English Gardens

Landscape Design
Series 5

Authored by
Larry A. Sagers
Horticulture Specialist
Utah State University
Funding Assistance From A Bureau Of Reclamation Grant
English Gardens

English Garden History And Design
English Gardens
English Gardens
English Gardens
English Gardens

- English Gardens Made A Monumental Leap From Deliberate, Meticulous Attention And Geometrical Order And Bilateral Symmetry To An Equally Deliberate Attention To The Appearance Of Natural Disorder And Asymmetry
English Gardens

- They Changed From Nature As The Creation Of A Supremely Rational And Logical God To Nature As The Expression Of God's And Man's Loving Relationship With A Divinely-inspired And Emotionally-infused World
English Gardens

- The End Of The Seventeenth Century To The Beginning Of The Nineteenth Century Was A Time Period Often Referred To As The "Long" Eighteenth Century (1660-1840)
English Gardens

- The Aesthetic of Garden Design Shifted Gradually From One That Stressed Restraint, Control, Limit And Order To One That Emphasized Freedom And Openness
English Gardens

• Designs Changed From Geometrical Severity At Versailles And Hampton Court In The Late 17th Century To The Regulated Naturalness Of Blenheim
English Gardens

• At The Opening Of The 18th Century, The Dominant Force In Landscape Design Was Andre Le Notre And For Louis XIV At Versailles. By The Middle Of The Eighteenth Century Designed Gardens Grew To Resemble Open Landscape Or Raw Nature
English Gardens

- The Most Popular Garden Designs Of The Seventeenth And Early Eighteenth Century Were The French, Italian, And Dutch Formal Gardens Executed To Exhibit Bilateral Symmetry
English Gardens

- The Masterpiece Of This Style Of Gardening Was Versailles As Laid Out For Louis XIV By André Le Notre. It Became The Model For Princely Gardens Throughout Europe.
English Gardens

- This Includes The Garden Laid Out For William III In Front Of Sir Christopher Wren's New East Front Of Hampton Court Palace
Henry VIII was one of the most famous tenants of Hampton Court Palace which he took from Cardinal Wolsey.
English Gardens

• The Principal Gardener For Hampton Court Was Henry Wise (1653-1738)
English Gardens

• The Style Of These Gardens Is "Autocratic": Palatial Grandeur Radiates Outward From The Patriarchal Seat, Its Rigid Order Dominating Nature And Bending It To Man's Will
English Gardens
English Gardens

• The Great Expense Of Hampton Court's Extensive Gardens Led Queen Anne To Order Wise To Reduce The Upkeep Cost By Two Thirds
English Gardens

• In 1704 The Box Parterres De Broderie Were Replaced By Open Lawn Making A Freer Landscape Style That Dominated Much Of The Rest Of The Century
English Gardens

- Restored Formal Gardens At Hampton Court Show Transitions From Formal To Landscape Gardens
English Gardens

- Reacting To The Rigid Formality Of The French And Italian Gardens Of The Late Seventeenth Century, A New More Free Style Began To Emerge
English Gardens

- Advocates Of The Informal Landscape Garden Opposed Symmetry, Ostentation That They Regarded As The Tyranny Of The French Style That They Associated With The Tyranny Of French Government
English Gardens

English Gardens

- Landscape Gardeners Also Attempted To Create Ideal Nature Or To Teach Nature To Exceed Herself
English Gardens

- This idealization of nature had classical literary antecedents in the poetry of Horace and Virgil, that celebrated rural life and retreat from the cares of the city and public life.
English Gardens

- Implied by this garden aesthetic is the original garden of Eden where man and nature are in perfect (if temporary) harmony.
English Gardens

• Those Who Advocated The New Garden Aesthetic Also Admired Milton's Paradise Lost, With Remarkably Vivid Descriptions Of Paradise
English Gardens

- The New Freer Style Of Gardening Is Evident At Blenheim Palace In Oxfordshire
English Gardens

