history of victory gardens

History of Victory Gardens: Cultivating Patriotism and Sustenance in Times of War

history of victory gardens reveals a fascinating chapter where ordinary citizens took extraordinary steps to support war efforts through gardening. These gardens, often planted in backyards, parks, and even rooftops, became symbols of resilience, self-reliance, and community spirit during the challenging times of World War I and World War II. Beyond just growing food, victory gardens represented a movement that connected people, boosted morale, and helped alleviate food shortages.

The Origins of Victory Gardens

The concept of victory gardens first emerged during World War I, but their roots can be traced back even earlier to times when food scarcity became a critical issue. As nations grappled with the demands of war, shipping routes were disrupted, and food supplies became strained. Governments encouraged civilians to cultivate their own fruits and vegetables to reduce pressure on public food resources.

During World War I, victory gardens were promoted as a patriotic duty. The government and various organizations distributed pamphlets and held workshops teaching people how to grow their own produce. This grassroots effort helped boost food production significantly and fostered a sense of shared responsibility across communities.

Victory Gardens in World War II: A Nationwide Movement

The history of victory gardens reached its peak during World War II. As the conflict intensified and rationing became widespread, the U.S. government revitalized the victory garden campaign with vigor. Posters, radio broadcasts, and newsreels depicted victory gardens as essential to the war effort—every tomato picked or carrot harvested was a contribution toward victory.

By 1943, it's estimated that nearly 20 million victory gardens were planted across the United States alone, producing about 8 million tons of food. These gardens were not limited to private homes; schools, community parks, and even public spaces were transformed into productive plots. The British and Canadian governments also promoted similar initiatives, highlighting the global importance of these gardens.

Why Victory Gardens Were So Important

Victory gardens held more than just practical value; they were a form of psychological and social support during turbulent times. Several factors contributed to their significance:

Food Security and Self-Sufficiency

With food rationing in effect, grocery stores often faced shortages of fresh produce. Victory gardens allowed families to supplement their diets with homegrown vegetables and fruits, which was vital for maintaining nutrition and health. This homegrown food reduced the demand on commercial agriculture and food distribution systems, which were stretched thin due to the war.

Boosting Morale and Community Spirit

Tending to a garden gave people a sense of purpose and control when much of the world seemed uncertain. Victory gardens became a common topic of conversation, and neighbors often exchanged seeds, tips, and encouragement. Community gardens brought people together, fostering cooperation and camaraderie.

Environmental and Economic Benefits

While this aspect wasn't as widely discussed at the time, victory gardens also contributed to reduced transportation emissions since food was grown locally. Economically, they helped families save money, which was especially important during rationing and the economic strains of war.

How Victory Gardens Were Maintained and Promoted

The success of victory gardens was in large part due to the extensive education and promotion campaigns carried out by governments and civic organizations.

Educational Outreach and Resources

Pamphlets, gardening manuals, and newspaper articles were distributed widely, providing practical advice on soil preparation, planting schedules, pest control, and harvesting. Schools incorporated gardening into their curricula, teaching children about agriculture and nutrition. Victory garden clubs and community groups often held workshops and shared seeds and tools.

Government Involvement

In the U.S., the Department of Agriculture played a pivotal role in promoting victory gardens. They created advertising campaigns featuring slogans like "Grow Your Own, Can

Your Own, and Help Win the War." The government also provided resources and sometimes land for community gardening projects.

Innovations and Gardening Tips

Due to limited space, gardeners became creative, using containers, window boxes, and vertical gardening techniques. Companion planting was encouraged to maximize yields and reduce pests naturally. Canning and preserving methods were taught so that surplus produce could be stored for winter months.

The Legacy of Victory Gardens Today

The history of victory gardens has influenced modern gardening and sustainability movements. In recent years, especially during times of crisis such as economic downturns or the COVID-19 pandemic, the idea of growing one's own food has seen a resurgence.

Community gardens, urban farming, and home gardening are celebrated not only for their environmental benefits but also for their ability to build community ties and promote healthy living. The lessons from victory gardens — self-reliance, resourcefulness, and collective effort — remain relevant.

