

ROYAL GARDENS AT WINDSOR

Hello. In this Royal Collection Trust podcast we'll be examining how different monarchs influenced the evolution of the royal gardens at Windsor Castle. Coming up, Jane Roberts, author and former Royal Collection Trust Curator and Librarian, gives a lecture at the Queen's Gallery, Buckingham Palace, on the historical development of the gardens in the context of the Castle and surrounding parkland. Other talks and lectures within our events programme can be found in our What's On guide on the website.

Now, before I start the main text of my talk, I wanted to just fill you in, those of you who don't know, are not familiar with Windsor Castle. Here it is in an aerial view, it's an aerial view from the north with the Long Walk going south into the heart of Windsor Great Park. You're not seeing any of Windsor Great Park here, you're seeing part of the Home Park round the Castle, you're seeing the East Terrace Garden there, what's called the Quadrangle, with the Queen's private apartments on the south and east side and the State Apartments on the north side, Round Tower, St George's Chapel and the town of Windsor. And here we see it from the opposite direction with the south front and this rather complicated – and I do apologise, but I find maps very helpful - basically, the two yellow splodges on this map are the historic Little Park, now the Home Park, and the Great Park to the south. And Windsor Castle is in that little nick there, out of the Home Park. So the yellow areas are what was already parkland in 1607, but the Great Park in particular had started to be created for the royal sport of hunting already before the Norman Conquest in 1066. So they're very ancient bits of parkland, to which were gradually added other areas, note in particular round the Castle this orange area which was added to the parkland in the late 17th century, and this orange area which was added to Virginia Water at the end of the 18th century.

Now, I've divided my talk into two: the productive gardens; the fruit and veg; and the pleasure gardens. And I thought I would start with the productive gardens and I would also point out that the, for much of the period that we're talking about, which is basically, I suppose, sort of 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th centuries, it was the same people who were entrusted with the care of the productive gardens as were entrusted with the care of the pleasure gardens. The productive

gardens had to fill the bellies of those who lived and worked in the Castle. This, remarkably, this is a view of about 1819 of the still surviving Great Kitchen at Windsor, which is basically a 14th century room. It has got rather more advanced cooking equipment now, but the cooks today still cook in this area and I wanted to show it to remind people that obviously, before the days of supermarkets, the need for fresh fruit, veg, fish and meat was huge. At the time of this view, which is an aerial view of the Castle in 1607, the Castle was still used chiefly for defence purposes, but gradually that need was disappearing. Ironically, within 40 years of this being made we had the Civil War and the Castle then turned fairly and squarely into a defensive castle. The importance of the defensive aspect, when thinking about the gardens, is that the site that was chosen to build the Castle on in the 11th century is ideal for defence purposes. It's on a raised clifftop. You can see in the foreground that's a hill and from the hill you could see, particularly from the top of the Round Tower, the approaching enemy. And then around the edge of the Castle you have the Castle walls and everything within that was defended. This view, which is Norden's view of the Castle showing the Round Tower in the middle, St George's Chapel on the right, and the, what is now the Quadrangle, the Upper Ward on the left, is fairly, well it's interesting in showing the relatively few areas within the Castle which could be used either productively or for pleasure. That is the kitchen, and there is the kitchen. There's a little area here which at some stage was a sort of herb garden. This area here was I think never properly a garden. That's where now the Queen reviews troops and where on state occasions the soldiers come marching in and round and round. That could never have been a pleasure garden. The, as we'll be seeing, the Round Tower, here, itself was set up on a manmade mound and from time to time that was gardened. And then down here, bearing in mind the subject of my lecture is royal gardens, these gardens were all concerned with the Dean and Canons, part of the College of St George who lived in this area and who kept and still keep St George's Chapel going. So I'm not going to be talking about this area, although as you can see, there are nice little plots there. But those plots would not have been used to feed the royal mouths.

So here is another nice aerial view of the castle, made around the middle of the 17th century. As I said, by this time the Castle was being used less for defence purposes and indeed, in 1730 there was an order that the ordnance, so in other words the gunpowder, all the material that were used in the guns, the cannons and so on, were to be removed. The guard remained, but the defensive aspect of the Castle was severely reduced thereafter. Now this delightful view, which was used to publicise my lecture, shows very clearly in the foreground a nice fruit garden and the north front of the Castle behind. But the fruit garden shown here was not the King's fruit garden, it was a garden which was actually rented off the Dean and Canons of

Windsor, and you can see their buildings in the background, and was used by a market gardener. That's not to say that the fruit produced there didn't actually enter the royal kitchen, which is top left, but it wasn't actually a royal garden. The land shown here was later rented by the King because he wanted to introduce stables in amongst those buildings on the right, but it was never converted into a royal garden. The other side of the Castle – so here we are again on the south side – you can see there are a number of garden plots here. Round Tower, south front of the Castle, the Queen's Garden House, here, which I'll be telling you about later, and this was called the King's Garden. This house here, which is the main subject of this print, is Burford House, which was built by Charles II for his mistress, Nell Gwynn, and was named after their son, the Earl of Burford, who later became the 1st Duke of St Albans. And this remained the property of the Dukes of St Albans until Queen Charlotte acquired the lease of it in 17... round about 1780. And the gardens here were mostly attached to Burford House. So this looks like a pretty productive garden, this looks a bit more pleasurey, but it might be a bit fruity too, but anyway an interesting shot and moment in the Castle's history.

More fruit and veg was provided by this garden in the Great Park attached to Cumberland Lodge. On the left you see the gardens including the Pine House, and there was a great vine there too. This chap on the left, William Aiton, was not directly responsible for the gardens at Windsor, but his son, William Townsend Aiton, of whom I'm afraid I couldn't find a slide, was. And in the terms of the contract for William Townsend Aiton it makes absolutely clear that this chap was to be responsible for pleasure gardens, mowing the lawn and also all the productive vegetable gardens and fruit gardens at Windsor. And these slides, which I apologise, they're scarcely legible; this is from the kitchen ledgers for Windsor Castle in 1812. Now, 1812, the Regency period when the poor ill King, George III was living, slightly incarcerated at Windsor, as was separately his wife and his unmarried daughters and many other people were present there, and day by day there are accounts of the fruit and vegetable which were used in the royal kitchens. And the level of detail is completely mind-boggling, so I won't go into it, except up there you will see the produce produced by Windsor gardens, they produced most of it, that line there, and then someone called Mr Merrick and Mr Fuller, who were evidently market gardeners providing stuff. There's a rather mysterious thing called 'remains', which I suppose could be sort of brought forward from the previous day, uneaten. And then this is a list of shallots, sorrel, spinach... can't read, turnips, apples, artichokes, beans, cabbage. Cabbage, lettuce, carrots, cauliflower. On it goes: turnips, watercress, cherries. I mean, amazing. You can sort of read every detail of what was being used on a particular day in the gardens. But therein lies madness, so we'll then move swiftly

on to the next one, which is the 19th century improvement and rationalisation of all the royal gardens.

These are the royal gardens serving the palaces, wherever they were. And according to an Act of Parliament in 1838, so we're talking about the second year of Queen Victoria's reign, even before her marriage to Prince Albert, it was decided that *the* royal kitchen gardens should be at Windsor and in order to fund the building of those kitchen gardens, the former gardens at Kensington would be sold and the land there would be built over. So much of the area to the west of Kensington Palace was formerly kitchen gardens. And the result was this amazing and extraordinary garden complex in what is now the Home Park at Windsor. And these photographs are taken by the head gardener who really got it all going and designed it, Thomas Ingram, and that was his house, the gardener's house, top right. And here is another plan which is scarcely legible, but you can see, I suppose, the extent of the gardens there. And then in this slide you can see the extent of the later greenhouses, which were added in about 1900 just on the north of the gardens. And finally, before we move on to the pleasure gardens, here is Queen Mary and George V helping with the war effort at Windsor in 1917. We always have to wear a hat, as you can see. These are from Queen Mary's photograph albums which are at Windsor. Daffodil picking and potato plot. But like so many other gardens, kitchen gardens, the huge enterprise at Windsor was incredibly expensive to maintain, expensive of labour really, and therefore in the course of the 20th century it reduced and reduced and reduced and now all that there is there is two huge modern greenhouses producing indoor house plants mainly for royal residences.

Now, on to the pleasure gardens of Windsor Castle and the Home Park, and again, I've divided this into two. We start with the Castle and Home Park and then we move on to the Great Park. As I've already mentioned, there's very little space inside the Castle for any sort of pleasure gardens and this is again another two views by Wenceslaus Hollar, the wonderful etcher who produced these lovely views of the Castle in the mid-17th century. Just to remind you, defensive structure, that's its chief purpose and it, was also raised up. Completely unlike, therefore, Hampton Court, which was nice and flat, giving lots of opportunity for laying out wonderful avenues and canals within the vicinity of the Castle. Now, on the left you see a view of the Castle with the Thames in the foreground, and you may remember that one of my first slides was a map which showed a sort of orange area to the north of the Castle, which had been purchased in the late 17th century, for various reasons, but one of them was, I think, that the King hoped to lay out a formal garden there. Here you have the land having been acquired, but no formal garden having been introduced, and just to show you where the Dean and Canons' garden is I've put an arrow between that and that, so you see it's just

tucked in on the right of the parkland. Henry Wise was the gardener who was to introduce the formal garden to the north of the Castle. Here he is in a portrait, and then this plan here – there is the Castle – like many plans, I'm afraid it's oriented with north at the foot, which is a bit annoying. So there is the Castle, there is the formal gardener, and then here is the Long Walk, which was laid out in the late 17th century. Here is the heart of the Great Park and there is what eventually became Virginia Water. You can't see very clearly but there are more avenues than that going across the park. There's one here and there are other ones shooting out, which were Henry Wise's sort of specialism, if you like. And here is the beginnings of the garden which he laid out.

Now, one of the things which we need to notice is that here is the north front of the Castle and this block here, this block there, which is this block here, is the block of the King's apartments, known as the Star Block, which was built for Charles II after the Restoration. So behind that are the Stuart state apartments with their wonderful painted ceilings and so on. And rather curiously, this first attempt at laying out a formal garden was not centred on that projection and block, it was slightly off centre. I don't know why, but it was. And then what actually was done in 1712 was centred on there. So I think the prints, contrary to what I had once thought, which is that they showed something which was never done, actually I think they were done. But then again this was done, so Henry Wise's plan here was done, centred on here. Rather remarkably, on a very dry summer – 1963 – it was possible to see this, the shadow in the parkland there. So here is the Castle, here's the East terrace, grassy slopes, and this is Henry Wise's garden. My office used to be in the Royal Library, which is there, and many a day I would gaze out of the window and think how absolutely extraordinary this enormous area, it's a huge area going right to the river, was laid out as parkland. It's now crossed by this road and skirted by the railway line. This is the Windsor and Eton riverside station, roundabout there. So, maybe not surprisingly, because that would have cost a huge amount to have maintained, one of the first acts of the new Hanoverian dynasty, in the person of George I, was to say work on this new garden is to stop and it is not to be recommenced, and gradually all the gardeners were laid off and by the 1760s it had reverted to sort of meadowland with a huge puddle in the middle of it. It was called the Maastricht Garden and was still remembered many years later, do you see on this plan, 1740s, there is the plan, here's the large puddle in the middle, there.

