The Modern English Garden
THE MODERN ENGLISH GARDEN

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Introduction

GARDENING has never been so popular in the British Isles as it is at the present time. It is not that it is a craze of the moment, rushing up like an annual with an evanescent bloom that is dead and forgotten a few weeks later: rather is it the culminating peak of a slow, sturdy centuries-old growth that has its roots deep in the affection of the Britisher. If the reasons for this passion for gardening are sought for, it will be found that modern transport is one of the main factors in the growth of horticulture—taken in its broadest sense—among the people of the British Isles. At the start of the present century gardening knowledge was a closed book to the majority of city dwellers. If they worked in a city, they lived in it; and few living in the country made their daily pilgrimage to town. So gardens were mainly divided into two groups only: the large, worked entirely by paid labour, and the cottage, where the worker, who gained his livelihood from the soil, grew enough fruit, vegetables and flowers for his own needs. The consequence was that gardeners were
divided into two classes—the professional, the
great prop throughout the world of the
British gardening reputation of the past, and
the cottager, who was quite satisfied if he
knew enough to raise sufficient potatoes,
cabbages and apples for his pot, and flowers
to decorate the small plot in front of his
cottage. The great amateur class did not
exist.

Modern transport has brought the city
within easy reach of the country. Suburban
areas now exist where were only fields and
woods before. The city man lives in the
country—or near-country. Every house has
a garden, or the land for making one. Thus
it has come about that this class has had to
learn—and has wanted to learn—how to
garden. It is not that they had no love of
flowers before. Their love was fossilised
through misuse; for it is not a rash statement
to say that the love of flowers and horticulture
is inherent in every inhabitant of the British
Isles. The sudden expansion that has taken
place within the past few years is made
possible by changed conditions; and most
people have taken advantage of it.

It is said that every Scotsman is a gardener
at heart; the same now applies to English,
Welsh and Irish. By this is meant gardening
in the fullest sense. He wants to know
cause and effect; he is quick to learn; he
is as interested in the cultivation of a plant as in the ultimate perfect result; he is keen to take advantage of the knowledge and experience of others; he is inquisitive and has imagination. Therein lies the difference between gardening in the British Isles and gardeners abroad. It has been my good fortune to see gardens in many corners of the world, and I should say that it is our love of and interest in cultivation, as well as the ultimate result, that makes our gardens somehow different. In our desire to learn how to grow a plant we study its character, its suitability and its finer qualities to an extent that may appear a little ludicrous to a stranger. But this examination has made us critical, even hyper-critical; it has brought about a desire for perfection of the individual plant as well as for perfection in the mass; it has shown us possibilities in a flower, otherwise undreamed of; it has made us evolve a manner of gardening in which the garden is designed to suit the plant as well as the plant the garden. In short, the modern garden in the British Isles has grown up along with the plants therein. No longer is the strictly formal at all popular, when the architect had as much to do with laying out the garden as the gardener. Simplicity and a subtle sense of the fitness of things are the keynotes of the ordinary garden of to-day.
This, no doubt, is partly brought about by the exigencies of the present day. There is not sufficient money to lay out magnificent parterres and terraces, nor, indeed, the masses of beds that in the past were ablaze with successions of plants from early spring to late autumn; for that type of gardening is the most expensive of all. In order to supply a fitting succession of plants, an enormous amount of labour that is unrealised goes on behind the scenes.

Nowadays gardeners cut their coats to fit their purses, and, in order to do so, they have to make the most of the ground and landscape at their disposal, a fact that more than any other makes for individuality in gardening. Each individual plot, whether it be a few square yards or several acres, must be dealt with on its own merits; the treatment that is meted out to your neighbour’s land will seldom do for yours. It might be said that our gardens are still in a state of evolution, but that is not the case. We are still moving forward, but the lines on which we run are straight and clearly marked in front of us: there they are, individuality and the successful cultivation of plants.

It has been said that the British Isles have the best climate and the worst weather in the world, but it is just this moisture, which non-gardeners consider over-abundant,
and the absence of weeks of scorching sun that give to our plants that richness of colour and luxuriance of growth which make our gardens so envied by those living in less favoured countries. But they should remember that even in the British Isles there is considerable variety of climate and temperature, which, of itself, gives opportunity for the garden lover. He can make the right kind of garden; he can choose suitable plants with which to clothe and beautify it; he can regulate their treatment to serve his own particular conditions and situation. This book, however, has been designed not merely for him, but also for those who live in other parts of the globe and wish to model their gardens on English lines. Although the plants may not be the same, yet they can aim at a similar effect. Gardening is a world-wide hobby, and the truth is that no beautiful garden can be made either in the British Isles or elsewhere without proper forethought. The purpose of this little volume is to show by example, rather than by precept, what has been done in our gardens.

It might, perhaps, be advisable to describe in order of size the various types of gardens and their gardeners such as exist in Great Britain at the present day.

I. THE LARGE GARDEN OF ANYTHING OVER TWO ACRES.—In the past these were
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I. The Large Garden of Anything Over Two Acres.—In the past these were
far more numerous than they are at present. Their upkeep was always costly, for the necessary labour was supplied by never less than eight men. In the second half of last century, when bedding was at its height, they were usually formal in the extreme. Little by little beds and set arrangements of flowers were given up, until, in most cases where they exist as post-war gardens, a large percentage of the ground is devoted to wild gardens or trees and shrubs, neither of which is costly of upkeep. It is to this increase of the wild and trees and shrubs that we owe much of the popularity of new plants recently introduced from the Far East and elsewhere. Enthusiastic gardeners will pay more for a rarity when they know that it will look after itself once it has been given a fair start. The consequence is that under the new phase in gardening many large gardens can exist and give pleasure to their owners with a smaller outlay than formerly.