Applying Victory Garden Principles in Modern Times

For anyone interested in starting their own garden, here are some tips inspired by the victory garden movement:

- Start Small: Even a few pots on a balcony can yield fresh herbs or vegetables.
- **Plan for Seasonal Growth:** Choose plants that thrive in your climate and rotate crops to maintain soil health.
- **Preserve Your Harvest:** Learn canning, freezing, or drying techniques to extend the life of your produce.
- **Share and Connect:** Join community gardening groups to exchange knowledge and seeds.
- **Embrace Sustainability:** Use composting and natural pest control methods to enrich your garden organically.

Victory Gardens as a Symbol of Empowerment

More than just a practical response to wartime scarcity, victory gardens stood as a powerful symbol of individual and collective agency. They reminded people that even in the face of global conflict, everyday actions mattered. This spirit of empowerment and community resilience is part of why the history of victory gardens continues to inspire gardeners, historians, and sustainability advocates alike.

Whether you're an experienced gardener or a curious beginner, reflecting on the history of victory gardens offers valuable insights into how gardening can be more than a hobby—it can be a meaningful way to contribute to your community and promote wellbeing in times of need.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are victory gardens?

Victory gardens, also known as war gardens or food gardens for defense, were private gardens planted by citizens during World War I and World War II to reduce pressure on the public food supply.

When did victory gardens first become popular?

Victory gardens first became popular during World War I, but they gained widespread popularity and government support during World War II.

Why were victory gardens important during wartime?

Victory gardens helped supplement food rations, eased the burden on public food supply chains, boosted morale, and promoted self-sufficiency among civilians during wartime.

Which countries promoted victory gardens the most?

The United States, United Kingdom, Canada, and Australia were among the countries that actively promoted victory gardens during both World Wars.

How did governments encourage citizens to plant victory gardens?

Governments encouraged victory gardens through propaganda campaigns, distributing pamphlets and manuals on gardening, providing seeds and tools, and promoting the gardens as patriotic duties.

What types of crops were commonly grown in victory

gardens?

Common crops included vegetables like tomatoes, lettuce, carrots, beans, and potatoes, as well as herbs and fruits that were easy to grow and nutritious.

Did victory gardens have any impact after World War II?

After World War II, victory gardens declined in popularity, but they left a lasting legacy by promoting home gardening, sustainability, and food security awareness.

Are victory gardens relevant today?

Yes, victory gardens have seen a resurgence in recent years as people focus on sustainable living, local food production, and food security, especially during crises or pandemics.

What role did women play in the history of victory gardens?

Women played a crucial role by managing and working in victory gardens, teaching gardening skills, and supporting food production efforts on the home front during both world wars.

Additional Resources

The Enduring Legacy: A Comprehensive Review of the History of Victory Gardens

history of victory gardens reveals a fascinating chapter in global agricultural and social history, where ordinary citizens collectively contributed to national food security during times of crisis. Originating prominently during the World Wars, victory gardens symbolized resilience, patriotism, and community mobilization. This article delves into the origins, evolution, and enduring impact of victory gardens, while examining their socioeconomic and environmental significance within the broader narrative of wartime home front efforts.

The Origins and Evolution of Victory Gardens

The history of victory gardens can be traced back to the early 20th century, particularly during World War I, when governments faced severe shortages of food supplies due to disrupted international trade and increased demand for military provisions. The concept was straightforward: encourage civilians to cultivate their own fruits and vegetables to supplement rationed food and reduce pressure on public food supply chains.

By World War II, victory gardens had become a highly organized, government-endorsed movement across many Allied nations. In the United States, for example, the federal government launched extensive campaigns to promote backyard gardening, community plots, and even rooftop cultivation in urban areas. According to archival data, over 20

million victory gardens were planted across the U.S. during WWII, producing an estimated 8 million tons of fresh produce annually. This homegrown food accounted for approximately 40% of the nation's vegetable production in those years, a staggering contribution that underscored the gardens' critical role in wartime sustenance.

Victory Gardens in the Context of World War I

Although less widespread, the initial wave of victory gardens during World War I set important precedents. In Britain and Canada, citizens were encouraged to "Dig for Victory," a slogan that would gain prominence decades later. These early efforts helped build the framework for community engagement in food production, fostering a sense of empowerment and self-reliance amid rationing and scarcity.

Expansion and Government Support during World War II

The mobilization for World War II intensified the victory garden movement considerably. Governments across the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, and Australia implemented educational programs, distributed seeds and gardening tools, and partnered with schools and civic organizations to maximize participation. The British Ministry of Agriculture's "Dig for Victory" campaign was particularly notable for its effective use of propaganda, including posters, radio broadcasts, and instructional pamphlets.

One notable aspect of this era was the shift from purely private gardens to community and school gardens, which served both practical and morale-boosting purposes. Victory gardens became spaces not only for production but also for social cohesion in times of uncertainty.

Economic and Social Implications of Victory Gardens

Beyond their immediate contribution to food security, victory gardens had extensive economic and social ramifications. By reducing dependency on commercial agriculture and imported goods, victory gardens helped stabilize prices and alleviate wartime inflation pressures. Additionally, they provided a supplemental nutritional source rich in vitamins and minerals at a time when processed and canned foods were often the norm due to preservation needs.

Empowerment and Community Engagement

Victory gardens fostered a unique sense of agency among civilians, particularly women who comprised much of the home front labor force during the wars. Gardening became a

patriotic duty, empowering individuals to contribute tangibly to the war effort. Community gardens further encouraged cooperation across social and economic divides, reinforcing solidarity.

Environmental Considerations and Sustainability

In retrospect, victory gardens prefigured many contemporary sustainability practices. Their emphasis on local food production, crop diversity, and seasonal eating aligns with modern ecological principles. Moreover, these gardens reduced the carbon footprint associated with transporting food over long distances—an early example of localized food systems mitigating environmental impact.

Legacy and Contemporary Relevance

Although the prominence of victory gardens declined after World War II due to increased industrial agriculture and changing lifestyles, their legacy persists. The resurgence of interest in home gardening during recent global crises, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, echoes the historical patterns of victory gardens as a response to uncertainty and supply chain disruptions.

Modern Urban Agriculture and Victory Gardens

Today's urban agriculture movements draw heavily on the victory garden ethos. Rooftop farms, community gardens, and edible landscaping in cities worldwide reflect an ongoing desire for food sovereignty and resilience. Educational programs inspired by wartime gardening campaigns promote sustainable growing techniques and food literacy among younger generations.

Challenges and Limitations

While victory gardens were invaluable during wartime, they were not without limitations. The scale of production was insufficient to meet all nutritional needs, and gardening required time, knowledge, and physical effort that not all populations could afford equally. Additionally, soil quality and urban space constraints sometimes limited yields. These challenges highlight that victory gardens were one component of a multifaceted food security strategy rather than a standalone solution.

Key Features and Characteristics of Victory

Gardens

- **Location Diversity:** Gardens ranged from backyard plots to public parks, schoolyards, and even window boxes.
- **Crop Selection:** Focused primarily on vegetables and herbs that could be grown quickly and provided essential nutrients.
- **Government Involvement:** Strong promotion through campaigns, seed distribution, and educational materials to maximize participation.
- Community Focus: Encouraged collective action and shared knowledge, enhancing social bonds.
- **Economic Impact:** Helped reduce pressure on commercial food production and stabilized wartime economies.

The history of victory gardens offers a compelling study of how grassroots agricultural initiatives can mobilize populations and contribute meaningfully to national resilience. Their story combines elements of social history, economics, environmental awareness, and public policy, providing lessons that remain relevant in today's context of global challenges and shifting food systems. As we revisit this legacy, it becomes clear that the spirit of victory gardens transcends their historical moment, embodying an enduring model of self-sufficiency and community solidarity.

