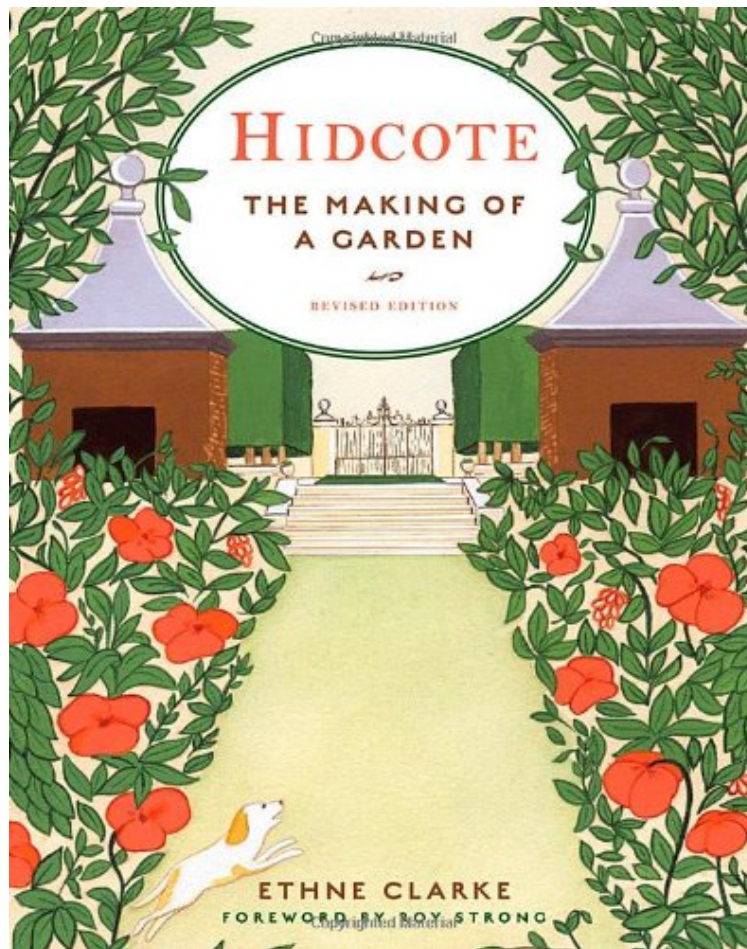


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Hidcote: The Making of a Garden (Revised Edition)

Ethne Clarke

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Ethne Clarke : Hidcote: The Making of a Garden (Revised Edition) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Hidcote: The Making of a Garden (Revised Edition):

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Hidcote is truly one of the great gardens of England and it has over 300,000 visitors each year which explains the garden's popularity and the esteem in which English citizens hold it. Hidcote is not just for International tourists for it is almost hidden away in the north of The Cotswolds. The garden is unusual in its diversity and Clarke, the author, is unusual in her scholarship of the garden's origins and the American who brought it into existence. Reading this book will encourage you to go to Hidcote and having seen it, the book will enrich your experience.. There is enough here to appeal also to non-gardeners who have an interest in the social history of expatriates abroad. A refreshing and more exploratory book on gardening than most. 6 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Great story of garden and

gardenerBy Marty WingateWhen you love a garden, you want to know everything about it. Not just about the garden itself, its plants, pathways and ornament, but also about the garden maker, his history, his inspiration, his life. Or hers. If you love Dumbarton Oaks, then you want to know about Beatrix Farrand; if you love Barnsley House, then it's Rosemary Verey (and just where is that biography?). For me, it's Hidcote Manor Gardens and its maker Lawrence Johnston. And so I'm delighted to have been sent a review copy of Ethne Clarke's new edition of her book first published in 1989, and to share my reaction here and at my blog, [...].What moves us to create gardens? In her book, Clarke explores the influences of family, friends and the atmosphere of early 20th-century England on Lawrence Johnston that led him to create Hidcote Manor Gardens, one of the most influential landscapes of the 20th century. Americans Johnston and his mother, moved to the Cotwold village of Hidcote Bartrim in 1907, and Johnston (at first with his mother) began what he would not finish until 1948, the year he signed a deed of trust that handed over Hidcote to the National Trust--the first garden it acquired and which it still maintains today.Information unearthed in the last few years led to Clarke's new edition, which delves more deeply into Johnston's life and times. It's an enjoyable and fascinating read, sort of a gossipy tell-all but with actual facts and a good bit of garden design theory thrown in. Johnston brought together two warring schools of thought at the time--formal garden design versus the naturalistic approach. He used both, with a formal landscape near the house segueing into the wild further out.Clarke traces the influence of Johnston's family and friends, the effects of World War I and the social influences of the times had on him. The account, personable and fascinating, tells a lively story and brings Johnston and Hidcote, the first garden to be acquired by the National Trust, to life. We've taken two groups through Hidcote, and each time property manager Mike Beeston has told us great behind-the-scenes stories; my favorite was the rumor that Norah Lindsay's daughter Nancy burned all of Johnston's papers because she was so upset not to have inherited Hidcote. I've not seen that story anywhere else until I read Clarke's book.

A new and enlarged edition of the standard reference on an internationally revered English garden and its designer. Known internationally as the epitome of the classic English country garden, it is perhaps less well known that Hidcote's creator was an enigmatic American. Lawrence Johnston, an expatriate and one of the so-called Henry James Americans, a pedigreed member of old New York, left no diaries or significant correspondence. What he did leave, however, is a garden that continues to inspire horticulturists, gardening enthusiasts, and everyone who appreciates the beauty of nature. First published in 1989, the book was the first biography of Johnston; for this revised and enlarged edition Clarke, the author of 15 books on landscape history and gardening, has collected much new, original material that illuminates the creation of the garden and presents Johnston's life in the context of the period that set the seal on England's preeminence in garden design and plantsmanship. 150 color, black white illustrations

This is a beautiful book, full of life and a story well worth telling. - Valerie Easton, The Seattle TimesEthne Clarkehas placed Hidcote in context, revealing the tastes of the time, the gardeners and plant collectors whom Major Johnston would have known and places he would have visited.Avid gardeners will savor the chapter titled The Garden in Season that highlights the plants in each garden at Hidcote and ends with an impressive list of plant introductions by Major Johnston. After reading Hidcote: The Making of a Garden, I find it is clearly time for me to make another visit to see the great strides that Britain's National Trust has made in restoring Major Johnston's fabulous garden creation. - Charlotte Frieze, The Providence Journal[A]n enjoyable read, sort of a gossipy tell-all but factual, and with a good bit of garden design history. - The American Gardener[W]ould please any English garden aficionado.this new, revised version includes much more info on Johnston's impact on landscape design in England. - Garden Design OnlineAbout the AuthorEthne Clarke, creative director of Rodale, writes about garden design and history. She received the 1987 Angel Literary Award, awarded to the best book by a resident of East Anglia, for Art of the Kitchen Garden. Clarke lives in Emmaus, Pennsylvania.Sir Roy Strong is an art historian, museum curator, writer, broadcaster, and landscape designer. He has served as director of both the National Portrait Gallery and the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. He is also an honorary fellow of the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust.