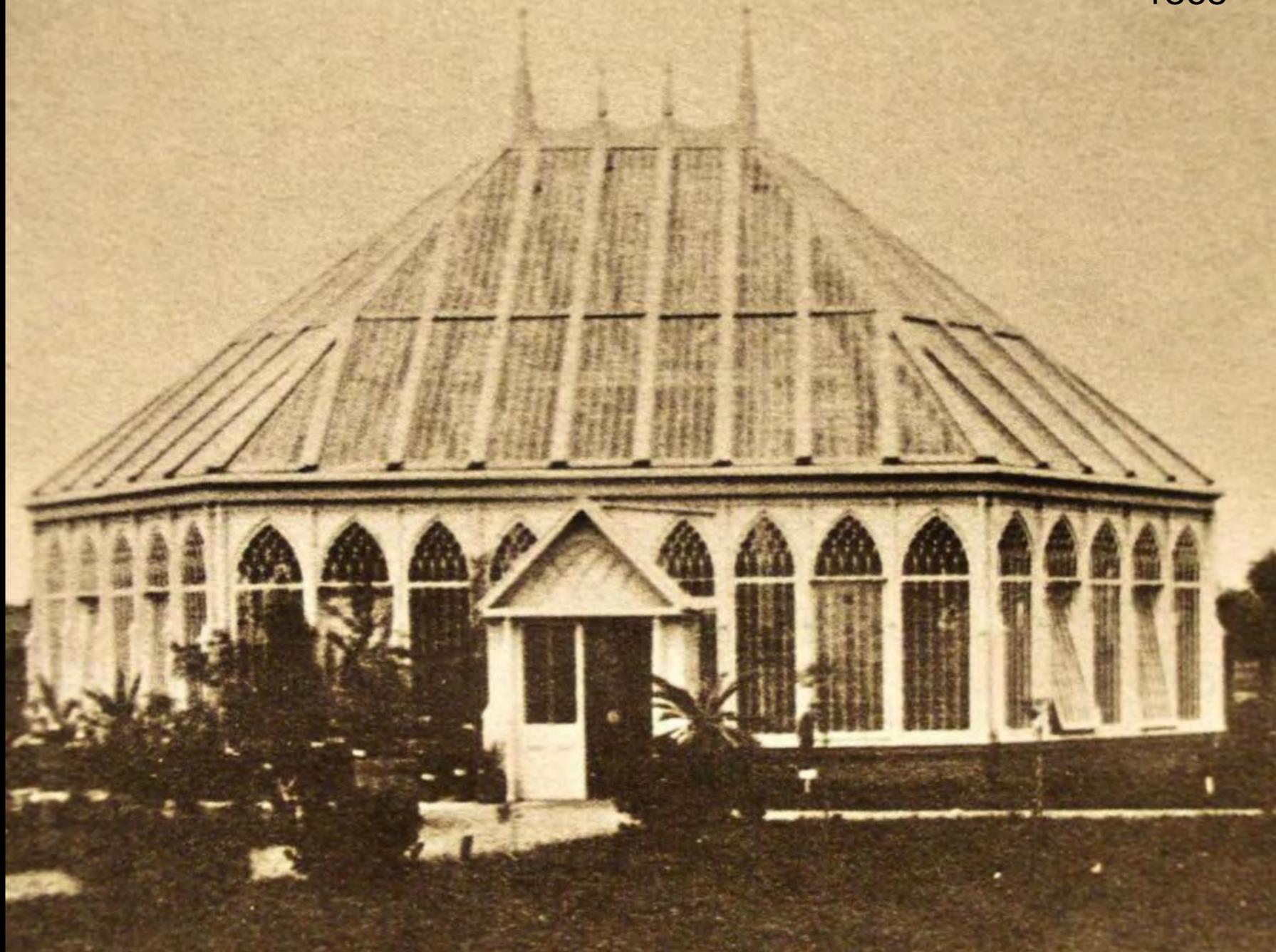




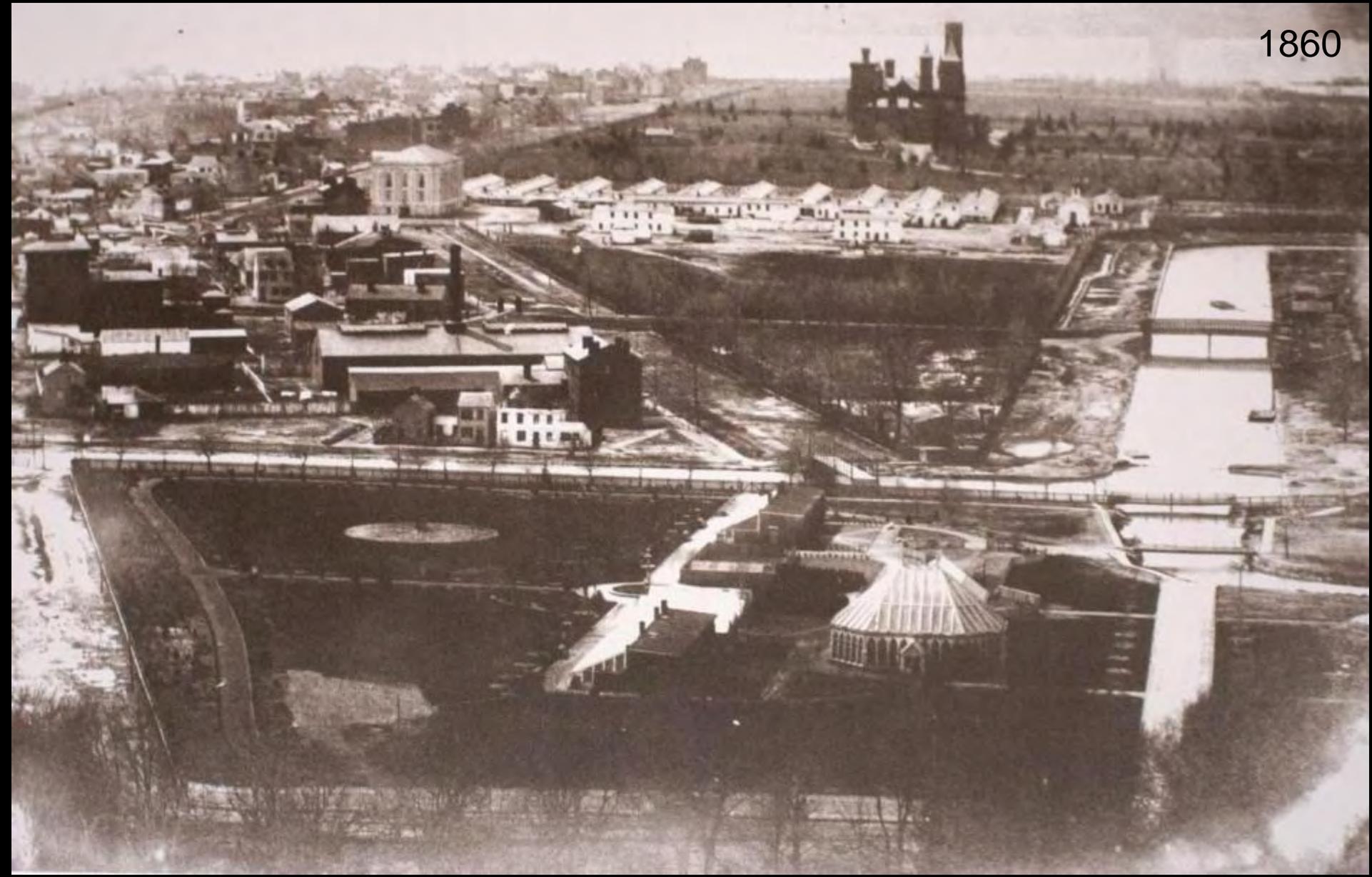
1860



1865



1860



1877



**Old US Propagation Garden is now:  
US Botanic Garden**