2. The One to Two Acre Garden.—This is one of the most interesting of all modern types of garden, for it is in this size of garden that the specialist usually gardens, and it is through them that many new plants, both species and garden varieties, are popularised. The reason is fairly obvious. The garden is large enough to supply the ordinary household requirements of fruit, flowers and
vegetables and still leave some ground over for experimenting or for growing one particular group of plants. On the other hand, it is not so large that the keen owner cannot know each plant individually. He can tend them and look after them himself, and so he plants what he wants, and not because there is so much acreage to fill. It is in gardens of this size that you can usually see the best herbaceous borders, rock gardens or collections of individual plants, such as roses or irises.

3. The Half-Acre Garden.—This is often a miniature example of the previous type. The owner usually cultivates it with either one gardener or with hired help on two or more days of the week. Much of the work is done by himself and his family. The consequence is that he gains a first-class knowledge not only of plants, but also of their successful cultivation. It is in this type of garden that there has been the greatest increase; in fact, the half-acre garden has become the backbone of gardening in the British Isles.

4. The Small Plot.—This is worked entirely by the owner and his family. In this type there is, probably, the most noticeable improvement in design and beauty, for no longer do the plants consist entirely of produce for the house. Many owners of plots are
content to buy most of their fruit and vegetables and concentrate on growing flowers. In this they are probably right, for, on the whole, vegetable growing in small areas is an uneconomic proceeding. No longer are they in the habit of scattering a few flowers about the garden and paying no attention to their wants; rather do they see that what they grow they grow well.

Whatever the size, each garden should be treated individually. The lie of the land should be studied. Various questions crop up, such as exposure, the prevailing wind, the class of soil, the position of the house, the presence or absence of trees, the surroundings of the garden. It is a good plan to note features that appeal to you in a friend’s garden or in illustrations of gardens, but the art of making a garden lies in adapting what appeals to you to the ground and conditions at your disposal.

Owing to the necessity of individuality of treatment it is impossible to lay down hard and fast rules. Let us try and take, however, certain factors that are of the greatest importance and lay down certain guiding lines.

The House and Garden.

It may be taken that at least a portion of every garden adjoins a house; therefore it should be so arranged that the view of
the garden from the windows of the house should be as effective as possible, which means that borders or beds in full view of the windows should be filled with plants that are showy over a long period. For this purpose nothing can equal a mixed border of herbaceous plants with a leavening of bulbs and other flowers for spring effect. If a little ingenuity is shown in the choice of your plants, a border can be full of colour from April until October. If you have the ground and labour at your disposal, beds with a succession of plantings throughout the year are just as successful, but the cost is greater. Most important of all, however, is that the main show to be viewed from the windows should be a suitable distance away from the house. Nothing is so wasteful of space as a border or other show of flowers blockading the windows and shutting out the view. There should always be a foreground, such as a lawn, if need be with a small pool or a sundial in the middle, but otherwise unadorned, over which you look at your main show of flowers. The figure on page xiv explains itself. In front of the house is a lawn (A) with a little round pool (B). The L-shaped borders (c, c) can be seen not only facing the house, but disappearing into the distance, with a wide swathe of lawn (d) between them. If an added idea of length
is wanted, pillars or arches of climbing roses or ramblers may run across the wide grass swathe at E, and, through these, occasional glimpses of the far end of the borders may be seen. If a background to the borders is necessary, tall shrubs can be planted at F, F. Such a design may be modified or extended to any degree, but with a bare foreground.
and a mass of colour in the middle distance
a feeling of spaciousness is given to any
garden however small. Planting may, of
course, be done under the windows and close
to the house, but it should be seen that it is
in keeping with the architecture of the house.
Such planting belongs to the house and not
to the garden. Remember that in all cases
the part of the garden close to the house and
the building itself should be treated as one.
Too often are both spoilt by being planned
as two separate entities.

EXPOSURE AND SHELTER.

To this may also be coupled background,
for the shelter is often a background to what
lies in front. A due regard to prevailing
winds and exposure is a most important
feature of the garden that is only too often
ignored. In a new garden it is of primary
importance not only for the sake of plants
that dislike being constantly at the mercy of
the wind, but also because no plant looks
well when its blooms are buffeted and torn.
It is often impossible to ensure that your
garden is made on the lee side of the prevailing
wind, but with due precautions its force
may be broken. Banks of conifers or ever-
green shrubs may be planted, or walls or
high fences suitably clothed may be used,
but in every case, particularly in an exposed
garden, providing shelter should be one of the first tasks in a new garden. It will always repay being done. In addition to acting as a shelter, such a screen forms a magnificent background, and a background in some form or another helps to show off plants to the best advantage.

THE CLASS OF SOIL AND RAINFALL.

Before the design of the garden is finally approved, care should be taken to note the class of soil and the rainfall. Different plants prefer different soils and more or less moisture. For instance, in heavy loams and clays that are costly and laborious to work it is often advisable to plant more shrubs and other plants which do not necessitate the constant working of the soil in preference to those that have to be constantly lifted or changed. Then, again, in areas that have a baking hot summer with little rain plants bloom and wither far quicker than those in a more temperate climate. Therefore due regard should be given to such questions as shade, the presence of a good water supply and so on.

TREES IN THE GARDEN.

A certain number of trees in a garden is always an advantage. Not only do they supply necessary shade and a certain amount
of shelter, but there is nothing so good as a fine specimen tree for use as a focus point. There it sits as a keystone to the garden, with lawns, beds and borders so arranged that it makes a noble finale to the design of the garden. On the other hand, a garden may have too many trees. They may give too dense shade, with a consequent souring of the soil. In addition, it must be remembered that many trees are greedy feeders, and so rob other plants of their proper supply of food.

THE SURROUNDINGS OF A GARDEN.

Remember that the surroundings of a garden are nearly as important as the garden itself. However perfect a garden may be of itself, untidy or ugly surroundings may spoil it. Ugly sheds or rubbish heaps should be properly screened, an important item that is often neglected. This means that people who are not so fortunate as to possess buildings of a design and appearance exactly as they would like are able, by the judicious treatment of plants, to effect a transformation scene. Properly handled, flowers of every shape and form have a magic power of beautifying anything and everything. With the great advance that has taken place in horticulture it is no very difficult task to find suitable plants to act as screens. It is,
also, much pleasanter to enter and leave a garden by way of a good approach with appropriate gates. These little points are of the greatest importance.

