

Re-thinking of 4-16-80

# Old Orleans

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## ACCESSIBILITY

From an old scrapbook in the Orleans County Department of History Archives we find a page with these snippets pictured above. Still retaining their color, the origin of each is written beside it. By the ivy leaf it reads: "The tomb of Washington, Mount Vernon 1911". By the boxwood sprig it reads: "From Martha Washington's Garden, Mount Vernon 1911" and beside the rose leaves it reads: "From the White House 1911". Obviously these are souvenirs from a trip. Pasted directly next to these snippets is a news clipping dated April 23, 1911. It reads as follows: "The Albion party, chaperoned by Mrs. Gertrude Foreman, returned from Washington this week and report a most delightful trip. The party visited Mt. Vernon, Arlington, Soldiers' Home, John Logan's tomb, the national cemetery, navy yards, state building and other points of interest. On Saturday afternoon, through the courtesy of Congressman Simmons, a ticket was issued which admitted the party through the White House and they were kindly greeted by President Taft." Imagine that! Being greeted by the President just because you were a tourist. What accessibility! I wonder what our chances are of that today? No doubt, one had greater accessibility to many things at that time including snippets which I wouldn't advise taking nowadays.