• Early in the century both formal and informal gardens existed side by side. By mid-century the new style dominated. Eighteenth century garden ornaments and follies generally were either classical or gothic.
English Gardens

• Throughout The Century Oriental Styles Began To Be Incorporated Into Landscape Design From Chinese And Japanese Influences. In The 1740’s The House Of Confucius At Kew Was Built.
English Gardens
English Gardens

• In The Peking 1750’s, French Descriptions Of The Imperial Gardens Were Published In English. Chinese Style Bridges Such As The One Across The Thames At Hampton Court And Pagodas, Pavilions, And Kiosks Were Built.
English Gardens

- Architect Sir William Chambers visited Canton, China and published designs of Chinese buildings, furniture, dresses, etc. (1757), followed by dissertation on Oriental gardening (1772)
English Gardens

• He Argued Strongly For Great Variety In Garden Design. Many Believe That This Was A Reaction Against The Rising Popularity Of Lancelot "Capability" Brown, By Far The Most Popular And Prolific Designer Of The 18th Century
English Gardens

- Lancelot "Capability" Brown (1716-1783)
English Gardens

• In The "Capable" Hands Of Lancelot Brown, Gardens Design Lost Nearly All Of Its Formality And Appearance Of Artifice
English Gardens

• For Some Contemporaries Such As Chamber, Brown's Gardens "Differ Very Little From Common Fields, So Closely Is Common Nature Copied In Them."
English Gardens

- Brown created this effect of the appearance of unrestrained nature by planting a vast stretch of lawn punctuated by clusters of trees or single trees irregularly placed in wavy belts.
English Gardens

• The Land Dips Away From The House Towards A Winding Lake And Rise Beyond To A Distant Woodland, Completing The "Landscape"
English Gardens

- The Last Development Stage Of 18th Century Gardens Is From Edmund Burke's Work, *The Origin Of Our Ideas Of The Beautiful And The Sublime* (1757)
English Gardens

- This Text Profoundly Influenced The Emergence Of Gothic Literature, Gothic Revival Architecture, And Landscape Design
English Gardens

• Burke Divided All Aesthetic Responses Into Two Categories, The Beautiful And The Sublime.
English Gardens

- The Beautiful Includes All That Is Smooth, Regular, Delicate, And Harmonious. The Sublime, All That Is Rough, Gloomy, Violent, And Gigantic
English Gardens

- Sublimity in nature includes the untamed and uncivilized, such as the wilder parts of the countryside, mountains, cataracts, volcanoes, and scenes that are savage and primitive as opposed to "cultivated"
English Gardens

- Even the wealthiest landowner cannot heave up majestic mountains or carve out canyons to create Burke's sublime landscape, but small scale "wildness" and "roughness" are manageable.
English Gardens

• From The Mid Century Onward, Landscape Designs, Already Freed Up By "Capability" Brown, Incorporated Elements Of The Wild And The Rough
English Gardens

• If These Elements Were Found, They Were Constructed. If A Real Gothic Ruin Did Not Exist On The Property, An Imitation Ruin Would Be Constructed
English Gardens

- Caves, Grottos, Rustic Bridges, and other garden ornaments were grand in scale and magnitude. These made-up fake antiquities and "natural wildness" were called follies.
English Gardens
English Gardens

• Once Wildness Enters The Landscape Gardens Of England, The Groundwork Was Laid For The Romantic Movement
English Gardens

- The Victorian Age, The Age Of Industrial Revolution And Squalid City Slums Were Also The Age Of A Popular Explosion Of Interest In That Most British Of Occupations, Gardening
English Gardens

• For The First Time, A Concerted Effort Was Made By Authorities To Provide Extensive Public Gardens
English Gardens

- The well-to-do believed that gardens would decrease drunkenness and improve the manners of the lower classes. Intellectuals and the upper classes also encouraged gardening as means of decreasing social unrest.
English Gardens