So that was the great, really the only attempt at a really grand formal garden within the context of Windsor Castle. Meanwhile, inside the Castle we have what a, well, charming but actually rather miserable in the context of the majestic Castle, attempts at a garden in the

moat of the Round Tower. This is Hollar in the mid-17th century and you can see, I think, attempts, probably at fruit and vegetable production there. And then here is a bit later, it's called at one stage the tulip ground, here, and it was attached to the Deputy Governor's garden, and that's what it is now. And this, I'm afraid, is what it is at the other end. Because when the work was being carried out on the Round Tower in the 1980s, a huge setting had to be dug for the crane and that is all the concrete under this rather miserable little pond is where the crane was for many years. So the Round Tower is inside the Castle, now we're gone outside the Castle again to the south side of the Castle and we are announcing the return of the royal family to Windsor in 1776 when George III and Queen Charlotte and their huge family of children, which at this stage was still growing – you can see there are quite a number of them there - they decided to use Windsor in preference to Richmond and Kew as their chief sort of rural retreat. Queen Charlotte loved flowers and pretty things and what I show here are slides of her amazing state bed, which was made between 1772-8 for Windsor, it's now at Hampton Court, and then another bit of furniture, a chair, made for the State Apartments at Windsor. And then here she is again with her family, and in the background you see the house, which was formerly Queen Anne's Garden House, on the south front at Windsor Castle.

What I should have explained in the earlier slide where you saw this is that this wing was all garden buildings to start with, but it was changed to domestic accommodation to house the royal family, because at this stage the Castle was felt to be inadequate so far as apartments for royal accommodation was concerned. Sorry, there we are, there we have the garden so you can see where we are. Here we have the Queen's Garden House on the left, seen from the north, seen from the Castle. And then on the right you can see the Garden House, having been converted to the Queen's Lodge and with the King and Queen and their huge family parading on the terrace between the Castle and the Garden House. And what I ask you to think about here is the Queen with her love of flowers and gardening, the garden that she had to play with and enjoy was this arid area here, probably some of the terracing and so on had survived, but it was no great shakes, there were no trees, very important there. And therefore within a trice, so they moved to Windsor in 1776, in 1790 the King acquired for Queen Charlotte the lease of Frogmore House, which was just to the south of the Castle. And Frogmore is shown in this portrait of Queen Charlotte in the background here and in this portrait of Princess Elizabeth, the ruins are shown in the background. And here is the King with, very appropriately, the Castle in the background. Princess Elizabeth was the third daughter of George III and Queen Charlotte and in many ways the most productive and artistic. So here again is a map which shows you where Frogmore is. So there is Frogmore,

there's the house, in this area which is between the two parks and Frogmore pleasure ground is there. The kitchen garden, which I have been talking about, is there, so just next door to it. Queen's Lodge is there, Maastricht Garden is there. So they would totter from the Queen's Lodge down to Frogmore on a daily basis throughout the 1790s in order to enjoy the garden and the house. They never slept there, they just use it as a daily retreat. And you see there are nice trees in the garden. The garden actually still comes into the house. There's a lovely lake which was formed in the early 1790s from a late 17th century canal – that thing there, it now sort of wiggles round. In the house there's a room called the Mary Moser Room, which is decorated entirely with paintings by Mary Moser who was one of the first female Academicians at the Royal Academy. And on the first floor Princess Elizabeth decorated the, what's called the Cross Gallery, runs from front to back, with these trompe l'oeil panels showing festoons of flowers and more flowers around. While downstairs Princess Charlotte, the Princess Royal, who was the eldest daughter, decorated another little room with her flower drawings, like this, and also after her marriage she sent home from Ludwigsburg, which was her married home, these bits of Ludwigsburg porcelain decorated by her. And these were specifically for Frogmore. And also at Frogmore was Queen Charlotte's library. This is the main library, there was a subsidiary room called the Botanical Library, of which unfortunately we don't have a view, which contained a huge and wonderful collection of botanical books, dating back to the 17th and 16th century and with a herbarium also there. And it was close to that that Queen Charlotte had her own little printing press too. After Queen Charlotte's death the contents of Frogmore House were mostly sold at auction, as was the library. A very few things have survived, including this wonderful painted box, containing Lord Bute's Botanical Tables which were presented to Queen Charlotte.