History Of Victory Gardens

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'The Ritual of Adonis'. It is written by the founder of modern anthropology and helps to explain the Adonis Cult, which provides evidence of plants being grown in Greek courtyard gardens, and of the spirit in which sacred groves were made in Ancient Greece. eTexts relating to The Roman Empire Vitruvius Pollio on landscape architecture and garden design (27 BC) from de Architectura. Vitruvius was a Roman and wrote the oldest western book on design to have survived. It lays down the principle that places should have 'commodity, firmness and delight'. Book 1, Chapters 1-7, are in the Encyclopedia. Excerpts from Ovid's Metamorphosis (1-8 AD) and Art of Love (1 BC). Ovid's poetry provided a rich source of imagery for garden designers and for the artists who made garden sculpture. Pliny the Younger's letters describing his own gardens (c100 AD). These letters are the best surviving descriptions of Roman gardens and of how their owners used them. Pliny owned many gardens and 500 slaves. Cicero, excerpts from his letters relating to gardens Virgil's Aenead, sections relating to gardens Life of St Martin The first outstanding monastic leader in France was St Martin of Tours (c316-397). His account of how he destroyed the sacred groves of the pagan religion does much to explain why Europe has such scanty remains of this type of outdoor space. Ibn Battuta's account of Constantinople c1300 eTexts relating to Medieval Gardens Charlemagne's 'chapter' (capitulary) on gardens gave detailed instructions for the plants to be used in the royal gardens and for the management of his lands. They are key texts for the study of medieval gardens, c800 AD. A note on 'Irminsul.', the sacred tree of the Saxons, destroyed by the Christians. Guillaume de Lorris' Romance of the Rose or Roman de la Rose (c1250). This is an allegorical poem, inspired by Ovid, in which gardens and roses are associated with romantic love ('Full many a time I smote and struck the door and listened for someone to let me in') Excerpts from Boccaccio's Decameron (1353), with classical descriptions of medieval garden scenes. The tales are famed for their sexual intrigue and this aspect is more prominent than garden scenery in the illustrations in the Encyclopedia. Albertus Magnus advice on how to make a pleasure garden (1206) Walafried Strabbo's poem Hortulus. This is the literary classic of medieval garden literature, celebrating the delight of plants in monastic life and giving detailed information on the culture and uses of plants. The Life of St Anthony, relating to the origin of monastic gardening The Life of St Philbert, relating to the origin of the European monastic cloister. He was Abbot of Jumièges in France c750. A set of quotations from The Bible which make reference to gardens.(61 No) eTexts relating to Islamic Gardens A set of quotations from The Koran which make reference to gardens (151 No) The Spanish Ambassador's visit to Samarkand, in 1404, with his descriptions of Mughal gardens Babur's Memoir, Babur admired the gardens he had seen and, after founding a Mughal Empire, made gardens he made in India Persian gardens were in better condition in 1900 than in 2000, and better still in 1700. This gives a particular importance to past travellers descriptions of their use and form. There sections from the following accounts of visits to Persian gardens in the Encyclopedia (and engravings, to capture the flavour of Persian gardens as they were) Montesquieu's Persian letters (1721) contained little information on Pesian gardens but did much to awaken interest in seraglios and the 'romance of the East'. Washington Irving, the 'father of American literature' published a famous account of the Alhambra in 1832. He was a friend of Sir Walter Scott and has the same interest in welding history with imagination. This provides a glimpse of the Alhambra and Generalife when they were, beyond question, the finest gardens in Europe. eTexts relating to Renaissance Gardens Plotinus The Enneads Eighth Tractate: 'On the Intellectual Beauty'. Plotinus (205-270AD) was 'rediscovered' during the renaissance, in the Platonic Academy founded at Careggi, and came to have a profound influence on renaissance design methods St Augustine's conversion took place in a garden in Milan (described in his Confessions) and was often chosen as a frontispiece to editions of his work. Augustine is regarded as the greatest Christian thinker of antiquity, the transmitter of Plato and Aristotle to medieval and renaissance Christianity. Leon Battista Alberti On Garden Design (1485) from De re aedificatoria libri X (Ten Books on Architecture). Drawing from Pliny and Vitruvius, the humanist scholar set forth the principles for the design of renaissance villas. They were taken up by Donato Bramante and guided the course of garden design for two centuries. Vasari's biographical note on Leon Battista Alberti describes his multi-faced genius. Leonardo da Vinci note on the design