Finally, the following general rules can be given:

1. Never try to garden more than can be conveniently worked with the labour at your command.

2. Do not at once try to copy line for line and plant for plant something that you have admired in another garden. See, first of all, if it is suitable for your own garden, and remember that most designs in gardening can be adapted to your own particular requirements.

3. If you have moved to a new neighbourhood, find out what plants are the most likely to succeed in your environment before you make your planting plan.

4. Do not be too proud to learn from the successes and failures of others. The more experienced a gardener is the more he realises how much he can learn from others.

5. Remember that, first and foremost, the garden is yours, and that the most important thing is that you should enjoy it. Therefore judge fairly the suggestions of others before you put them into practice.

6. Be interested not only in the final results, but also in the formation of your garden and the cultivation of your plants.

7. Remember that the more you try to understand the requirements of your plants and understand their likes and dislikes the more successful will be your garden.

8. Above all, be generous in your gardening. It is the most popular hobby in the world, and this popularity has arisen from the common bond, a love of plants, that all real gardeners have.

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I trust that this volume will be of use not only to intending gardeners, but also to those who have already had a wide experience. The illustrations have been chosen each one for some point that it can show. Most of them can teach something not only to the man who gardens on a large scale, but also to him who has only a tiny garden in which to work. Remember that they are all capable of adaptation.

E. H. M. COX.
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THE TERRACED FRONT OF A HOUSE WHERE THE SHARP LINES OF HOUSE AND TERRACE ARE SOFTENED BY ALLOWING THE PLANTS TO GROW UNRESTRICTED
A MODERN EVOLUTION, WHERE A CLEAR VIEW IS GIVEN FROM THE HOUSE DOOR OVER A BROAD SWathe OF TURF FLANKED BY WIDE HERBACEOUS BORDERS. A SUNDIAL GIVES A CENTRAL FOCUS POINT
AN APPROACH FROM THE HOUSE TO THE GARDEN PLANNED ON FORMAL LINES. TUBBED PLANTS AT THE TOP AND BOTTOM OF THE STEPS GIVE IT CHARACTER
A NARROW WINDING PATH EDGED WITH OLD-FASHIONED FLOWERS IS EMINENTLY SUITED TO A THATCHED AND WHITEWASHED COTTAGE
WHERE THE HOUSE AND LAWNS ARE ON DIFFERENT LEVELS THE USE OF DRY WALLS NOT ONLY BREAKS THE HEIGHT, BUT MAKES AN ADMIRABLE BACKGROUND FOR TALL-GROWING PLANTS

THE DOOR TO THE GARDEN LOOKS ON TO A PAVED PATH EDGED WITH GRASS AND FLANKED BY HERBACEOUS BORDERS. IN THIS CASE THE LINES OF THE BORDERS ARE BROKEN BY THE INCLUSION IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PATH OF A SMALL RECTANGULAR BED
A path that carries on the straight front of a house. On either side are herbaceous plants.
STRAIGHT BORDERS AND STRAIGHT PATHS LEAD TO THE SIDE OF THIS HOUSE, GIVING A FEELING OF LENGTH TO THE BORDERS.
A SMALL FRONT GARDEN TO A COTTAGE, TREATED ATTRACTIVELY IN ALMOST HAPHAZARD MANNER WITH RAMBLER ROSES AND LITTLE BALLS OF CLIPPED BOX
EVERY DETAIL OF THIS OLD-FASHIONED GARDEN IS CAREFULLY THOUGHT OUT SO AS TO BE IN KEEPING WITH THE OLD-WORLD APPEARANCE OF THE THATCHED COTTAGE
A sense of privacy is given to an old cottage by dividing by a clipped yew hedge the small lawn in front of the house from the main garden.
EVEN WITH A SMALLER HOUSE THE IDEA OF A COURTYARD CAN BE GIVEN TO A GARDEN ENTRANCE BY MEANS OF A SQUARE OF PAVEMENT
FORMAL BEDS AND A WIDE PATH DIVIDE THIS HOUSE FROM ITS LAWN, WHICH PREVENTS MONOTONY
A GARDEN CLOSELY ASSOCIATED WITH ITS HOUSE. HERBACEOUS BORDERS AND
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MANY HOUSES, WHETHER AS ATTRACTIVE AS THIS ONE OR NOT, CAN BE IMPROVED CONSIDERABLY BY MAKING A ROCKERY THAT SLOPES UPWARD TOWARDS THE HOUSE.
A SUNK FORMAL GARDEN THAT IS INEXPENSIVE OF UPKEEP CAN BE MADE OF A LAWN WITH A BED IN EACH CORNER AND A RECTANGULAR POOL SET IN PAVING WITH AGAPANTHUS IN TUBS AT THE EDGES
IT IS POSSIBLE TO MAKE AN ATTRACTIVE SMALL SUNK FORMAL GARDEN WITH TILED DESIGNS IN THE BEDS AND A SIMPLE CANAL AND SMALL RECTANGULAR POOL.
IN SMALL GARDENS THE FORMALITY OF THE PAVEMENT AND POOL CAN BE MERGED BY DEGREES INTO BEDS AND HERBACEOUS BORDERS
A Lily Pool May Be Strictly Formal in Design and Surrounded by Yew Hedges
THE OUTSIDE OF A FORMAL GARDEN MAY BE A HERBACEOUS BORDER, WITH A CENTRE OF BEDS AND PATHS SET IN GEOMETRICAL PATTERN AND A SIMPLE ROUND POOL AS THE CENTRAL POINT.