And Frogmore was also the place where, from the 1790s, Queen Charlotte gave parties, or 'fêtes' as she called them. This was one of the grandest of them and it was to celebrate the 50th... sorry, the start of the 50th year of the King's reign in 1509... sorry, 1809. The King himself by this time was blind and unwell, so he didn't attend, but with the help of James Wyatt, Queen Charlotte's architect, Princess Elizabeth devised this wonderful spectacular fête with chariots and sort of naiads floating about on the lake and a sort of cardboard temple and lots of lovely people doing sort of synchronised walking about over bridges and so on, this was all in the garden at Frogmore. One of many fêtes, there were about two a year. And the royal family, the royal household, a lot of the people who lived locally, Eton boys would be invited to enjoy the grounds of Frogmore. And there is Princess Elizabeth who designed so much at Frogmore, and there is a mid-19th century photograph showing her ruins. The ruins

have survived, but other bits and pieces in the gardens, likewise designed by Wyatt and Princess Elizabeth have not, including the Hermitage, a charming little conceit.

Frogmore was where Queen Victoria used to go to, I think she called it 'to retire'. It was particularly poignant for her, because both her mother and her husband were and remain buried in mausolea in the gardens at Frogmore. It's a wonderfully peaceful place, and there's an extract from Queen Victoria's diary which said that 'The gardens at Frogmore do my poor shattered nerves a lot of good'. So here are some little views in the garden at Frogmore today. The Duchess of Kent and Prince Albert's mausoleum on the right. And then here a little commercial plug: you can visit the gardens at Frogmore at certain times through the year.

So moving on to George III and Queen Charlotte's son and heir, George IV, who came to the throne in 1820. At this stage Frogmore became the home of his second sister, Princess Augusta, who lived there until her own death. Meanwhile, George IV decided to try to convert Windsor Castle into more of a palace. He demolished the Queen's Lodge, which had been located here. He got Wyattville to enhance the Castle, to make it look more like a castle, to raise the Round Tower, to double its height, and to regularise the outside of the Castle. And also, to introduce a garden as part of the Castle, and the garden he introduced has a little wall round it here, and it's called the East Terrace garden. And rather to my surprise, this view of the Castle, which I know very well, by William Daniel, is actually headed, the title is 'Windsor Castle, East Terrace'. So that is the main subject of this plate. As you can see, it's very subtly done, so you feel as if the Castle is still rising from the parkland, but there is behind that wall a garden, which looks like that. And this garden was greatly enjoyed and continues to be enjoyed by the royal family, and in Landseer's view, the Queen and Prince Albert are by an open window and this is the East Terrace garden, and you can just see the Duchess of Kent being pushed around it in a wheelchair.

After George IV's death, William IV came to the throne and he introduced another garden, a smaller one, at Adelaide Cottage, which was the house which his wife, Queen Adelaide, was allocated to retire to. So again, she didn't live there, but she went and had picnics at Adelaide Cottage. Adelaide Cottage consists chiefly of two rooms – that room and that room – which are sort of grand picnic rooms, with a very attractive garden, with these Hardenberg baskets and so on. And that is situated there.

