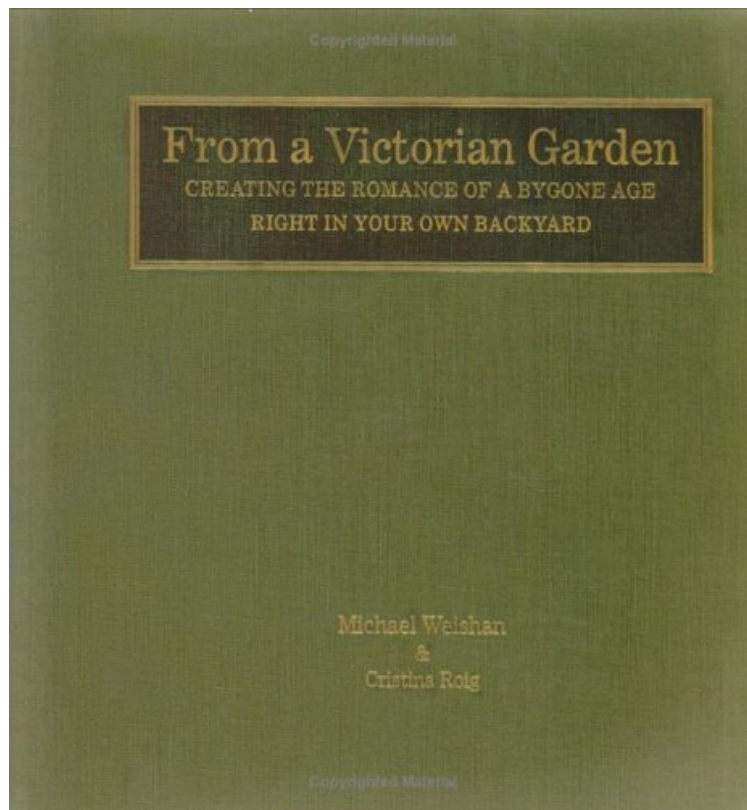


(Library ebook) From a Victorian Garden: Creating the Romance of a Bygone Age Right in Your Own Backyard

From a Victorian Garden: Creating the Romance of a Bygone Age Right in Your Own Backyard

Michael Weishan, Cristina Roig
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Michael Weishan, Cristina Roig : From a Victorian Garden: Creating the Romance of a Bygone Age Right in Your Own Backyard before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised From a Victorian Garden: Creating the Romance of a Bygone Age Right in Your Own Backyard:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Fascinating for Victorian gardeners and Victorian enthusiasts in general By Bird That Flew This book was wonderful for two reasons - it's an in depth look at history and heritage of an unusually intact Victorian house museum, and it's also a great look at authentic Victorian gardening in general. The book is a case study of the gardens and grounds of the Point Ellice house in Victoria, BC. The house remained in the same family for a long length of time and so retained many elements and possessions from the original Victorian owners, from gardening books and tools to actual plants themselves. The book draws heavily on historic photos of the grounds and the many letters written by and between the original Victorian owners, who describe their gardening practices and plant varieties in great detail. Every gardening topic is covered, from what material to border beds with to appropriate trellises to the correct construction and position of a gravel driveway. And the plants, of course - lots of plants! This book would be equally helpful to someone looking to recreate an authentic Victorian garden as it would be

to someone who is interested in Victorian life in general. This is by far the most helpful book on historic gardens that I've read to date.² of 2 people found the following review helpful. Gold mine of information for designing a Victorian garden
By LHG
This book is much more than a "how-to" book on Victorian gardening. It provides insight into Victorian daily family life. Anyone interested in Victorian life or gardening will find it fascinating. Anyone interested in restoring or creating a garden for a Victorian home should consider it essential reading. It has been extremely useful in planning a garden for our late 19th century house. As a lagniappe, the book's appendices provide a wealth of additional information on Victorian gardening and life. This is a great addition to gardening literature, especially since there is so little information available on designing a Victorian garden.⁵ of 5 people found the following review helpful. Great book for historic garden theory
By Joseph Grazulis
I am currently planning a garden area for my back yard. I have bought a few books specifically on victorian gardening and design and although many were good, I felt that this book really touched on the feeling and the things that make a victorian garden special and unique. The author goes into detail on most aspects of gardening and how the victorians were able to get such lush, peaceful, and interesting gardens and out door spaces.

"From a Victorian Garden" is the first gardening book of its kind? a remarkable historical record and the point of departure for modern gardeners replicating the charms of a traditional turn-of-the-century garden for their own delight. Using period photographs and new full color photography together with material from journals and letters, this book remembers the magnificent Victorian garden of the Point Ellice House created more than a century ago by the O'Reilly family. It is here that Judge Peter O'Reilly and his wife Caroline and daughter Kathleen established a glorious floral landscape, perfectly maintained throughout the decades. Horticulturally inspiring, and filled with wonderful photographs and rich, detailed text, this book takes readers step-by-step through the basics of their own heirloom gardens, to the more advanced concepts such as designing a welcoming driveway or laying a shrubbery border for year-round bloom. Bursting with ideas for gaining abundant pleasure from your own garden, "From a Victorian Garden" reveals one of the truly magnificent gardens of the past? still very much alive today.

From Publishers Weekly
Weishan and Roig offer an absorbing chronicle of British Columbias Point Ellice House, a quaint residence owned by one family, the O'Reillys, for nearly a century. Now a historical landmark and museum, the slow progression of the homes remarkable gardens is traced through a series of vivid color photos by Susan Seubert and the black-and-white engravings original owner Peter O'Reilly used to plan his garden. Strictly adhering to the idea that "Victorian gardens were expected to be productive as well as aesthetically pleasing," O'Reilly and his wife, Caroline, laid the foundation of the grounds that exist to this day. Excerpts from family letters included throughout the book provide an intimate look at the love the O'Reillys lavished on their garden and each other. The handsome book features the ornate gravel paths, croquet lawns, vegetable and cutting gardens that are all key features of this impressive estate (the average hobbyist should note that the O'Reillys maintained an extensive staff of laborers to carry out the property's more menial tasks). Detailed listings of the period roses planted at Point Ellice will intrigue even the most knowledgeable rosarians, while advice on "Hosting a Victorian Garden Tea Party" will have many readers eagerly pulling out their grandmothers china for a late-afternoon fete. The authors also include several of Mrs. O'Reillys favorite recipes derived from her garden labors, and other sections offer how-to tips on playing croquet, naturalizing bulbs and even espaliering fruit trees, the lost art of training trees to grow flat against walls. This cozy yet practical book is a must for gardeners determined to replicate the charm and merriment of the authentic Victorian garden.
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About the Author
Michael Weishan is an expert in the field of historical gardening, and is the host of PBS' The Victory Garden. Cristina Roig Morris lives in Manhattan with her husband and two sons.