

Six Thousand Years Up the Garden Path



Hold on tight to your hat this is an action packed journey. You will meet kings, queens, gardeners, explorers and unusual characters who do surprisingly unexpected things.

Which country invented the wheelbarrow, who first talked of the idea of lawns and who then invented the modern concept of the lawn mower? 'No.' said Napoleon. 'We cannot afford such a place'; so the Empress Josephine bought Malmaison anyway then developed one of the world's finest rose gardens.

We feel the extreme pain and joy of adventurers such as Forrest, Douglas, Fortune and Wilson as they battle with the unknown of the Asian Continent. Meanwhile at his home the Duke of Portland excavates and burrows below his grounds to create a world of tunnels and massive subterranean open spaces. Used by no one whilst employing hundreds of local workmen during their development. Hermits for your property, a pink magnolia wedding, Prince Charles's exceptional garden, all are filling the pages along this kaleidoscopic garden path.

The common theme illustrates the gradual development of garden design from Mesopotamia to the Millennium Park, Chicago. Along the way we visit the Hanging Gardens of Babylon, Taj Mahal, Henry VIII's Hever Castle, Versailles, New York's Central Park and Dumbarton Oaks in the Nation's Capital.

Here is a book filled with facts that are set in a framework of wry humor and perceptive analysis. A book that will make the perfect holiday gift and a long time friend whose pages can be dipped into time and time again.