And then lastly, so far as gardens connected with Windsor Castle and the Home Park are concerned, just very briefly, in the Queen's Golden Jubilee year, when this gallery was opening here in London and the Queen's Gallery at Holyroodhouse were opened in Edinburgh, at Windsor, this car park area was converted into the Jubilee Garden. Unfortunately I don't have any particularly good shots of it, but there you see – this thing's a bandstand and there you see the band playing and lots of people enjoying it – and the main thing that the Royal Collection wanted to achieve and which the Queen absolutely wanted to happen was that the visitors to Windsor Castle who come in here, were not immediately confronted by a sea of aluminium, of car park, and they could actually walk through this charming area, which was created by Tom Stuart-Smith and continues to flourish. From here you can, incidentally, see – there's the East Terrace garden, Adelaide Cottage is there and Frogmore is there, but the parkland is the chief area.

Now, the pleasure gardens of Windsor Great Park. This is the plan of the Great Park, oriented with north on the right and with what became Virginia Water on the southern end of it. And just to repeat, the Great Park is not attached in any way to the Castle. It was originally a Saxon, or even pre-Saxon, hunting ground and continued to be used for hunting for the improvement and protection of the vert and the venison for the King's hunting. The red stars that I've applied to this slide show the keepers' lodges. These were the houses where the keepers who looked after the vert and venison lived, and each one would have had a modest, but only very modest little garden around it. The biggest star there was the King's Lodge on the banks of what became Virginia Water. That had a larger, but still not very distinguished thing and I think anyone who tries to have a garden within what is basically an area kept for deer knows that they're on a hiding to nothing. So here we have this rather unattractive map again and the yellow, the large yellow area is the area I've just shown you in Norden's survey. Things in the Great Park began to change with the appointment of Henry Wise as the King's gardener in the late 17th century, but they made a huge leap forward when William Augustus, Duke of Cumberland, shown top right, who was George II's second and favourite son, when he was appointed Ranger of Windsor Great Park in 1746, fresh from what the King considered was his victory over the Scots at Culloden. Moving briskly on, for any of you Scots, Cumberland was based in Cumberland Lodge, what became Cumberland Lodge there, and also at Cranbourne Lodge, because he had two Windsor titles, for the period between 1746 and his death in 1765. And he came south from Scotland with Thomas Sandby, who he appointed Deputy Ranger. Thomas Sandby was a remarkable artist, topographical artist and also an architect and he ended up as Deputy Ranger and Steward for the Duke and was key to his life at Windsor.

After the 1st Duke of Cumberland's death, the 2nd Duke, Henry Frederick, took over as Ranger of Windsor Great Park and he was there from 1765 to 1790, also living at Cumberland Lodge. One of the wonderful things about studying William Augustus, Duke of Cumberland's life and work is that he loved maps and plans and as you can see, I do too. This is a particularly attractive one, by the architect, Vardy, and why I wanted to show this is it shows Cumberland Lodge there, we've already seen the kitchen garden there, it's got lovely pleasure grounds here, and this here is one of Henry Wise's avenues, and this is another one, there. But this is one of the many lakes which Cumberland created by building a dam here and which used the natural landscape of Windsor Great Park to great advantage. And a landscapist who was not involved at Windsor, but one who you will know well, Capability Brown, was called 'Capability' because he would go to someone's house and say, 'These grounds have great capabilities', in other words, they'd got lots to offer, lots of natural curves and so on to offer. And this is exactly what Windsor Great Park had. So it had the capabilities, it didn't have Mr Brown, but it had I'm afraid an unknown gardener, landscaper working with Cumberland, possibly Cumberland was his own architect, we don't know. Anyway, that's one of many lakes created by Cumberland at this time.