of a water garden (from his Notebooks) with a reference to his interpretation of Vitruvius Andrea Palladio's I Quattro Libri dell'Architecttura (The Four Books of Architecture) (1570) is one of the most influential design works ever published. The quotations in the Encyclopedia relate to the placing of buildings and Neoplatonism. Michel Eyguem de Montaigne's diary accounts of Italian Gardens (1580-1) let us view many still-famous Italian gardens through the eyes of a French renaissance traveller and writer. Montaigne invented the 'essay form'. William Shakespeare's mention of gardens (30 No.) tell much of the gardens he knew. Despite his dates (1564-1616) these gardens are medieval, with only the slightest renaissance accent. Francis Bacon's Essay 'On Gardens' (1625). This famous essay, by a philosopher and scientist, in Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe's words 'magisterially lays down the fundamental principles of gardening'. It begins with the words 'God Almighty first planted a garden' and praises wildness in gardens. John Evelyn's diary accounts of gardens in France and Italy visited between 1644 and 1685. As with Montaigne's diary, they provide contemporary descriptions of French and Italian parks and gardens. Andrew Marvell's The Garden (c1650) celebrates the delights in the symbolism of seventeenth century enclosed gardens. Marvell's Upon Appleton House, to my Lord Fairfax contains some garden description. The Garden by Abraham Cowley 'I never had any other desire so strong, and so like to covetousness, asthat I might be master at last of a small house and large garden Sir Thomas Browne's essay on The Garden of Cyrus deals with the history of gardens, as viewed from 1658 (an extract is in the Encyclopedia) eTexts relating to Enlightenment Gardens René Descartes Descartes did not write either on aesthetics or on garden design, but historians continue to speak of the 'Cartesian Garden', by which they mean a geometrical garden. The Encyclopedia contains the text and a comment on his Discourse on the method of rightly conducting the reason, and seeking truth in the sciences.(1637) This short book laid the foundation for the philosophy of the Enlightenment and for Neoclassical aesthetics. John James Theory and Practice of Gardening was published in 1712, based on A J Dezallier d'Arganville and Le Blond. It became the standard book on laying out a French baroque garden and provides a fascinating insight into how this was done. James also 'introduced the concept of the ha-ha and anticipated Pope's famous dictum on the genius of the place'. The Encyclopedia has 3 chapters, 4 plates and a discussion of James' book. Alexander Pope's and his Essay on Criticism (1711) Epistle to Lord Burlington (1731). The former summarises contemporary attitudes to gardens and the latter summarises contemporary (rationalist-Neoclassical) aesthetic theory: based on Reason, Nature and the Genius of the Place. John Serle's plan of Alexander Pope's garden at the time of his death, and his description of Pope's grotto (+ photographs of the grotto and its setting) Sir Joshua Reynolds Discourses were delivered at the Royal Academy in London between 1769 and 1790 embody 'The basic ideas of neoclassical theory in the fine arts were set forth in definitive form, with clarity and grace'. The Encyclopedia contains relevant quotations. eTexts relating to Romantic Gardens William Temple's essay 'Upon the Gardens of Epicurus: or Of Gardening' (1685) is extravagantly praised by Nicholas Pevsner. He claims this essay 'started a line of thought and visual conceptions which were to dominate first England and then the World for two centuries.' The full text is in the Encyclopedia. Jospeh Addison's Essay 161 made the key association of natural scenery with liberty and freedom. Essay 37 describes a perfect garden in which reason and nature go hand in hand. Essay 414 sees the works of nature as more delightful than artificial arrangements. Essay 417 supports Locke's theory of knowledge. Essay 477 describes Addison's own garden at Bilton. William Shenstone A description of The Leasowes. This was one of the landscape gardens most admired in continental Europe, partly because it was the work of a poet and partly because it combined use and beauty - a ferme orneé. The full text of his publisher's description is in the Encyclopedia. William Shenstone 'Unconnected thoughts on gardening'. The invention of the term 'landskip gardening' is attributed to Shenstone. Edmund Burke An essay on the sublime and beautiful (1757). Taking an empiricist approach, Burke attacks Vitruvian and rationalist aesthetics. He also discusses garden design, praising Hogarth's 'line of beauty' (which Brown followed) and comparing 'smooth streams in the landscape' with 'in fine women smooth skins'. Quotations from Lancelot 'Capability' Brown, describing the principles on which he worked. Horace Walpole's essay