• The Expanding British Empire Opened Up Far-flung Corners Of The Globe To Avid Gardeners, And A Sort Of Collector-mania Spread Throughout Britain
English Gardens

• Avid Botanists Combed The Globe For New And Exotic Plants To Bring Home. One Of The Results Of This Frenzy Of Collecting Was Another Craze, Bedding Out Plants
English Gardens

• The Concept Of Bedding Plants Was Aztec In Origin, But In The Hands Of Victorian Enthusiasts It Became A British Passion
English Gardens

• The Bedding Out Craze, Together With Improved Greenhouse Design, Resulted In A Fashion For Massed Beds Of Vibrantly Colored Plants Laid Out In Intricate Mosaic Patterns
English Gardens

- Passion For Exotic Plants Created A Demand For Traditional British Plants And Garden Forms, Particularly The Parsonage Or Vicarage Garden. Many Clergy Have Had A Strong Influence On British Garden History
English Gardens

- A Vicarage Garden Was A Showpiece Of 1-3 Acres, Planted, With A Homogenous Mix Of Traditional Plants
English Gardens

- William Robinson, and later Gertrude Jekyll, emphasized a natural look, with creepers and ramblers, hardy shrubs, roses underplanted with herbaceous plants and bulbs.
English Gardens

• Another Victorian Garden Phenomenon, From 19th Century Property Developers, Was The London Square. The Houses Backed Onto A Green Space Where Children Could Play In View Of The Houses. The Squares Were The Communal Social Life Focal Point
English Gardens

• These Green-space Gardens Were Run By Resident Committees, Funded By Subscriptions From All The Householders
English Gardens

• As Years Went By And Pollution Increased, Only The Hardiest Plants Could Survive, Particularly The Plane Tree, Which "Took Over" Many Of These Squares
English Gardens

- Examples Of These London Squares
  Bloomsbury, Belgravia, Brompton, Kensington And Notting Hill.
English Gardens

- Examples Of These London Squares, Notting Hill
English Gardens

• By The Early 1820s, The Industrial Revolution Was In Full Swing, And The Wealth Merchant Class Was Rising And The Suburbs Were Growing.
English Gardens

• For The First Time, Gardening Came To The Masses
English Gardens

• In 1822 The 1200-page Epic, Encyclopaedia Of Gardening, Was Published And Four Years Later, The Gardeners' Magazine, The First To Cater To The General Gardener, Was Published
English Gardens

• Both Were The Work Of The Entrepreneur John Claudius Loudon (1783-1843.)
English Gardens

- He was crippled by rheumatic fever, became an laudanum addict and weaned himself off, and made and lost several fortunes.
English Gardens

- He devised the concept of the 'Gardenesque'. The garden was no longer a place to imitate nature. Plants were grown to enjoy their individual beauties.
English Gardens

• The Hand Of Man Was To Be Clearly Visible. The Garden Had Returned To Being A Work Of Art Rather Than Nature
English Gardens

• By The 1840’s, The Idea Of Gardens As Nature Was Regarded As A Mistake Of A Past Generation, And Now The Driving Force In Garden Design Was Art
English Gardens

• The Predominating Fashion Was The 'Italianate' - A Hodgepodge Of Historic Styles That Included Italian, French, And Dutch, All Spiced With The Victorian Passion For Overkill
English Gardens

• It Also Fulfilled Many 'Needs' - The Owner Could Show His Nouveau Wealth With The Latest Fashion; The Architect Could Display Knowledge Of Renaissance Architecture, And The Gardener Could Show Off Horticultural Prowess
English Gardens

• The Polarity Of Art And Nature In The Garden Perplexed The Victorians. The Ornamental Parkland Surrounding An Estate Was 'Nature', As Well As A Garden?
English Gardens

- Two Gardens With Very Differing Approaches, Helped Garden Makers With This Question And Provided Inspiration For Millions Of Smaller Suburban Gardens
English Gardens