EVEN THE APPROACHES OF A FORMAL GARDEN SHOULD BE CAREFULLY DESIGNED SO THAT THE ROUND CLIPPED BUSHES ADD TO THE GEOMETRICAL DESIGN OF THE GARDEN.
NOTHING GIVES SUCH SIMPLICITY TO A SUNK GARDEN AS A LAWN WITH A WELL-DESIGNED LILY POND IN THE MIDDLE
A FORMAL GARDEN THAT SURROUNDS A SIMPLE CANAL OR POND MAY BE FULLY PLANTED WITH SUMMER FLOWERS
AN UNUSUAL FEATURE IS A WELL SITUATED ON A TERRACE CLOSE TO THE HOUSE. THE STONE PIERS GIVE A FEELING OF DEPTH TO THE WATER.
A formal garden attains its effect by regular combinations of vivid flowers, this is enhanced by massive corners of deep green yews.
AN ENTRANCE TO A FORMAL GARDEN MAY BE FROM A CORNER. THIS MAY BE MADE MORE STRIKING BY A FLIGHT OF OVAL STONE STEPS WITH HIGH WALLS BEHIND.
A simple yet effective finish to a vista is made with a flight of steps guarded by a pair of yews, a semicircular pool set in a small square of pavement, a balustrade and fine conifers as a screen beyond.

A sunny pool is charming with its well suited background of dry wall and clipped hedge.
A formal garden may be on two levels. The method of having a stone edge, then a width of grass, and, finally, a narrow border, offers a variation of the usual arrangement.
A rectangular lawn in the middle of flower beds not only gives an idea of spaciousness, but also helps to show off the blooms to the best advantage.
WATER IN THE MIDDLE OF A LAWN GIVES ADDED BRILLIANCE TO BANKS OF FLOWERS BEYOND
A sweep of lawn backed by an old clipped hedge is typical of old-world gardens of the British Isles.
NOTHING IS SO HARMONIOUS AS A WELL KEPT LAWN IN THE MIDDLE OF AN OLD ENCLOSURE

A STONE POOL SET IN THE MIDST OF CLOSE-CLIPPED TURF IS NOT ONLY RESTFUL TO THE EYE BUT IS INEXPENSIVE OF UPKEEP
IF THE ORCHARD IS NEAR THE HOUSE, IT IS LITTLE TROUBLE TO KEEP THE GRASS UNDER THE TREES SHORT AND NEAT, WHILE THE ADVANTAGES OF A SMOOTH LAWN NEAR THE HOUSE ARE OBVIOUS.
THE MODERN ENGLISH GARDEN

There is nothing so good for showing off the beauties of an old tree as a trim lawn.
Well kept grass in conjunction with broad herbaceous borders gives a feeling of expanse to all gardens.
IT IS OFTEN ATTRACTIVE TO CONTINUE A LAWN UP A BANK SO LONG AS THE ANGLE IS NOT TOO SHARP
MANY ARE ATTRACTED BY CARPET PLANTS GROWING BETWEEN PAVING STONES. THIS IS PERMISSIBLE SO LONG AS THE PAVEMENT IS NOT IN CONSTANT USE.
CRAZY PAVING MAY BE USED UNDER A PEROOLA, BUT IT MUST HAVE SOME FOCAL POINT, SUCH AS A STATUE, AT THE FAR END
CRAZY PAVING MAY BE USED UNDER A Pergola, BUT IT MUST HAVE SOME FOCAL POINT, SUCH AS A STATUE, AT THE Far End
PAVING IS MOST ATTRACTIVE UNDER A PERGOLA WHERE THE SUPPORTS AND TIMBERS ARE FULLY CLOTHED WITH PLANTS.
FLOWER BEDS MAY BE SET IN PAVING INSTEAD OF GRASS
As a change from ordinary paving, bricks set herringbone fashion may be laid inside rectangular flags.
WHERE GARDEN ARCHES ARE MADE OF BRICK, A BRICK PAVING IS MOST ATTRACTIVE
IN A WIDE PATH A MIXTURE OF CRAZY AND ORDINARY PAVING BREAKS THE MONOTONY
Steps should be appropriate to the type and size of garden gate. In many cases more attention is paid to the gate than to the steps, which is a mistake.
ROUGH STONE STEPS OF CONSIDERABLE WIDTH MAY BE USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH A LOW RETAINING WALL—

—BUT WHERE THEY LEAD TO A GARDEN HOUSE OR SHELTER IT ADDS DISTINCTION IF THEY ARE PROPERLY FINISHED
IT IS OFTEN A GOOD PLAN TO ALLOW THE EDGES OF A FLIGHT OF OLD STEPS TO BE COVERED WITH FERNS AND OTHER PLANTS SO LONG AS THEY DO NOT ENCROACH TOO MUCH
WHERE A PATH LEADS INTO A WILD GARDEN IN WHICH THE SOIL IS USUALLY DAMP, IT IS ALWAYS PERMISSIBLE TO LAY LARGE STEPPING-STONES SET RATHER WIDELY APART
WELL-MADE BRICK STAIRS WITH THEIR WARM COLOURING ARE ALWAYS SUITABLE FOR LEADING UP TO A GARDEN
A simple garden entrance can be improved by the judicious planting of climbing roses.
WHEN A WALL DIVIDES ONE PART OF A GARDEN FROM ANOTHER, IT IS A GOOD PLAN TO MAKE THE ENTRANCE LARGE SO THAT AS MUCH OF A VISTA CAN BE SEEN AS POSSIBLE.
THE OLD IDEA OF A WALLED GARDEN WITH HERBACEOUS PLANTS IN FRONT OF FRUIT TREES IS ALWAYS ATTRACTIVE
A high retaining wall of rough stone is vastly improved by the use of plants that will flow over the stones.
Plants growing in rough walls should be allowed to grow as they will. They look better if massed in groups.

The natural appearance of a rough wall should be retained at all costs, so only plants should be chosen that are suitable.
It is often attractive to let a low retaining wall get so overgrown that the fabric of the wall is completely hidden.
EVEN A MORE FORMAL WALL CAN BE IMPROVED BY THE ADDITION OF SUITABLE PLANTS THAT WILL GROW BETWEEN THE CREVICES
If plants are desired on cemented walls, a wooden trellis can be attached which gives the plants the necessary support.