'On Gardening' (1780). The most brilliant and influential essay ever written on the development English park and garden design. Thomas Jefferson's descriptions of English gardens John Claudius Loudon's biography of Humphry Repton (1840). After Repton's own writings, this is the primary source of information on Humphry Repton's life and work. Jean-Jacques Rousseau one of the letters from La Nouvelle Héloise deal's with Julie's garden. It is a romantic treatment of an ancient theme, making the association between women, sex and gardens (see above references the Song of Solomon, the Romance of the Rose and Boccaccio. Also the reference below to Goethe). Uvedale Price On the Picturesque (1794) Excerpt from Chapter 1 and Chapter 4. Price was a widely respected authority on picturesque taste in gardens. Humphry Repton 'A letter to Mr Price' (1795) Humphry Repton Sketches and Hints (1795) This is Repton's first theoretical statement on his chosen professional (Introduction and Chapter 1 on Encyclopedia) Humphry Repton Fragments on the Theory and Practice of Landscape Gardening (1816) The Fragment reproduced (No 27) comes from the Red Book for Ashridge - a favourite project and the occasion for Repton's advocacy of what became the Mixed Style of garden design. eTexts relating to Nineteenth Century Gardens Johann Wolfgang von Goethe Elective Affinities (1809). Like Rousseau, Goethe admired 'natural' gardens. He also drew gardens and designed gardens. The section reproduced in the Encyclopedia deals with the design of a romantic garden. Jane Loudon's life of her husband John Claudius Loudon (1843). Jane was a novelist and her memoir is as touching as it is important as the key source of information on her husband - who was the most influential garden writer of the nineteenth century. Loudon's influence was particularly important in America. Edward Kemp How to lay out a garden (1864 edn). Excerpts giving his views on styles of garden design and describing two gardens which he designed. It presents a somewhat depressing picture of the confusion which reigned in the mid-nineteenth century garden aesthetics - and continues to reign in many of the world's municipal parks departments.. Sir Walter Scott, excerpt from Waverly and from The Quarterly Review on gardens. Scott's remarks can be read in conjunction with those of his friends, Gilbert Laing Meason and Washington Irving. They introduced a romantic-historical dimension to garden design and appreciation. Gustave Flaubert Bouvard and Pécuchet. Flaubert satirizes the bourgeois taste in garden design displayed by the characters whose names form the title of his last novel. Famous Parks and Gardens of the World - the book was published anonymously and provides a good illustration of European gardening opinion in 1880. The Preface and Chapter 10 are in the Encyclopedia. Ludwig II of Bavaria: the romantic gardens of the 'Mad King' were rich in historical associations. eTexts relating to the History of Landscape Architecture Guide to the History of Landscape Architecture, by Tom Turner Gilbert Laing Meason. The full text of Meason's On the Landscape Architecture of the Great Painters of Italy (London 1828). Meason was the 'inventor' of the term Landscape Architecture, which has since come to be used by a world-wide profession, represented by the International Federation of Landscape Architects, by the American Society of Landscape Architects, by the UK Landscape Institute and numerous other national associations. Only 150 copies of his book were printed and its contents are not well known. This is the first time the book has been re-published. It is accompanied with an analysis of the text by Tom Turner. A clear appreciation of how landscape architecture began is regarded as central to comprehension of the modern profession. Notes on the Top twenty theorists and designers in the history of landscape architecture and on the question What is landscape architecture? John Claudius Loudon's included comments on Meason in his Gardener's Magazine (1828) and in his Encyclopedia of Architecture (1833). These comments transmitted the term to Andew Jackson Downing and, later, to Frederick Law Olmsted - setting the course of American landscape architecture. Andrew Jackson Downing's Treatise on the Theory and Practice of Landscape Gardening. (Section 1, Section 2 and Section 9). Downing was 'the first American writer on landscape architectural topics' (Norman T Newton in Design on the Land) and an 'incalcuable' influence on American garden design and landscape architecture (Oxford Companion to Gardens). Loudon's writings were his starting point. Frederick Law Olmsted's description of his winning design for the Central Park, New York, competition (1858). Olmsted 'the father of American landscape architecture' entered the profession as a result of the