- At Chatsworth, Sir Joseph Paxton, Head Gardener To The 4th Duke Of Devonshire And Later Designer Of The Crystal Palace, Proved That Art And Nature Could Co-exist
English Gardens
English Gardens
English Gardens

- At the other end of the spectrum, Biddulph Grange, made by James Bateman and E W Cooke showed that art and nature could contrast.
English Gardens

- The Garden Was Essentially A Theme Park - A Series Of Wonderfully Linked, Self-contained Compartments Such As 'China', 'Egypt' And 'India'.
English Gardens
English Gardens
English Gardens

- The Ultimate Way The Garden Could Be A Shown As A Work Of Art Was To Grow Plants That Were Clearly Not Native, And Therefore Not 'Natural'
English Gardens

• If They Were Not Natural, They Must Be Artistic. The Plants That Were Most Favoured Were Those Tender Species With Brightly Coloured Flowers - Salvias, Calceolarias, Heliotrope, Etc
English Gardens

• To Drive Home The Point, They Were Massed Together In Geometrically Shaped Beds. Thus Was Born The Obsession With 'Bedding Schemes' That Is Still With Us Today
English Gardens

• As Time Went By, Displays Got More Gaudy, Garish And Larger And By The Late 1860s The Idea Of Carpet Bedding Had Evolved
English Gardens

• Rather Than Flowers, Dwarf Sub-tropical And Succulent Plants With Coloured Foliage Were Massed And Clipped Into Elaborate Patterns And It All Got Out Of Hand!
English Gardens

- The 1860s also saw the beginning of a reaction against the principle that the garden had to be a work of art.
English Gardens

- The Most Famous Protagonist Was The Fiery Irishman William Robinson (1838-1935). He Was Passionate That The Garden Should Be Inspired By Nature - Not Made To Look Like Natural Scenery, But Full Of Informally Arranged Hardy Plants.
English Gardens

- In the 1870s he developed the idea of the wild garden in which drifts of natives and hardy exotics happily co-existed. The 'exotics' were the exciting introductions coming back with the plant explorers from the four corners of the globe.
English Gardens

The Plant Hunters Also Stimulated A Fad For Imitating Foreign Scenery, Both Natural, Such As Himalayan Valleys And Japanese Gardens
English Gardens

- If Robinson's ideas were not wholly original, he made up for it with a missionary zeal. He saw garden making as a battle between good and evil, between the naturalistic style and the formal style.
English Gardens

• Robinson Expressed His Ideas In His Magazine, The Garden, And A Number Of Books, Including His Magnus Opus, The English Flower Garden (1883.) However, Robinson Went Too Far, And His Attacks On Architects For "Ruining" The English Garden Was Too Much For The Architects John Dando Sedding (1838-1891) And Sir Reginald Blomfield (1856-1942.)
English Gardens

• They Entered The Fray To Defend Formal Garden, And What Transpired In The Last Decade Of The 19th Century Of Was 'The Battle Of Styles'.

• In January 1892 Blomfield Published The Formal Garden In England, A Year After The Posthumous Appearance Sedding's Garden-Craft Old And New.
English Gardens

- Blomfield Advocated A Return To The Classicism Of Sir Christopher Wren, Reviving The "Refinement And Reserve" Of The Seventeenth-century Garden: Spaces Divided By Walls Or Clipped Hedges With Terraces, Gazebos, Broad Walks, Alleys And Lawns, And Flower Beds
Sedding was imbued with a love of nature and the English landscape, and wished also to revive the past, but preferred clipped hedges, topiary and shrubs of the English Renaissance garden to the more architectural features of Blomfield.
English Gardens

• These Books Incensed Robinson, Who Saw Them As "An Attack On All The Ground He Had Regained From The Formalists In Twenty Years Of Toil"
English Gardens