Plants on the tops of low walls must be chosen with due regard to their height.
A WALL IN A SEMI-WILD GARDEN CAN BE TREATED MORE INFORMALLY. BROAD PATCHES OF COLOUR SHOULD BE ARRANGED IN ITS VICINITY
A GARDEN IN FRONT OF AN OLD WALL CAN SOMETIMES BE TREATED IN A FORMAL FASHION WITH NEAT BEDS AND GRAVEL PATHS
ONE KIND OF HERBACEOUS BORDER IS THAT WHERE THE PLANTS ARE SCATTERED FOR GENERAL COLOUR EFFECT. IN THIS CASE NO SPECIALISED COLOUR SCHEMES ARE USED.
Another kind is that in which plants are grouped in special arrangements for particular colour effects.
WHEN THE SURROUNDINGS ARE SUITABLE THERE IS NOTHING SO ATTRACTIVE AS A BORDER THAT IS ALLOWED TO GROW WITHOUT BEING CHECKED
IN AN OLD-FASHIONED GARDEN THE BEST PLACE FOR HERBACEOUS BORDERS IS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE MAIN MIDDLE WALK
In small gardens borders should be so planted as to give pleasure both in summer and in autumn.

It is always as well to have a definite end to mixed borders such as an archway in a wall or a big garden vase planted with flowers.
In an old-fashioned garden the best place for herbaceous borders is on both sides of the main middle walk.
IN SMALL GARDENS BORDERS SHOULD BE SO PLANTED AS
TO GIVE PLEASURE BOTH IN SUMMER AND IN AUTUMN

IT IS ALWAYS AS WELL TO HAVE A DEFINITE END TO MIXED BORDERS SUCH AS
AN ARCHWAY IN A WALL OR A BIG GARDEN VASE PLANTED WITH FLOWERS
If the planting plan is skilfully done, there is no reason why borders should not be made with an indefinite edge.
Wide herbaceous borders should always have a path of at least six to eight feet between them, otherwise you cannot see the whole border.

Great variations in the height of the plants matter little if the borders can be easily seen.
WHERE THE BORDERS ARE LIKELY TO BE SHADED FOR SEVERAL HOURS A DAY THE PLANTING SHOULD ALWAYS BE DONE IN BOLD CLUMPS
Borders are often made more attractive by edgings of old-fashioned plants like pinks and London pride.

Plants in borders should be carefully graded in height where there is not too much room in which to view them.
DOUBLE BORDERS LOOK EXTREMELY WELL IF CONFINED ON EITHER SIDE BY TALL HEDGES
ANOTHER ATTRACTION BACKGROUND TO A BORDER CAN BE MADE BY GROWING CLIMBING ROSES OVER PILLARS
WHERE THE BACKGROUND IS DARK NOTHING LOOKS BETTER THAN A BORDER OF ONE BOLD COLOUR
Although borders composed of white flowers alone are sometimes glaring, yet they are permissible with the soft green of a lawn on one side.
FOR BOLD DISPLAY IN THE LATE SUMMER OR AUTUMN NOTHING CAN EQUAL RED-HOT POKERS
Most effective is a border of mixed delphiniums in blues and mauves against a background of trees.
THE MODERN ENGLISH GARDEN

A CLUMP OF STately LILIES MAKES AN EXCEllENT FINISH TO A HERACEOUS BORDER
FOR THOSE WHO LIKE LAVENDER TINTS A BORDER
OF IRISSES AND NEPETA IS MOST CHARMING
NOTHING LOOKS SO WELL AS A HOUSE OVERTOPPING THE BLAZE OF COLOUR OF A SUMMER BORDER
WHERE THE BACKGROUND OF A ROCK GARDEN IS DARK, BOLD PLANTING OF ROCK PLANTS IS ESSENTIAL, OTHERWISE THE EFFECT IS POOR AND NO FLOWER IS SHOWN UP
WHERE ROCK GARDENING IS STARTED ON A HILL WITH A NATURAL OUTCROP OF ROCK, THIS SHOULD BE CUT AWAY INTO BAYS SO AS TO PROVIDE AS VARYING CONDITIONS AS POSSIBLE.
OFTEN THE TOP OF A ROCK GARDEN IS THE LEAST ATTRACTIVE FEATURE. THIS CAN BE IMPROVED BY PLANTING SHRUBS THAT GROW IN THICK CLUMPS AND YET ARE LOW IN STATURE.
WHERE ROCKS OF SOME SIZE ARE USED CLOSE TO A PATH, BOLD
DRIFTS OF COLOUR BETWEEN THEM ARE MOST EFFECTIVE
IN THE SHADIEST PORTIONS IN A CLEFT BETWEEN ROCKS
NOTHING LOOKS BETTER THAN THE COOL GREEN
FRONDS OF A COLLECTION OF FERNS

SOME ROCK PLANTS, SUCH AS ALYSSUM, ARE ADMIRABLE FOR PLANTING IN DRIFTS BETWEEN BOULDERS
A bank that is otherwise difficult to treat can often be made into an attractive rock garden, but it must be well clothed, for it depends more on flowers than on rocks for its effect.
AN IDEAL SITUATION FOR AN ALPINE GARDEN IS WHERE NATURAL ROCKS EXIST THAT ARE WORN INTO CRAGS AND PINNACLES BY EROSION
It sometimes happens that boulders exist one on the top of another. The cracks and crannies between them make admirable homes for many rock plants.

