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British Gardens In Time: The Greatest Garden Makers From Capability Brown To Christopher Lloyd



Synopsis

British Gardens in Time covers the creation of the most exciting British gardens today and the work of iconic garden makers over the last 300 hundreds. From Lancelot Capability Brown at Stowe to Christopher Lloyd at Great Dixter, author Katie Campbell leaves no stone unturned as she digs through the foundation of this gardening nation. Starting with a romp through history from the Romans at Fishbourne to the start of the English Landscape Movement, this book details the main trends, influences and needs that gardeners have placed on ornamental horticulture across the British Isles.

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Customer Reviews

This is an attractive book in your hands, hardbound and filled with colourful illustrations and garden photography. The text by Katie Campbell, especially the exceptional introduction covering the political and design trends of history leading up to the first distinctly English gardens, is generally a pleasure to read even though it wanders a bit. The chapter on the Victorian gardens of gentleman orchidologist James Bateman in Staffordshire, for example, examines the many and varied areas of Biddulph Grange with reference to the passions of the day, from evolution (Bateman was not a fan), to a fashionable interest in the Orient (he had Himalayan slopes and Chinese temples built). Other chapters wander off at times: the chapter on the Nymans estate devotes several pages to the changing fortunes and descendants of the Messel family who developed it, to the point where the reader is presented with potted biographies of offspring whose influence on either garden history or

the design of Nymans is never established. Overall, though, the high quality of the photographs, including full-bleed prints over two pages, and the eclectic scholarship of the author is a rewarding and wonderfully detailed tour through its varied people, places and times. Would make an excellent gift for those with an interest in English history or garden design. The marriage of the two here is a fruitful one.

Beautiful book, vastly illustrated with good articles on the principles of gardening and landscape.

Great history lessons through time and gardens.

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