• What Followed Was Good For Book Sales, As Each Edition Had A Snide Attack On The Opposition
English Gardens

• Had Both Combatants Taken A Pace Back, They Would Have Seen They Shared A Common 'Enemy' - The Extremes Of Tortured Formality, In Particular The Italianate Muddle Of The Victorian Parterre And Bedding Schemes
English Gardens

• By The Close Of The 19th Century, Blomfield And Robinson Had Created The Impression The Garden Could Either Be Designed Along Formal Lines By The Architect Or Be Informal, Filled With Interesting Plants, And Made By The Gardener
The Gardens At Sissinghurst
English Gardens

• Garden Lovers, At Some Time In Their Life Must Visit Sissinghurst
• Climb The Spiral Staircase To The Top Of The Tower To Get An Overall View
English Gardens
English Gardens

English Gardens
English Gardens

• In 1573, Queen Elizabeth I Gazed Out Over This Landscape When She Visited The New House And Its Owner Sir Richard Baker
English Gardens

English Gardens

• This Sophisticated Garden Shows Rare Plants With Traditional Cottage Garden Flowers. The Planting Scale Is Deliberately Varies From One Part To Another
English Gardens

- The Formal Herb Garden Has Medicinal And Aromatic Plants Contrasted With A Naturalistic Orchard. The Paved Lime Walk Shows Cottage Flowers Of Many Colors
English Gardens
English Gardens

• The Charming Tudor Buildings Provide A Romantic Backdrop To The Planting
English Gardens

• Growing Against The Slender Brick Buildings Are Roses, Honeysuckle And Clematis
English Gardens

- The Rose Garden Has Old Fashioned Varieties Grouped Around A Small Lawn. Sissinghurst Combines Ancient Tudor Buildings To Show Off The Flowers, Tree And Shrubs
English Gardens

- The Design Was Done By Sir Harold Nicholson And Planting Was Executed By His Wife Vita. He Laid The Strong Basic Design And Combined Existing Irregular Features Into A Plan Of Rectangular Vistas
English Gardens

- Vita Sackville-West's filled each garden room with stunning plant arrangements. Each 'room' has a theme that produces a color or seasonal design.
English Gardens

• They Started In 1930 With The Derelict Tudor Castle And Outbuildings With Walls That Enclosed Garden Areas.
English Gardens

- The Enclosures Are Mostly Square Or Rectangular And, The Paths That Run Through Them Often Slant Slightly Where They Pass From One Area To Another
English Gardens

- This Characteristic Largely Due To The Slightly Asymmetrical Layout Of The Sixteenth Century Walls Adds A Special Charm To The Gardens
English Gardens

- The Rose Garden, The White Garden, And The Rondel Are Precisely Designed While The Nuttery And The Old Orchard Are Deliberately Natural
English Gardens

- The Ancient Site Whose Saxon Name Means 'Clearing In The Woods' Is A Stone Manor Surrounded By A Moat. It Was Built In The Middle Ages And Two Legs Of The Moat Survive While A Third Leg Originally Ran Where The 'Moat Walk' Lawn Is Now
English Gardens

- The Baker Family - Related By Marriage To The Sackvilles Of Knowle, Replaced The Original Building In The 15th Century With A Large Manor
English Gardens

- The Government Used It Between 1756 And 1763 As A Prison Camp For French Prisoners-Of-War. The Prisoners And The Site Were Badly Treated And Much Of It Was Demolished
English Gardens

• Vita And Harold Found The Place When Their Knowle Property Was Slated For Development Over Which They Had No Control. They Purchased It In 1930 And Started Constructing The Present Garden
English Gardens

• It First Opened To The Public In 1938 - The Entrance Fee Was A Shilling. Visitors Were Nicknamed The 'Shillingses' But The Term Was Not Derogatory
English Gardens

- In 1939 Vita wrote; "These mild gentlemen and women who invade one's garden after putting their silver token into the bowl ... are some of the people I most gladly welcome and salute"
English Gardens