Careful thought should be given to levels when a rock garden is in course of formation. Plants can thus be shown to the best advantage.
WHERE WATER EXISTS ROCKS NEED NOT BE TOO CLOSELY CROWDED. SMALL TREES AND SHRUBS ARE ALWAYS GRACEFUL BY WATER

WHERE A GENERAL EFFECT IS AIMED AT, IT IS BETTER TO HAVE A FEW ROCK PLANTS IN BROAD SWATHES OF COLOUR THAN SMALL PLANTS OF MANY VARIETIES
WHEN PLACING THE ROCKS IN POSITION CARE SHOULD BE TAKEN THAT SOME SMALL LEVEL SPACES ARE LEFT BETWEEN THEM
BROAD SWEEPS OF COLOUR ARE ADVISABLE WHEN THE ROCK GARDEN IS CLOSE TO THE HOUSE
AN ATTRACTIVE ROCK GARDEN CAN BE MADE UNDER A WALL; BUT IT SHOULD NOT BE TOO LARGE IN SCALE
Plants of various shapes and sizes should always be included. A rock garden where every plant is of the same dimensions is often dull.
A massive outcrop of rock can be framed with appropriate plants. Dianthuses are particularly attractive when they reach out over stone.

A wood makes an excellent background for a low rockery, besides giving ample shelter.
A small scree made out of granite chippings makes an admirable home for many of the higher alpines.

A scree, or moraine, can be made without underground water, although that is an advantage. The illustration is that of a waterless moraine.
THE MODERN ENGLISH GARDEN

NEAR THE OUTSKIRTS OF A ROCK GARDEN PLANTS MAY BE ALLOWED TO SPREAD, THUS MAKING MAGNIFICENT COLOUR PATCHES
VARIATION IN HEIGHT IS AS IMPORTANT IN THE ROCK GARDEN AS ELSEWHERE. THE STEEPER THE SLOPE THE MORE VARIATION IS PERMISSIBLE.
An outcrop of stone that is not in the garden proper can always be improved by planting a few alpines that will spread of their own accord.
NOTHING IS BETTER FOR A GARDEN LOOK-OUT OR RESTING-PLACE THAN A BOWER OF CLIMBING ROSES
Where possible there should be some space between rose beds, especially where each bed has a rose of a different colour.
A ROSE GARDEN SHOULD BE EXPOSED TO NEARLY FULL SUN. IF A CONTRAST IS NEEDED, A FEW CLIPPED YEWS ARE EXCELLENT
A CORNER OF A HOUSE CAN ALWAYS BE FILLED WITH A CLUMP OF WICHURAIANA ROSES. THEY GROW TO A CONSIDERABLE SIZE.
AS A VARIATION IN THE SCHEME THE CENTRAL BED IN A ROSE GARDEN MAY BE PLANTED WITH SOME OTHER FLOWERS, BUT IT MUST NOT OVERTOP THE HEIGHT OF THE SURROUNDING ROSES.

IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO KEEP A ROSE GARDEN ON STRICTLY FORMAL LINES, OR TO CONFINCE IT ENTIRELY TO ROSES.
If a rose garden is strictly formal, use can be made of ornamental urns and vases
A flight of steps with climbing roses on either side is one of the most successful approaches to a rose garden.
A pergola set on the top of a terrace and covered with ramblers is always effective.
A CUBE POST OR PILLAR NEAR THE HOUSE IS VASTLY IMPROVED BY TRAINING A RAMBLER OVER IT.
WHERE ROSE BEDS ARE SET IN GEOMETRICAL FASHION ATTRACTIVE PATHS CAN BE MADE OF BRICK LAID IN HERRINGBONE FORMATION
A sundial or fountain is eminently suitable in the middle of the rose garden and acts as a focus point.
Roses may be trained to hang down a wall. Such a grouping is made even more effective by a trellis above covered with ramblers.
AN OLD CLIPPED HEDGE MAKES AN EXCELLENT BACKGROUND TO A FORMAL ROSE GARDEN

BEDS OF ROSES MAY BE INCLUDED AMONG OTHER SHRUBS, BUT SUCH BEDS SHOULD NOT BE TOO GEOMETRICAL IN SHAPE
Ramblers trained over a slightly inclined wall or bank make an admirable side to a path from one portion of the garden to another.
NOTHING IS BETTER FOR FORMAL BEDS ON A TERRACE OR IN A COURT THAN TULIPS. THEY SHOULD NOT BE MIXED BUT PLANTED ACCORDING TO COLOUR.
TULIPS ARE SO COLOURFUL OF THEMSELVES THAT NOTHING NEED BE PLANTED WITH THEM, PROVIDED THAT THEY ARE IN FORMAL BEDS OF NOT TOO LARGE A SIZE.
FOR LATE SPRING DISPLAY TULIPS OF BRILLIANT COLOURING ARE ADMIRABLE AGAINST THE DARK GREEN OF AN OLD YEW HEDGE
THE MODERN
ENGLISH GARDEN

FOR SHEEL BRILLIANCE OF TONE NOTHING CAN EQUAL SCARLET DARWIN TULIPS PLANTED IN A BED OF BRIGHT BLUE FORGET-ME-NOTS

TULIPS ARE SO PURE IN TONE THAT ONLY SMALL NUMBERS ARE NECESSARY TO BRIGHTEN A LAWN
ANOTHER BRILLIANT EFFECT CAN BE GAINED BY PLANTING GRAPE HYACINTHS BENEATH A FLOWERING CHERRY. THEY BLOOM AT THE SAME TIME, AND THE COMBINATION IS CHARMING
EVERY GARDEN SHOULD HAVE A ROUGH BULB BORDER, HOWEVER SMALL, WHERE DAFFODILS, CROCUS, SNOWDROPS AND CHIONODOXAS ARE MINGLED TOGETHER IN GRACEFUL PROFUSION
A NEST OF CROCUSES MAKES A BRIGHT SPLASH OF COLOUR BENEATH
AN OLD BOULDER. THEY SHOULD BE PLANTED THICKLY.

SCILLAS ARE MOST USEFUL FOR PLANTING IN ODD CORNERS OF
THE GARDEN WHERE THEY CAN BE LEFT TO THEIR OWN DEVICES.
FOR MASSED COLOUR IN FORMAL BEDS THERE IS NOTHING TO EQUAL DARWIN TULIPS

WHERE A SUCCESSION OF BEDDING PLANTS CAN BE ARRANGED, A SPRING BORDER OF BULBS IS ALWAYS ATTRACTIVE
WHERE THE GROUND IS HEAVILY SHADED THERE IS NO PLANT SO ATTRACTIVE AS THE HARDY CYCLAMEN. THEY WILL EVEN GROW IN GROUND CARPETED WITH IVY
Many of the bulbous irises are excellent for poor stony soil or for the edge of a rock garden.