Greensward Plan for Central Park, done in partnership with the English architect Calvert Vaux. Norman T Newton's account of the scope of landscape architecture, from Design on the land. Geoffrey Jellicoe's account of the scope of landscape design, from the Landscape of Man Ian McHarg: notes and links on the twentieth century's outstanding landscape planner. eTexts relating to Arts and Crafts Gardens William Morris' essay on Hopes and fears for art in which he criticises carpet bedding and makes the point that gardens should be works of art and of craft. Thomas Huxley's discussion of Evolution and ethics (1859), in which he views his own garden as a 'work of art' in contrast to the 'state of nature' which existed before it was made. William Robinson The Wild Garden (1881 edn Chapters 1-5, originally published by John Murray and reproduced with their permission). Robinson is described by Jekyll (in the reference below) as 'our great champion of hardy flowers'. He urged the use of hardy plants, instead of subtropical plants and carpet bedding, in garden design. He had a sharp dispute with Blomfield (below). John D Sedding Garden craft old and new (1891) introduced his book with a chapter on The Theory of the Garden. There are 2 chapters in the Encyclopedia. Reginald Blomfield's The Formal garden in England (1901 edn, originally published by MacMillan and reproduced with their permission). A contemporary review in The Times said 'Mr. Blomfield's historical sketch of the art of gardening in England is full of interest and instruction, and his polemic against the so-called landscape gardeners is vigorous, incisive, and to our mind convincing.' The book is undoubtedly polemical, but commendably scholarly. Blomfield was the son of a bishop and had a hatred of modernism. Gertrude Jekyll's account of garden design (from Wall water and woodland gardens, 1901, originally published by Country Life and reproduced with their permission). Jekyll was the most influential writer on planting design in the twentieth century. This chapter is the clearest statement of her views on the history and theory of garden design. eTexts relating to Design Methods Design methodology: an overview by Tom Turner Surface water drainage and management (from Landscape Design October 1985) arguing for 'privileging' water in the design procedure Wilderness and plenty: construction and deconstruction (from Urban Design Quarterly September 1992) arguing that the professional structure of the construction industry would benefit from deconstruction. 'Feminine' landscape design: a tale of two tragedies (from a Sheffield Spring School lecture, April 1993) arguing for the 'way of the hunter' to be balanced by the 'way of the nester' Postmodern landscapes (from Landscape Design May 1993) arguing for landscape and garden designers to take account of postmodern ideas and theories in their work Pattern analysis (from Landscape Design October 1991) arguing for a design method based on pattern analysis, instead of the modernist Survey-Analysis-Design (SAD) method taught in most of the world's landscape and garden design schools. Revolutions in the garden (from Tom Turner's City as landscape, Spons 1996). After looking at the design revolutions which have taken place in the 1690s, 1790s, and 1890s this essay finds the seeds of a fourth design revolution in the work of Sir Geoffrey Jellicoe, Charles Jencks, and Ian Hamilton Finlay. The flowers of garden design theory (from Garden Design Journal Autumn 1999, published as 'Timeless with delight') this article suggests a design method which integrates knowledge drawn from various fields, including the fine arts, philosophy, the natural and social sciences. PAKILDA: Pattern Assisted Knowledge Intensive Landscape Design Approach (from Landscape Design May 2001). Developing the method outlined in the Garden Design Journal, this article the recommends a design method for landscape design and planning. Design history and theory (from a lecture delivered at the University of Uppsala in April 2002) this article relates the PAKILDA method to the set of design objectives outlined by Vitruvius in the first century: utilitas (Commodity), firmitas (Firmness) and venustas (Delight). eTexts relating to Twentieth Century Gardens There are histories of American Garden Design in the Encyclopedia, written in 1834, 1928 and 2001. Geoffrey Jellicoe: a collection of information on his work, including an essay by Tom Turner on: Geoffrey Jellicoe, the subconscious and landscape design (1998) Garden Revolutions: an essay in which it is argued that 'structuralism can infuse gardens with post-Postmodern ideas and beliefs. It is a layered approach to garden making. '

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