“Between Them And Myself A Particular Form Of Courtesy Survives, A Gardener’s Courtesy, In A World Where Courtesy Is Giving Place To Rougher Things”
English Gardens

- The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, is situated on the banks of the River Thames between Richmond and Kew in southwest London.
English Gardens

English Gardens

• In 1840 The Royal Botanical Gardens At Kew Passed From Crown Control To The Government. Kew Was Opened To The Public In 1841, Over Royal Opposition Because The Queen Was Fond Of Exercising There
English Gardens

- The Striking Palm House, Built 1848, Was Possible From Improved Glass And Iron Manufacturing Techniques. The Palm House Measures 363 Feet Long, 100 Feet Wide, And 60 Feet High
English Gardens

• The Gardens Are "Royal" Because
  For Many Years Before Kew
  Became A National Botanical
  Institute Kings And Other
  Members Of The Royal Family
  Lived On Or Owned The Land And
  Buildings At The Present Site
English Gardens

- "Gardens", is correct because two separate parts of the royalty owned adjacent plots of land - the Richmond Estate and the Kew Estate were combined into a single area.
English Gardens

- In the 1720s George II and Queen Caroline lived at Ormonde Lodge on the Richmond Estate. Their son Frederick, Prince of Wales, leased the neighboring Kew Estate.
English Gardens

- Prince Frederick Died In 1751, And In 1759 Augusta, His Widow, Founded A Botanic Garden Of About 9 Acres
English Gardens

• Sir William Chambers Designed Many Buildings For The Gardens Including The Orangery, Pagoda And Ruined Arch
English Gardens
English Gardens

- George III, Son Of Frederick And Augusta, Inherited The Richmond Estate In 1760 When His Grandfather Died
English Gardens

• In 1766 Lancelot "Capability" Brown Began To Redesign The Richmond Gardens. Using The Device Known As A Ha-Ha To Mark Boundary Lines Without Marring The View
English Gardens

- Sir Joseph Banks Became Unofficial Director And Brought Fame To The Botanic Gardens. Under His Direction Collectors Scoured The World For Plants Of Economic, Scientific Or Horticultural Interest.
English Gardens
English Gardens

• The Deaths Of George III And Sir Joseph Banks In 1820 Sent The Gardens Into Decline And In 1840, They Were Handed Over To The State. Soon After, The Royal Family Adjacent Land
English Gardens

- Sir William Hooker was the first official director and established the museums and department of economic botany in 1847 and the herbarium and library in 1852. The palm house was finished in 1848 and in 1860 construction began on the temperate house.
English Gardens

• Sir William's Son And Successor, Sir Joseph Hooker, Oversaw The Founding Of The Jodrell Laboratory. In 1897 Queen Charlotte's Cottage And Grounds Were Given By Queen Victoria For Her Diamond Jubilee
English Gardens

• In 1904, Cambridge Cottage And Its Garden, Now The Home Of The Kew Gardens Gallery, Were Presented By Edward VII On The Death Of The Last Duke Of Cambridge, And The Gardens Reached Their Present Size Of 120 Hectares (About 300 Acres)
English Gardens

• New Buildings Include:
  • Evolution House (1952)
  • Princess Of Wales Conservatory (1987)
  • Sir Joseph Banks Building (1990)
  • Victoria Gate Visitor Center (1992)
English Gardens

- The Gardens At Great Dixter
English Gardens

- Christopher Lloyd's Garden in East Sussex is an example of cottage gardening on a larger scale.
English Gardens

• The Manor Of Dixter Is First Recorded In 1220 And Structural Additions Were Made Again In 1464. In 1910, English Architect Edwin Lutyens Restored Great Dixter And Designed The Gardens.
English Gardens

- Today, The Gardens Are Cultivated By Author And Lecturer Christopher Lloyd, A British Expert In Creating The Cottage Gardens With Regulated Informal Plantings
English Gardens