Many of the wild garlics, or alliums, are useful in odd corners where their freedom of flowering can be seen to advantage.
THE PLACE FOR SNOWDROPS IS ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE GARDEN. IF THEY LIKE THE SOIL, THEY WILL SPREAD IN AREAS WHERE FEW OTHER FLOWERS WILL GROW.

LITTLE BULBS, LIKE THE LEUCOJUMS, OR SNOWFLAKES, AMPLY REPAY THE TROUBLE OF PLANTING THEM ON THE EDGE OF A WOOD OR IN A ROUGH CORNER.
THE NARCİSSIDUS IS SUPREME AMONG BULBS FOR NATURALISING IN FIELD OR WOODLAND.
WHEN THE YEAR IS YOUNG AND FLOWERS ARE SCARCE IN THE OPEN, DAFFODILS MAKE ADMIRABLE SPLASHES OF COLOUR
WHERE NARCISSI ARE PLANTED OVER A CONSIDERABLE AREA, TOO LARGE DRIFTS BECOME MONOTONOUS, THEY SHOULD BE PLANTED IN IRREGULAR CLUMPS
IN A FIELD IN FRONT OF A HOUSE THERE IS NOTHING SO GOOD FOR NATURALISING AS A COMMON VARIETY OF DAFFODIL.
CROCUSES, ALSO, MAY BE NATURALISED ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF A GARDEN WHERE THEIR VARIOUS TONES WILL BRIGHTEN THIN WOODLAND
DAFFODILS SHOULD ALWAYS BE PLANTED FOR SPRING EFFECT WHERE THERE IS WATER
Snowdrops are the first flowers to brighten woodland; so when this exists near a house they should be planted in bulk.
Later in the year the bluebell will take the place of snowdrops and drown the woodland in blue mist.
Many a garden has an old ditch that is usually dry. This makes an excellent place for growing bog primulas, such as P. japonica.
So accommodating are many of the tall primulas that they succeed admirably in all kinds of positions in the wild garden.
Few plants are better than the old-fashioned polyanthus for the pathside in the wild garden.
A charming wild garden can be made at little expense by using the various varieties of heaths, both summer and winter flowering.
HEATHS WILL MAKE A MOORLAND SCENE
IN A VERY FEW YEARS

VARIETIES EXIST, LARGE AND SMALL, AND FLOWERS
MAY BE SEEN THROUGHOUT THE YEAR
They like a light soil, and dislike lime. They also prefer full exposure.

In course of time the larger species and varieties will form thickets.
In damp woodland few plants are at the same time so massive and so graceful as Lilium giganteum. They are perfect wild garden plants.
A NECESSARY INHABITANT OF THE WILD GARDEN IS OUR NATIVE FOXGLOVE, SO ADMIRABLE IS IT IN FORM AND COLOUR
EVERY PORTION OF THE WILD GARDEN CAN BE UTILISED FOR SOME PLANT OR ANOTHER. THEY SHOULD NEVER BE PLANTED SO THAT THE GARDEN LOOKS MAN-MADE.
WATER IS ALWAYS ATTRACTIVE IN THE WILD GARDEN. ON THE BANKS OF A STREAM HOSTS OF PLANTS WILL THRIVE THAT ARE UNHAPPY IN OTHER QUARTERS.
MOST USEFUL IS A LARGE CLUMP OF GUNNERA BY THE WATERSIDE. THE IMPORTANCE OF LARGE-LEAVED PLANTS FOR SETTING OFF A CORNER MUST NOT BE OVERLOOKED
SOME HERBACEOUS PLANTS, SUCH AS LUPINS, MAKE CHARMING DRIFTS OF COLOUR IN THE SEMI-WILD GARDEN
IN A WILD GARDEN IT IS AN EXCELLENT PLAN TO PLANT SHRUBS ON THE SLOPES AND LEAVE THE HOLLows FOR HERBACEOUS PLANTS AND BULBS
Water lilies always look charming in natural surroundings, particularly in conjunction with bamboos.
Japanese Irises are most effective by the waterside, where their colour blends with the surrounding tones.
No patch of water should be without at least one clump of Iris Sibirica, that fits in so well with every picture.
THE WATER LILY HAS MADE MARVELLOUS STRIDES IN THE COURSE OF THE LAST FEW YEARS, AND NO STILL WATER SHOULD BE WITHOUT THEM
FINE SPECIMEN TREES CAN ALWAYS BE VIEWED WITH ADVANTAGE FROM ACROSS WATER
IT MATTERS LITTLE HOW CLOSE TO THE HOUSE IS A PATCH OF WOODLAND THAT IS PLANTED WITH FLOWERING SHRUBS
The beauty of some shrubs, such as Wistaria, is such that many an old outhouse or shed can be improved by growing one against a wall.
A fine-foliaged plant looks well against a wall. There is nothing better than a fig for this purpose, whether it bears fruit or not.
There is no necessity for a wall shrub to grow tight against the wall. Such a plant as Ceanothus thyrsiflorus can be allowed to form a cataract of colour.
VARIOUS SHRUBS CAN NOW BE FOUND THAT FLOWER AT DIFFERENT SEASONS OF THE YEAR. FORSYTHIA SUSPensa WILL DRAPE A PILLAR WITH GOLDEN BLOSSOM AT THE END OF JANUARY.
UNUSED CORNERS BETWEEN HOUSE AND OUTBUILDINGS CAN ALWAYS BE USED TO GOOD PURPOSE BY PLANTING FLOWERING SHRUBS SUCH AS BUDDLEIA VARIABILIS
SOME SHRUBS ARE EXCELLENT FOR GROWING IN TUBS OR LARGE JARS. FEW ARE BETTER THAN THE HYDRANGEA IN ITS VARIOUS SHADES.
A fine clump of old azaleas is attractive in the middle of a lawn
Some shrubs should be grown for the airy grace of their blossom; a good combination is a Laburnum and a Persian Lilac.
A FEW SPECIMEN SHRUBS WILL IMPROVE EVERY GARDEN, PARTICULARLY THOSE THAT ARE AS FREE FLOWERING AS THE SNOWY MESPHILUS
FOR MASSED COLOUR EFFECT FEW FLOWERING PLANTS ARE SO SATISFACTORY AS HYBRID RHODODENDRONS GROWN IN BEDS AND BANKS
AZALEAS ARE EXCELLENT FOR PLANTING NEAR A HOUSE WHERE THEIR VIVID COLOURS CAN BE SEEN FROM THE WINDOWS
EVERY WOOD OR WILD GARDEN THAT IS LIME FREE SHOULD HAVE A SECTION DEVOTED TO RHODODENDRONS
SO FLORIFEROUS IS THE HYBRID RHODODENDRON THAT EVEN THE SMALLEST LIME-FREE GARDEN SHOULD HAVE ONE SPECIMEN GROWN WHERE IT CAN BE FULLY SEEN.