Cumberland also had Cranbourne Lodge as his residence and in the exhibition here you may remember this lovely watercolour by Thomas Sandby of the terraces there, which were probably a creation of an earlier occupant of Cranbourne Lodge, but were still maintained and enjoyed by Cumberland. And another map, so here we have Cumberland's home and here we have three ponds which were created by him: Great Meadow Pond, Obelisk Pond and Virginia Water. And it's these, creation of these, they're not water features, but you know, they're ponds, they're lakes, for which he is perhaps chiefly important. Above here you have Thomas Sandby's view of the newly laid out Virginia Water from the south, with a detail here showing the pond head and the cascade and grotto with associated garden works. And then here you have a design, by another unknown artist, of the work there. You can see that there would have been a lot of planting, you can also see here that there are young trees, and we'll be seeing young trees on other plans made at this time. So he was landscaping, he was planting trees and he was employing people to record what he did, which is hugely helpful for us. This is a later plan of Virginia Water, by which time it had – that, which was the original pond head – had broken and a new pond head was made there in 1780 with King George III's very active involvement. And I was mentioning planting; you can see here the sort of border planting relating to the first pond head, and then here is where the park was extended to. Here is where Fort Belvedere is, which was first erected by Cumberland. And there is the

royal landscape as it now is, which is the Valley Gardens and the Savill Gardens based around Virginia Water and much visited.

This is Thomas Sandby as architect, designing this cascade and grotto for the new pond head and also other little park buildings around. And this is Thomas Sandby's garden, recorded by his brother, Paul. Not a particularly distinguished garden, but very charming. And this is just to remind one that George III himself, for all his great merits, was not a gardener, it was Queen Charlotte who was. This is a plan, with north at the foot, showing the area between Cumberland Lodge, shown by that star, and Virginia Water, shown at the top, which Farmer George was proposing should be laid out as farmland. So the pleasure grounds were severely diminished at this stage. Virginia Water continued as a lovely, pleasant area, but any of you who follow polo might be surprised to know that this whole area here is the very flat area which is Smith's Lawn, and which was to be divided up in a sort of crop rotation system. Unfortunately, George III did not realise, as we realise now, that most of the areas which were enclosed in the Middle Ages as parkland for the protection of the vert and the venison, were areas where the ground actually wasn't terribly good. It was fine for those limited purposes, but you certainly couldn't grow crops there easily, or other garden things. So he was slightly on a hiding to nothing and it has proved continuously difficult to make the land within either of the parks work in the way that they hoped.

So, moving on now. George III's effective reign ended in 1811 with the announcement of the Regency and the future George IV didn't, for good reasons, want to have his Windsor residence in the Castle. He chose instead to live in the Great Park. He had originally planned to live at Cumberland Lodge, but the work which he required there was going to be quite extensive, so he used Thomas Sandby's old house as his base and it became known as the Royal Cottage, and eventually he'd spent so much money, or rather so much of the nation's money on that, that he ended up staying there. And that house became eventually Royal Lodge and that is the house where these views and descriptions were published, where caricatures were made and where Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, lived and died, and where the Queen spent part of her childhood.

But to return to George IV, he from his base at Royal Lodge – and Windsor Castle actually wasn't ready for him to live in until his very last months - so he was based at Royal Lodge for really most of his reign. He took great pleasure in Virginia Water and he erected various things, including a fishing temple there, he laid out the ruins there, he didn't much change the cascade, but loved it, and he changed the Belvedere with the help of Wyattville, his architect.

This is all within the 1820s. And the fishing temple on the left faced on one side the water and on the other side, bottom left, it had a little flower garden behind it, which was very private. George IV for all his flamboyance loved being private and he didn't allow anyone anywhere near Virginia Water at this time. These prints were only published after his death. And there is a view on Virginia Water now with the five-arch bridge, which was erected in his reign. And there is a 20th century addition to the area around Virginia Water. There again is the Crown Estate's plan of Virginia Water with the Valley Garden and the Savill Garden, there are some more shots of it and again, a plug for the visit to the royal landscape, based in the amazing new building at the Savill Garden.

And then moving on, this is the Queen and her father, King George VI, in Royal Lodge when it was a sort of building plot, and it was largely George VI who converted it to a proper family home for him and his wife and two daughters. And there they are enjoying the gardens there. And again. And then lastly, Tom Stuart-Smith's Jubilee Garden showing the gardens of Windsor brought up to the present day, or nearly to the present day.

Thank you very much.

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