- Author And Lecturer Christopher Lloyd
English Gardens

- Great Dixter is a series of small gardens including a topiary garden, rose garden, kitchen garden - an attractive mingling of vegetables and flowers - a large orchard with wild flowers and a magnificent herbaceous border.
English Gardens

- Great Dixter House Porch Entrance, Great Hall And Cross-wing, Date From 1464. As One Approaches The Main Entrance Of The House, Reminds You Of The Nursery Rhyme - 'There Was A Crooked Man, In A Crooked House'
English Gardens
English Gardens

• The Gardens Surround The House. Make A Circuit Of The Gardens And You Circle The House Exterior Giving Each Good Views Of The Other
English Gardens

• According To Lloyd “Apart From A Couple Of Mixed Orchards And A Scattering Of Trees There Were No Gardens Here When My Parents Arrived On The Scene In 1910. Of The Trees A Few Survive: Three Pears, Including A Williams, Still Cropping Well”
English Gardens

• The Yew Topiary Is Part Of Several Gardens. It Is Clipped Once A Year In August And Retains Its Sharp Outlines Through The Next May
English Gardens

- As Far As Possible Farm Buildings Are Incorporated In The Design and Four Brick Cattle Drinking Troughs Were Filled In And Planted
English Gardens

• The Paving Is York Sandstone From London's Pavements, That Became Available For Garden Use When

• It Was Ripped Up To Be Replaced By Tarmac
English Gardens
English Gardens

- The Sunken Garden Was Originally Lawn, And Was Dug Up For Vegetables During The First World War
English Gardens

- Dixter's is a high maintenance garden with mixed, not herbaceous borders. The gardens have shrubs, vines, hardy and tender perennials, annuals and biennials growing in the same beds.
English Gardens
English Gardens

- The Gardens Have No Segregated Color Schemes But Combine Many Colors
English Gardens

• The Sunken Garden Is Surrounded By The Barn Garden. The Gives A Good View Across It For Any Vantage
English Gardens
English Gardens

- Topiary Yew 'Coffee Pots' Are Close To High Hedges Of Olive Green Holm Oak, Commonly Called Ilex, Quercus Ilex.
English Gardens
English Gardens

• Close To The Nursery Is A Good View Back To The House.
English Gardens

- The Border's Season Of Interest Is Primarily Mid-June To Mid-August Period But Extends From April To October
English Gardens

- The High Garden is a pattern typical of kitchen gardens in Edwardian times with paths flanked by fairly narrow flower borders.
English Gardens
English Gardens

• These Are Backed By Espalier Fruit Trees Which Cut Off The View Of Vegetable Plots Behind. Nursery And Garden Stock Is Grown Here
English Gardens

- Another Yew Archway Leads To A Garden Containing 18 Topiary Birds. These Were Originally Pheasants, Fighting Cocks, Blackbirds And Others But Now They Are Peacocks
English Gardens

- Blenheim Palace is a large and monumental country house situated in Woodstock, Oxfordshire, England. It is the only non Episcopal country house, in England, to hold the title "palace".
English Gardens

• The Palace, one of England's greatest houses, was built between 1705 and circa 1722 was originally a gift to the 1st Duke of Marlborough from a grateful nation in return for military triumph against the French.
English Gardens

• However, political infighting led to Marlborough's exile, the fall from power of his Duchess, and the irreparable damage to the reputation of the architect Sir John Vanbrugh.
English Gardens

- Designed in the rare, and short lived, English baroque style, architectural appreciation of the palace is as divided today as it was in the 1720s. It is unique in its combined usage as a family home, mausoleum and national monument.
English Gardens
English Gardens

- It has been the home of the Churchill family for the last three hundred years, various members of the family have in that period wrought various changes, in the interiors, park and gardens.
English Gardens