SMALL RHODODENDRONS ARE ADMIRABLE FOR PLANTING IN THE ROCK GARDEN. THEY ARE NEAT PLANTS AS WELL AS CHARming WHEN IN FLOWER.
There are few shrubs more graceful or effective when in flower than the cytisus. A dark background shows up their soft colours to great advantage.
WHERE A PATH IN THE ROCK GARDEN TURNS A CORNER, A LOW FLOWERING SHRUB SUCH AS A CYTISUS OR BROOM SHOULD BE PLANTED FOR BOLD EFFECT
A mixed border of herbaceous plants with shrubs at the back is attractive. Care should be taken, however, that the shrubs do not grow too large for the border.
IT IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY WHEN PLANNING A BORDER OF SHRUBS TO SEE THAT THE HEIGHTS ARE CAREFULLY GRADED WITH THE TALLEST-GROWING PLANTS AT THE BACK
IN CORNERS THAT ARE INCLINED TO BE DARK A SINGLE BUSH OF A WHITE-FLOWERED SHRUB SHOWS UP WELL AGAINST THE HEAVY GREENS. OLEARIA HAASTII IS GOOD FOR THIS PURPOSE.
Use can be made of weeping shrubs trained over a path in the form of an arbor.
SHRUBS SHOULD BE GROWN FOR GRACEFUL HABIT AS WELL AS FINE FLOWERS AND FOLIAGE, WHERE THESE ARE COMBINED, AS IS THE CASE WITH MANY OF THE BERBERS, THEY CAN BE USED FOR SPECIMEN PLANTING
SOME EVERGREEN BERBERIS ALSO MAKE FINE HEDGES. THEY GROW FAST AND ARE THICK
LOW SHRUBS MAKE AN ADMIRABLE FOREGROUND TO A DISTANT VIEW. THEY SHOULD BE LOOSE GROWERS, LIKE RHODODENDRONS AND RHUS COTINUS.
WHERE SPACE CAN BE GIVEN IT IS OFTEN AN ADVANTAGE TO HAVE FLOWERING CHERRIES AND CRABS PLANTED IN SMALL GROUPS OF THREE AND FOUR
AN OLD CEDAR IN A GARDEN, HOWEVER FORMAL, IS ALWAYS A MAGNIFICENT SIGHT
Clipped balls of yew are attractive the year round on a terrace or in the corners of a lawn.

When an awkward bank has to be filled there is nothing so good as a juniper that never reaches a great height but stretches out its branches a few inches above the ground.
THE MODERN ENGLISH GARDEN

A small stone figure placed in a suitable setting is an acquisition to any garden.
NOTHING IS SO GOOD IN THE CENTRE OF A FORMAL GARDEN AS A WELL-DESIGNED FOUNTAIN
A flower-bordered fountain makes a charming finish to a paved walk.
A modern well of simple design will fit into the scheme of any garden and makes an excellent finish to a path.
A WELL OF GRACEFUL DESIGN IS ALWAYS ATTRACTIVE

AN OLD STONE WELL SET IN THE MIDDLE OF A HERBACEOUS BORDER GIVES AN AIR OF FINISH TO THE WHOLE GARDEN
Attractive seats are not often enough seen. They may be made of stone and are not costly.
A resting place should be provided in all gardens, and care should be taken that they are situated at the best viewpoint.

A garden seat may have a tiled roof over it where shelter may be taken from a sudden shower.
SUNDIALS ARE A FEATURE OF MANY GARDENS IN THE BRITISH ISLES.
THEY MAY STAND IN THE MIDDLE OF A PATH AND HELP TO BREAK THE LONG LINES OF THE PATHSIDE.

A FIGURE ON A STONE PEDESTAL HAS THE SAME EFFECT AND MAKES AN EXCELLENT CENTRE POINT.

A SUNDIAL SET IN THE MIDDLE OF A PAVED CIRCLE GIVES AN OLD-WORLD APPEARANCE TO HERBACEOUS BORDERS.
AN OLD WELL-HEAD SET IN THE MIDDLE OF GRASS IN A ROSE GARDEN IS ALWAYS ATTRACTIVE
THERE IS NOTHING SO CHARMING AS A SMALL STONE FIGURE FRAMED IN PILLARS ABLAZE WITH RAMBLER ROSES
A CLASSICAL FIGURE WITH YEW TREES AT THE CORNERS MAKES AN EXCELLENT BREAK IN A HERBACEOUS BORDER
A SIMPLE GARDEN HOUSE LENDS A FEELING OF REPOSE TO ALL GARDENS

IT MAY BE LEFT SEVERELY ALONE OR BE BOWERED IN FLOWERS
A FINE GARDEN GATE SETS A SEAL OF QUALITY ON ANY GARDEN