- At the end of the 19th century, the palace and the Churchill’s were saved from ruin by an American marriage so the palace remains, in good repair as completed.
English Gardens

- Between 1893 and 1919, the 9th Duke of Marlborough planted 465,000 trees. But recently, Blenheim Park has been badly hit by freak storms, which brought down many trees planted in the times of the 1st and 4th Dukes.
English Gardens

- The Present Duke Has Overseen Twelve Years Of The First Twenty-five Years Of The Phased Park Restoration Plan - This Plan Covers The Next Two Centuries
English Gardens

- He Had Thousands Of Parkland And Commercial Trees Planted
English Gardens
English Gardens

- The Formal Gardens Of Blenheim Palace Owe Much To The 9th Duke Of Marlborough Who, In The 1920's, With The Help Of The French Landscape Architect Achille Duchêne, Redesigned The Previous Gardens To Give The Palace Today’s Formal Majestic Setting
English Gardens
English Gardens

- From The Magnificent Water Terraces, To The Beautiful Italian Garden The Formal Gardens Of Blenheim Provide A Sumptuous Setting, Reminiscent Of The Grand Chateaux Of France And Italy
English Gardens
English Gardens

- The Italian Garden With Its Sheltered Position Between The East Wing And The South Facing Orangery, Is A Delight
English Gardens
English Gardens

• It Focuses On The Mermaid Fountain, Set In The Middle Of Patterned Beds With Dwarf Box Hedges. The Garden Is Pleasing At All Seasons Particularly When The Orange Trees Are In Bloom.
English Gardens
English Gardens

- The Water Terraces Took From 1925 To 1930 To Be Built And Involved An Immense Amount Of Thought And Planning. Today, These Terraces Are Reminiscent, On A Smaller Scale, Of The Parterre D'eau At Versailles
English Gardens
English Gardens

- The Bernini River-gods Fountain on the Second Terrace, was a scale model for the famous Fountain in Rome's Piazza.
English Gardens

- The Terraces Have Other Unusual Aspects, Such As The Lead Sphinxes With The Features Of The 9th Duke's Second Duchess And The Caryatids Carved In Situ By Visseau, Which Support The First Terrace, Flanked By Tiers Of Shells
English Gardens

- The Arboretum Is Reached From The Sheep Walk, A Southward Drive That Starts At The Lower Water Terrace And Winds On Past The Temple Of Diana, Built For The 4th Duke By Sir William Chambers
English Gardens

• Here, In The Summer Of 1908, Mr. Winston Churchill Proposed To Miss Clementine Hozier, Who Became Baroness Churchill
English Gardens

- The Present Duke Of Marlborough Restored The Temple Which Lady Churchill Officially Opened. She Remembered “There Was A Bench Here Then And As I Sat There With Winston I Watched A Beetle Slowly Moving Across The Floor”
English Gardens

- "If That Beetle Reaches That Crack," I Said To Myself, "And Winston Hasn't Proposed, Then He Isn't Going To." But He Did Propose!'
English Gardens

- The Arboretum Contains Interesting And Rare Trees And Shrubs And Is Very Attractive In Spring, When The Trees Blossom And The Grassy Banks Are Covered With Daffodils And Bluebells
English Gardens
English Gardens

• The Rose Garden At Blenheim Palace Is In A Circular Walk With Slender Arched Hoops Supporting Delicate Pink Climbing Roses
English Gardens

- The Central Pool With A Statue Is Surrounded By Symmetrical Rose Beds Of Red, Pink And White In A Delightful Floral Display
English Gardens

- The Grand Cascade Was Designed By The Famous 'Capability' Brown In The 1760s. The Cascade Lets The River Glyme Fall From The Lake
English Gardens

- The River Winds Southwest Under Sir William Chamber's New Bridge, Where It Joins The Evenlode, A Tributary Of The Thames
English Gardens
English Gardens

- England has higher falls than the Grand Cascade, but few more picturesque or, when the river is high, more lively.